

# MINUTES, STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL

September 20, 2022

1) Chair Wiig called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM

2) Roll Call- voting members

Gregg Serikaku, Subcontractors Union

Kika Bukowski, Plumbers Union

Lyle Carden, Structural Engineers Association

Rick Meyers, American Institute of Architects

Neal Tanaka, County of Hawai'i

Willard Nishigata, County of Honolulu

Howard Wiig, State Energy Office

(Stella Kam, Deputy Attorney General)

Absent

Leolynne Escalona, County of Kaua'i

Ryan Koga, County of Kaua'i

Lance Nakamura, County of Maui

3) Public Comments

- a. Alison Kerns, Region 9 and FEMA, Kelsy Yamanaka, HIEMA They described the difficulties the counties were having in complying with FEMA's requirements for code adoption, compliance, and reporting. The result is "leaving tens of millions of dollars on the table" that could be used for code adoption, compliance, and reporting. FEMA's concern is that, by not adopting current codes, Hawai'i is leaving itself vulnerable to devastation caused by natural disasters. FEMA and HIEMA offered to provide "direct technical assistance" to county officials to get them through the first step of code compliance, followed by assistance with compliance. They emphasized that with each compliance step realized, the counties are eligible for additional, larger funding amounts. Currently there is \$2 million available to Hawai'i counties to begin the process.
- b. Gregg Serikaku asked if "staggering" the code adoption process to permit updating every six years, was permissible. Considerable discussion ensued and it was agreed to bring up the matter at the next SBCC meeting.
- c. Many questions were raised about details of the proposed amendments to Hawai'i's 2021 IECC. David Arakawa requested Ramseyer formatting. Consultant Erik Kolderup pointed to inconsistencies in the 2015 and 2018 IECC editions which should be corrected in the current edition. A second draft will be posted on the SBCC website.
- d. Next meeting: December 20, 2022. 9:00 AM.