

MEETING MINUTES
Hawai'i STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL, HYBRID MEETING
February 21, 2023, 9:00 am
235 South Beretania St. Room 505
Honolulu, HI 96813
(ZOOM LINK)

- 1) Meeting called to order by Chair Wiig at 9:00 AM
- 2) Roll call, voting members:
 - Lyle Cardin, Structural Engineers Association of Hawai'i
 - Leolynne Escalona, County of Kaua'i
 - Gary Lum, State Fire Council
 - Rick Meyers, AIA-Honolulu, outgoing
 - Daniel Moats, AIA-Honolulu incoming
 - Lance Nakamura, County of Maui
 - Willard Nishigata, County of Honolulu
 - Keith Sawamura, BIA Hawai'i
 - Gregg Serikaku, Subcontractors Association of Hawaii
 - Neal Tanaka, County of Hawai'i
 - Absent:
 - Ryan Koga, County of Kaua'i

Chair Wiig's opening comments:

Received written testimony from Building Industry Association (BIA).

- 3) Public comments:
 - a. Nani Medeiros, Governor's chief housing officer for the state – the Governor's office is not supporting any policies or code adoption bills at the city or state level right now that directly or indirectly adds to the cost of housing. We are receiving estimates, saying that this adoption adds \$20,000, plus to the cost of every new unit . . . that is very concerning for us at a time when housing is the governor's number one priority. We are trying to create policies and processes that can add more inventory, as well as bring down the cost of housing, not increase it.
Also, the Counties are just now having hearings to adopt the 2018 building code. I'd like to understand better how the State and the counties can have these different codes and how they interact.
 - b. Stella Kam – The HRS chapter allows the counties to make their own amendments to the codes. But there is a drop-dead date, so theoretically they have two years to adopt their own version after the State code is adopted. The State does not have any enforcement mechanism. It's only the counties, who enforce whatever code that they are currently using. So even if there is a drop-dead date of two years, if the counties just enforce the new version of the code—that is not something that this body has any power over. The state codes only affect state building. But all other entities building the houses follow the county codes because it's the county that enforces their own codes.
- 4) Building code-related legislation

Energy efficiency code related bills at the Legislature include HB192, relating to fluorescent lamps; HB681, creating a 4-year cycle for building codes; HB920, allowing Counties to adopt distinct codes; HB1033, adding HIEMA to the SBCC; HB197, governing of refrigerants.

SBCC unable to vote and agree to submit testimony because there was not public notice.

5) Presentation on proposed amendments to the 2021 IECC

Item not discussed.

6) Updates from the Investigative Committees:

a. Investigative committee for the Structural Provisions of the IBC and IRC

Lyle Carden – We are currently undergoing a ballot process that is due at the beginning of March. We hope to have it completed and the draft finalized for appropriate notification before the next meeting.

b. Investigative committee for the Non-Structural Provisions of the IBC and the IRC

Rick Myers – Non-structural review of proposed amendments: Planning to complete the process at tomorrow's meeting and will schedule a presentation.

c. Investigative committee for the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) 2021 Edition

i. David Arakawa – questioning validity of proposed amendments done via serial communications, not the Investigative Committee.

- Stella Kam to Chair Wiig - I would suggest that you set up your P.I.G. and then hold your meeting and then figure out what you are going to be recommending to this board.

ii. Christopher Delaunay, Pacific Resource Partnership – where are the proposed amendments coming from?

iii. Brian Lee, Hawaii LECET – proposed amendments will be up for challenge.

c. Investigative committee for the Uniform Plumbing Code

i. Gregg Serikaku – waiting to resolve the adoption timeline issue.

- Chair Wiig: I'll be sending out a proposed timeline (marked draft).

e. Investigative committee for the Green Code

No Comments.

f. Investigative committee for the Mechanical Code

No Comments.

g. Investigative committee for the State Fire Code

Gary Lum, State Fire Council

approve and adopt new fire code amendments.

No confirmation that Kaua'i is on the 2018 amendments (past the two-year mark).

h. Investigative committee for the Energy Efficiency Code Coordination

No Comments.

i. Investigative committee for the International Existing Building Code

7) Update on communication and training.

- a. Sunshine training for board members is available on the Office of Informational Practices (OIP) website.
- b. OIP recently posted guidance in regard to legislative testimony.

8) Update on county and state adoption of building codes.

- a. Dennis Lin, HPM Building Supply – When does the clock start on the States adoption of the Energy code?

Chair Wiig, HSEO – About 2 months ago.

- b. Dennis Lin, HPM Building Supply – Does that really affect our ability to get Federal disaster funding if they are not up to code?

Francis Kau– Yes, it does affect scoring on your whenever we submit applications for grants, especially for BRIC.

9) Discussion of possible agenda item(s) for next Council meeting

- a. Legislature bills (per Neal Tanaka and Gregg Serikaku).

Chair Wiig requested that Neal Tanaka send a list of all bills to discuss.

Have a consensus and vote, then generate documentation.

- i. HB 192 – Relating to energy efficiency of lighting [fluorescent bulbs].
- ii. HB 197 – Relating to climate change mitigation.
Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) chemicals commonly used in air conditioning, refrigeration, insulating foam, and propellants.
- iii. HB 920 – relating to Hawaii State Building Code .
[§107-28 County authority to amend and adopt the Hawaii State Building Code].
- iv. HB 1033 – relating to Hawaii State Building Code Council [§107-22 amendments].
- v. SB 691 – relating to efficiency standards.

- b. More agenda items for next meeting?

10) Announcements

- a. Reconvene Investigative Committee meeting to March 10, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Notify Howard Wiig if you would like to sit on the P.I.G..

- b. Requested by Brian Lee – establishing a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to decide recommendations for the board.

Requirements: Consisting of more than two, but less than a quorum of five SBCC members.

- i. Neal Tanaka, Keith Sawamura, Gregg Serikaku, and Howard Wiig.
- ii. Greg Theilen (not SBCC voting member).

- c. Howard Wiig will send out *draft* proposed timeline.

11) Next meeting: March 21, 2023, at 9:00 am.

(Note: The March 21, 2023 meeting was canceled after the close of the February 21 2023 meeting. The next meeting will be on April 18, 2023).