

MINUTES
Joint Task Force Sub-Committee Meeting
South Carolina Board of Architectural Examiners
South Carolina Building Codes Council
South Carolina Board for Professional Engineers and Surveyors
10:00 a.m., March 9, 2015
Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Room 202-03
Columbia, SC

Call To Order

Mr. Anthony Lawrence called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Statement of Public Notice

Mr. Lawrence stated the public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Introduction of Board Members and Other Persons Attending

Task Force sub-committee members present were Anthony Lawrence, Darbis Briggman, and James Justus, PE.

Staff members present included Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator and Britton Jenkins, Program Assistant. Mrs. Miles advised the sub-committee that Mr. Jennings is unable to attend the meeting, but will be available for executive session should one be needed.

Alexandra Patrick (Creel Court Reporting) was also in attendance.

New Business

- a. Mr. Lawrence explained the purpose of the sub-committee meeting was to come up with solutions to the issue of incidental practice. Mr. Lawrence added it would be beneficial to provide the Building Officials with some kind of reference format that both the Board of Engineers and Architectural Examiners have come to an agreement on. Mr. Lawrence suggested the sub-committee look at key elements of the current Building Officials Manual, and models from other states to form a solution. Mr. Briggman referred to Chapter 1, Section 107.3.4 in the 2012 version of the International Building Codes where it goes into detail regarding design professional responsibility in charge administration requirements. Mr. Briggman noted that this is a starting point. He added that the manuals in the past have coincided with the policy set forth by the International Building Codes, and added it gives the Building Officials more background information on what design professionals can do. Mr. Lawrence asked if it would be important to have all jurisdictions adopt the administration requirements set forth by the International Building Codes. Mr. Briggman noted that everyone should be mandated to use that chapter. Mr. Lawrence asked what could be done from the Building Officials standpoint to get adherence to this policy. Mr. Briggman explained that all Building Officials should have made

LLR aware that they are utilizing Chapter 1 or the ordinances. Mr. Lawrence added that a lot of the small jurisdictions are using the ordinances that have not been updated in a while. Mr. Briggman noted the purpose of the I-Codes was to bring all jurisdictions on one accord. He explained that changes would need to go through the parliamentary procedure at the state level. Mr. Justus noted that everything in the I-Codes is registered “design professional”, and it is done that way to allow either an architect or engineer to be that design professional. He noted that IBC does not classify on which design professional is appropriate for specific projects. Mr. Briggman noted that the commentary of the I-Codes has not been adopted by the state, but it gives more information compared to the Codes themselves. Mr. Justus said that it would be a long process getting the State to adopt the policy, and if the boards come to a solution together, it would be a better option and more immediate. Mr. Briggman added design professionals that who are not licensed are another entity that has asked for guidance on what jobs they are allowed to perform. Mr. Justus noted the I-Codes do not discern that line, which is why the joint task force should come up with a policy. Mr. Lawrence explained that there are some guidelines in place that outlines the design professionals’ requirements, but it is something that should be addressed at the next full joint task force meeting. Mr. Justus added that he has not seen any example of a good definition of the overlap of practice, and his feedback from the I-Codes committee was that it may get too complicated to establish. Mr. Briggman noted that as plan reviewers, they see lawsuits that ask for interpretation on whether the engineer or architect was competent to perform a certain project. He added that it would be helpful to have some type of reference to refer to and support the Building Officials decisions. Mr. Lawrence noted that he has studied the policies from the different states and notes that Florida does a great job of saying specifically what both the engineers and architects’ boundaries are and is also user friendly. Mr. Lawrence adds that Florida’s policy may also serve as a deterrent to any professional who is considering possibly practicing outside their scope of expertise. Mr. Briggman agreed with Mr. Lawrence that Florida has a good policy. Mr. Lawrence suggested that each member take a specific portion of the code and come up with a draft of their interpretation. Mr. Lawrence added that after the draft is completed, Mr. Jennings would be the one to go through it and be sure all the legal issues that may arise are addressed. Mr. Justus added that Landscape Architects are being contracted to do green roof designs and maybe other design professionals need to be involved in some of the discussion at some point as well. Mr. Justus suggested the issue of significant modifications to the exterior look of buildings be examined as well. Mr. Lawrence suggested that those issues be brought to the attention of the full committee for their suggestions and feedback. Mr. Lawrence added at the next sub-committee meeting, members should have reviewed their portions of the manual and have a draft ready. The sub-committee scheduled the next meeting for April 6, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.

Notice of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors and South Carolina Board of Architectural Examiners Joint Task Force sub-committee will be held on Monday, April 6, 2015 at the SC Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 110 Centerview Drive, Room 202-03, Columbia, SC and will begin at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Britton S. Jenkins, Program Assistant