

LLR – SOUTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODES COUNCIL
South Carolina Fire Academy, Denny Auditorium
141 Monticello Trail, Columbia, SC 29203

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 22, 2013

10:30 am

Gregory P. Parson, Council Chairman, announced that notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Building Codes Council Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with §30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Welcome And Call To Order:

Gregory P. Parsons, Council Chairman, called the regular meeting to order at 10:29 a.m. Other Council members present for the meeting included: Shane Ray, Darbis Briggman, Susan Herdina, Tim Hance, Brian Denny, Francis Hill, John White, Mike Lowman and Melissa Hopkins.

Staff members participating in the meeting included: Sheridan Spoon, Advice Counsel, Roger Lowe, Administrator, Crystal George, Program Assistant, Christa Bell, OIE Deputy Director, Erin Baldwin, General Counsel and Sara L. Quattlebaum, Court Reporter.

Others present: Tim Williams, Mike Smith, Rick Hullman, Paul Coats, Charles Stewart, Buddy Skinner, Jason Vaughn, Jesse Burke, Denny Phipps, Bruce Spiclee, Ray Hoshall, Theodore Reed, Gary Barn, Delis Clark, Kevin Patrick Brown, Vaughn Wicker, Christopher A. Lee, Denise Fincher, Thomas Scholley, Roni Jo Aldella, Bradley Cain, Tim Blanchard, Billy Swayer D. Michelle Hawkins, Brian K. Pietras, Martin Nix and Mike Smith

Approval of Agenda:

May 22, 2013

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the *May 22, 2013* agenda. Mr. Briggman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

December 27, 2012, February 27, 2013, March 26, 2013

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the minutes for *December 27, 2012, February 27, 2013 and March 26, 2013*. Mr. Briggman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval/Disapproval of Absent Members:

MOTION:

Mr. Hill made a motion to approve the absences of Mr. Drury, Mr. Rye and Mr. Wilson. Mr. Norris seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mr. Hill made a motion to accept Mr. Cullum's absenteeism and Mr. Brock's early departure. Mr. Lowman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks:

Chairman Parsons thanked everyone for attending the meeting, particularly the audience. The more input that we have from the industry the better decisions we can make. Chairman Parsons also thanked all of the Council members for their time and effort. Chairman Parsons recognized Mr. Lowe.

Administrator's Remarks For Information:

Mr. Lowe gave a brief update on the legislative process. Both 43-20 and 43-21 have been approved by expiration. Friday May 17th was for the IBC and the IFC fuel gas and the NEC. Monday, May 20th was the date for the residential code. They will be published in the State Register's June issue. The implementation date is July 1, 2013.

Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE):

Chairman Parsons recognized Ms. Bell. Ms. Bell reported on the OIE status report. From January 1, 2013 through May 21, 2013 OIE received 5 complaints, 9 active investigations and 8 closed cases. Ms. Bell informed the Council that she moved from the Office of General Counsel into the Office of Investigations and Enforcement. Ms. Baldwin, Office of General Counsel, replaced Ms. Bell and will function as General Counsel at future Council meetings.

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Office of General Counsel (OGC):

Ms. Baldwin briefly introduced herself to the Council and gave a status report for OGC. There is 1 open case with the anticipation of coming before the Council at the August meeting. It is OGC's anticipation that due to the time sensitive nature and the concerns before the Council that they will try to move these cases as quickly as possible. Ms. Baldwin distributed her business cards and advised that it is never appropriate to contact her on an individual case. However, the Council should make contact if there are concerns about the way OGC runs, hearings or anything that relates to those matters. OGC is also available to provide training on the way cases are handled.

Old Business:

NONE

New Business:

Approval of 2012 Wind and Seismic Maps

Chairman Parsons complimented Mr. Lowe on the good job of getting the maps together and getting them out. Chairman Parsons recognized Mr. Lowe. Mr. Lowe acknowledged that the design process with the 2012 maps was started by his predecessor, Mr. Gary Wiggins. Mr. Lowe followed through using his design techniques to get the maps ready for adoption. Under 69-105(c) of the South Carolina Code of Laws the Building Codes Council is directed to delineate boundaries for the wind and seismic maps from the International Residential Code to a local physical location. On February 20, 2013 the maps were made available to the building departments in twenty-six counties. The maps are ready for Council's approval.

MOTION:

Mr. Briggman made a motion to approve the maps that have been sent out to all the building officials and town administration as needed to review the maps. Mr. Ray seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Application Review

Mr. Timothy P. Williams. The matter before the Council is whether a license can or cannot be issued as Mr. Williams did not take or pass the required test during his initial one year provisional registration. Mr. Williams is requesting a waiver of the one year requirement under the provisional license Mr. Briggman recused himself from the review.

MOTION:

Mr. Hill made a motion to go into Executive Session. Ms. Hopkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Mr. Hill made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. White seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Executive Session was from 11:17 a.m. to 11:34 am.

MOTION:

Mr. Ray made a motion to waive the one year provisional requirement for Timothy Paul Williams. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Building Official Association of South Carolina

Ms. Michelle Hawkins, President of BOASC, stated that there has been some confusion over the use of floor trusses with regard to the IRC's 2012, Item 501.3. Ms. Hawkins requested clarification on the definition of a crawl space and stated that BOASC would like the Council to adopt the definition as 'a low or narrow space such as one beneath the upper or lower story of a building that gives workers access to plumbing or wiring equipment.' After further discussion Ms. Hawkins withdrew her request for clarification.

Mr. Andy Barber, President of Charleston Builders' Association stated that they are looking at two different clarifications. The first is being the definition of crawl space, which there is none. The dictionary has eight or nine variations and because of that a common definition is being requested. Mr. Barber also requested that an alternate means or method for 501.3, specifically with the exception of 3.3.2. The alternate means verbiage should say, "provide a 5/8 type X sheetrock for six foot from all edges of a fire fueled appliance to be fire blocked in accordance with Section 501.3 with the exception of 3.3.2." This is purely just to define an acceptable alternate means or method to allow the fire detection of wood trained forces.

Mr. Vaughn Wicker, ICC, stated that he believed the request is for Council to issue a guideline as to an acceptable use of the term.

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Mr. Lowman made a motion to have the Administrator write a technical article about crawl spaces and published it in BOASC's newsletter. Mr. Hance seconded the motion.

MOTION:

Mr. Ray made a motion that staff, in cooperation with appropriate stakeholders, creates guidance in reference to IRC 501.3.

MOTION:

Mr. Ray amended his motion to accept the definition of a crawl space as presented in the public comments, which is the exception that allows for fire blocking of a limited area to protect the floor system from fire and an alternate means or method that reads, "provide 5/8 type X sheetrock for six foot from all edges of a fire fueled appliance to be fire blocked in accordance with Section 501.3, exception 3.3.2." Mr. Lowman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MOTION:

Ms. Herdina made a motion to amend motion made by Mr. Ray and to include the verbiage in the nature of recommendation. Mr. White seconded the motion.

MOTION:

Mr. Ray amended his motion. Mr. Ray made a motion to accept the definition of crawl space as presented by public comments that is accepted as a recommendation.

Mr. Mike Smith, Richland County Buildings, public comment of this motion was to request the Council include mechanical with the plumbing and electrical in the crawl space area definition.

MOTION:

Ms. Herdina made an amended motion to include mechanical and electrical in the motion. Ms. Hopkins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Mr. Martin Nix, Building Association, requested a 30-day delay in enforcing the 2012 codes. Mr. Mike Smith, Building Codes Association, stated that the majority of its members would have strong reservations about a 30-day delay. Mr. Jason Vaughn, SMME Testing Firm, expressed their support for the individual inspection program. Mr. Bradley Cane thanked Jason Vaughn for the report on special inspections.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the South Carolina Building Codes Council is set for Wednesday, August 28, 2013.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

(This proceeding was recorded by a court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript if requested in accordance with the law.)