

**SOUTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODES COUNCIL  
110 CENTERVIEW DRIVE ROOM 105  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2006**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Frank Hodge, Chair  
Gregory P. Parsons, Vice Chair  
Kenneth Padgett  
Lloyd Schumann  
Earnest F. Dorsey  
James A. Ham, Jr.  
Frank Hill  
Gable D. Stubbs  
Thomas Brock  
Douglas Darby  
William McDowell  
Van M. McAlister  
Richard Sandler  
Mike Thomas

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Wendell Davis

**Staff Present**

Gary Wiggins  
Jennie Meade  
Rick Wilson

**OTHERS PRESENT**

John England	Phil Rhoads	Angela McJunkin
Darbis Briggman	Rami Hall	Wayne Walt4er
Dennis Knight	Michael Moore	Bruce Boulineau
Michael Robinson	Charles Freeman	Douglas M. Smits
Sonny DuBose	Billy Sawyer	Allen Hutto
John McLeod	John Pruett	Shawn Brashear
Herb Yingling	Don Houck	Tony Longino
Buddy Skinner	Joe Bradham	John Wasson
Leslie Hope	Harry Driggers	Billy Kennett
James Atwood	Channon Chambers	James Whittaker
Georgia Toney	John B Kent	Alex James
Ward Braswell	Wade Dodgens	

**NOTE:** The Notice and Agenda for the February 22, 2006 meeting of the South Carolina Building Codes Council were posted in accordance with Section 30-4-80 of the 1976 amended Code, relating to the Freedom of Information Act.

**1. Call to Order**

The February 22, 2006 meeting of the S. C. Building Codes Council was called to order at 10:30 AM by Chairman Frank Hodge.

**2. Election of Officers**

Chairman Hodge turned the meeting over to Mr. Gary Wiggins. Mr. Wiggins asked for nominations for Chairman. Mr. Ken Padgett made a motion that was seconded by Mr.

Earnest F. Dorsey nominating Frank Hodge. There were no other nominations and the vote was called. Mr. Hodge was elected unanimously. Mr. Wiggins returned the meeting to Chairman Hodge who asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Mr. Dorsey made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mike Thomas nominating Mr. Greg Parsons. Chairman Hodge called for the vote as no other nominations were made. The motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Hodge asked if there were any changes to the Agenda. Mr. Parsons made the motion to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

### **4. Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Hodge asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the November 9, 2005 meeting. Mr. Richard Sendler stated that item 7B (1) listed J. Stan Owen when it should be Lawrence Gardner. Mr. Dorsey made the motion to accept the minutes as amended and seconded by Mr. Thomas. The vote was unanimous.

### **5. Approval/Disapproval for Absent Members**

Staff was notified that Mr. Wendell Davis would be unable to attend due to a conflict with his schedule.

### **6. Old Business**

None

### **7. New Business**

**A. Proposed Modification to the 2005 National Electrical Code (NEC)** - Chairman Hodge recognized Mr. Wiggins. Mr. Wiggins stated that only one request for modification of the 2005 NEC was received. He said the proposed modification would add an additional exception to Article 210.12(B) Arc-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection, which would read: (c) A circuit serving no outlets within the bedroom except the smoke detector shall not be protected by an arc-fault protector. He went on to say, during the Code Study Committee meeting and in response to a question, the proponent made the statement that the modification was intended to affect single-family residences only. Mr. Wiggins said, at that point, a committee member asked him if the National Electrical Code was the appropriate code in which to request the modification. Mr. Wiggins said his response was no, and explained that single-family residences are governed by the International Residential Code. He then said that since the proponents did not wish to change the intention of the modification, the committee had no alternative but to recommend the council deny the request based on the fact that it was being made for the wrong code. After much discussion Mr. Sendler made the motion to approve the modification with a second from Mr. Dorsey. Mr. Wiggins reminded Council that as worded, the modification would affect all residential sleeping rooms including apartments, condominiums, hotels, etc. After further discussion Mr. Thomas Brock made the motion to amend Mr. Sendler's motion to read, "Smoke detectors shall not be protected by an arc-fault circuit interrupter." Mr. Frank Hill seconded the motion. The vote for the amended motion was called and failed by a vote of 4 in favor and 7 against. The vote for the original motion

was called and passed with 10 in favor and 2 against.

**B. Adoption and date of Implementation for the 2005 NEC** - Chairman Hodge recognized Mr. Wiggins. Mr. Wiggins reviewed the remaining segments of the process and stated that the soonest implementation date for the 2005 NEC and its modification would be July 1, 2007. Mr. Thomas made the motion to adopt the 2005 NEC and establish its implementation as July 1, 2007. Mr. Dorsey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**C. Proposal to Certify Special Inspectors** – Chairman Hodge recognized Mr. Alex James, Director of School Facilities for the South Carolina Department of Education. Mr. James gave a brief presentation concerning some of the problems and inconsistencies in the application and effects of the individual state and local special inspection programs. He said there should be statewide uniformity in programs and a single source to determine inspector qualifications. Mr. James also stated that the segments of the construction industry that are affected by special inspections agree that licensing and regulation of special inspectors is a necessity. Several other speakers including Mr. Dennis Knight, Mr. Joe Bradham, Ms. Leslie Hope, and Mr. Mike Blanchard addressed Council and supported the licensing concept. Discussion ensued covering a potential need for a document describing the qualifications and limitations for special inspectors. Mr. Wiggins pointed out that to be able to initiate a state-licensing program for special inspectors, a change in the statute would have to occur. Mr. Gable Stubbs made the motion to establish a committee to study the potential of a statutory amendment to allow Council to have jurisdiction over special inspectors. Mr. Thomas made the second. After further discussion, Mr. Thomas made a motion to amend the original motion to a direction to staff to prepare a statutory amendment that would give Council authority to regulate special inspectors. Mr. Padgett seconded the amended motion. After discussion the vote for the amended motion passed unanimously. Chairman Hodge called for the vote on the motion to establish a committee. The motion passed unanimously.

**D. Proposal to Amend the BCC Act** - Chairman Hodge recognized Mr. Sendler who wanted to bring to Council for discussion the question of how to amend the adopted building code in what may be considered an emergency situation. Chairman Hodge stated that Council has a very precise and extensive process. He also said that the present process is working and to change it may result in the Council hearing modifications every quarter. After discussion, Mr. Sendler made the motion for staff to research the issue and make a recommendation to Council on a statutory amendment that would give Council the ability to make code modifications in emergency situations and to clearly define when they would be permitted. Mr. Parsons seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**E. Report on Status of the Educational Fund** – Chairman Hodge recognized Mr. Wiggins who reviewed the process and procedures of the Code Enforcement Officers program and the payment from the educational fund. Mr. Wiggins said the funding for the program has not increased since its inception while the number of registered code enforcement officers has increased beyond the original number anticipated. He said the costs of the education and exams have also increased causing a strain on the funds allocated for the program. Mr. Wiggins said that staff has modified its administrative

policies to better control the funds. To address the immediate situation, he said, staff was able to arrange transfer of additional funds into the education account to be able to carry the program through to the end of the fiscal year. He also said staff has decided (administratively) to limit certification examinations to only provisional and limited registrants and to continue providing continuing education funds to all code enforcement officers. Mr. Wiggins stated that in the next two years, staff would be developing statutory language that would increase the amount of money that the Senate Finance Committee turns over to the Building Codes Council. After discussion Mr. Stubbs made the motion to amend the policy for Council to pay for only two attempts at any one exam. Mr. Thomas made the second and the motion passed with one vote against and eleven in favor. Mr. Brock made the motion to strike the sentence of the submitted language that allows surplus funds to be used for additional certification examinations for fully registered code enforcement officers. Mr. Hill made the second and the vote was unanimous.

**F. Confirm 2006 Meeting Dates** – The a meeting dates for 2006 are agreed upon as follows:

May 24, August 23, and November 15. The November meeting was changed from the 22nd.

## **8. Public Comments**

Mr. Thomas made the announcement that this was his last meeting as he was leaving the State Engineer's office.

## **9. Date of Next Meeting**

May 24, 2006.

## **10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.