

SOUTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODES COUNCIL
SC Fire Academy, Denny Auditorium
Columbia, South Carolina 29210
Minutes

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

10:30 a.m.

Called To Order:

Frank Hodge, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. Other members participating in the meeting included Thomas Brock, Chris Cullum, Ernest Dorsey, Frank Hill, Van McAlister, Greg Parsons, John Reich, Lloyd Schumann, Richard Sandler, and John White.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; Jennie Meade, Program Coordinator; Angie Scott, Program Assistant; Sheridan Spoon, Deputy General Counsel; and Gary Wiggins, Administrator.

Mr. Hodge announced that public 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 Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Others present participating in the meeting included: Douglas Smits; Donny Phipps; Joe Palmer; Ray Hoshall; Tony Rivera; Jennifer Zavcha; Robert Risinger; Randy Safer; Brian Pietras; Sondra Senn; Earl McLeod; Shawn Brashear; William Farmer; Melissa Berry; Reggie McBeth; Phil Elliott; Lisa Jones; Michael Lowman; Don Houck; Robert Harkins; Tom Scholtens; John Newman; Mike Hallasy; Chad Bruarton; Ann Roberson; Joseph McDonald; John England; Ian Maclaintosh; Joheida Fister; Charles Stewart; Billy Sawyer; James Bowie; Jamie Patterson; Jerry Thompson; David Nichols; George Stimbos; Sandy Kendall; Mark Dillard; John Pruiett; Buddy Skinner; John Conway; Steve Martin; Stuart Jones; Cleston Bridges; Butch Avins; John Kent; Alex James; Robert Klein; Bruce Kritz; Rick Fluegh; Mike Julazadeh; Ronald Brewer; and John Humphries.

Approval of Agenda:

Mr. Dorsey moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Parsons seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes - Wednesday, August 26, 2009 Meeting:

Mr. Parsons moved to approve the Wednesday, August 26, 2009, meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval/Disapproval of Absent Members:

NONE

Chairman Hodge announced that Mr. Jay Ham resigned from the Council and due to his retirement, Mr. Ernest Dorsey's resignation would be effective at the end of the meeting.

Chairman's Remarks:

NONE

Administrator's Remarks for Information:

NONE

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Old Business:

Code Study Committees:

Mr. Wiggins presented Council with a list of applicants that volunteered to serve on the Code Study Committees. Mr. Wiggins asked Council to number their selections for each committee after which staff would total the votes.

The following individuals were appointed to serve on the Code Study Committees:

Commercial Code Study Committee Core Members

Code Enforcement Officer – Robert L. Harkins, primary and Herb Yingling, alternate;
General Contractor – Dwayne M. Bell, primary and Jim Sturzenbecker, alternate;
Architect – Michael Hallasy, primary and David M. Nichols, alternate;
Structural Engineer – Timothy W. Rickborn, primary and Jesse S. Burke alternate.

Commercial Study Committee Special Members

Plumbing Contractor – Church C. Powers, primary and Stephan A. Brewer alternate;
Mechanical Contractor – Thomas B. Minor, and Delbert A. Laquiere, alternate;
Electrical Contractor – Michael F. Richardson, primary and Henry L. Poplin, alternate;
Gas Contractor – Stephen V. Abernathy, primary and Donnie A. Smith, alternate;
Fire Official – Ray Hoshall, primary Carmen Floyd, alternate.

Residential Code Study Committee Core Members

Code Enforcement Officer – Robert Harkins, primary and Donny Phipps, alternate;
Homebuilder – Mike Lowman, primary and Eddie Yondle, alternate;
General Contractor – Monte Lemmon, primary and Kevin Connelly, alternate;
Architect or Residential Designer – Mark Bostic, primary and Dick Gallup, alternate;
Structural Engineer – Jesse S. Burke, primary and Timothy W. Rickborn alternate.

Residential Code Study Committee Special Members

Plumbing Contractor – Kyle Rahner, primary and Frederick Gibbs, Jr., alternate
Mechanical Contractor – Charles R. Pardee, Jr., primary and William R. Ramsey, alternate;
Electrical Contractor – Jeff Grow, primary and Eddie Weaver, alternate;
Gas Contractor – Stephen V. Abernathy, primary and W. Scott Kelly, alternate.

Mr. Reich stated that various sections of the International Residential Code involved fire related provisions, which generated the need for fire service representation on the Residential Code Study Committee.

MOTION:

Mr. Reich made a motion to have a fire service representative serve as a special member on the Residential Code Study Committee. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Cullum made a motion to appoint Ms. Carmen Floyd as the special member. Mr. Hill seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

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New Business:

Residential Fire Sprinkler:

Mr. Reich reported that he has had several calls regarding residential fire sprinkler systems. He went on to say that, several individuals were present that wanted to speak to the issue.

Chairman Hodge stated that if anyone wanted to state a position or give testimony regarding fire sprinkler requirements could do so at the Code Study Hearing being held in January.

Mr. Joe Palmer, Mr. Charles Stewart, Mr. Mike Hallasy, Mr. Jamie Patterson and Mr. John Conway offered comments regarding fire sprinkler requirements.

Local modification requests:

The following jurisdictions requested to replace Figure R301.2(2) with 2008 USGS National Seismic Hazard Map until the 2012 International Residential Code is adopted by the State of South Carolina.

- Town of Springdale
- Florence County
- City of West Columbia
- Kershaw County
- Richland County
- City of Columbia
- City of Cayce
- Lexington County
- Sumter City/County

Since all but one request were identical, Mr. Wiggins recommended that all of the requests except Sumter City/County be handled as a single item.

MOTION:

Mr. Parsons made a motion to approve the local code modifications with the exception of Sumter City/County. Mr. Dorsey seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Sumter City/County requested to replace Figure R301.2(2) with 2008 USGS National Seismic Hazard Map until the 2012 International Residential Code is adopted by the State of South Carolina and replace R301.2(4) wind speed map with the wind speed map developed by the Clemson University Wind Speed Study.

Mr. Wiggins reported that the data on which the Clemson University Wind Speed Study was based had not been completely vetted on the national level and should not be considered.

MOTION:

Mr. Parsons made a motion approve the seismic portion of the request and deny the wind portion. Mr. Dorsey seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Policy for Special Inspectors Registration:

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Mr. Wiggins reported that the legislative process for adoption of the proposed regulations is underway and may be completed as early as the summer of 2010. He said if any delays occur or modifications are required by the House or Senate, however, the regulations may not be adopted until sometime after the legislature reconvenes in January 2011. Mr. Wiggins said to assist in the registration transition, staff met or spoke with firm principals and individuals who perform special inspections and, as a result of those meetings, several key points were raised, including:

- Various private and government contracts and agreements exist and may be adversely affected by early implementation;
- Most of the individuals currently performing special inspections are not certified and would need additional time to qualify for registration; and,
- Continuing education courses and providers have not yet been established.

Mr. Wiggins said although Council is ready to start issuing special inspector registrations, it may be taking a large risk in starting without regulations in place. Therefore, in an effort to get past any legislative impediments and potential contractual issues, Mr. Wiggins requested that Council adopt the policy to coordinate the first registration of special inspectors with the code enforcement registration renewal cycle starting July 1, 2011.

MOTION:

Mr. Sendler made a motion to postpone the Special Inspectors Registration until July 1, 2011. Mr. Dorsey seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comments:

1. Mr. John England asked if the local modifications to use the 2008 USGS Seismic Map would remain valid after the expiration of the moratorium placed on use of the seismic maps in the 2006 International Residential Code.

Mr. Wiggins reported that the seismic lines will be redrawn on the official South Carolina Seismic Maps to accommodate the local modifications, and will remain valid until the next code adoption cycle.

2. Mr. Ray Hoshall, Assistant Fire Chief, City of North Charleston suggested that for modification proposes fire officials should attend the Code Study Committee meetings.

Chairman Hodge stated that everyone was invited to attend the Code Study Committee meetings.

Dates of Next Meeting: February 24, 2010 –Town of Lexington Complex

Adjournment:

Mr. Dorsey made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Parsons seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The December 2, 2009 meeting of the SC Building Codes Council adjourned at 11:56 a.m.