**Technical Building Codes and Standards Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 8, 2016**

**9:00 a.m. Champlain Conference Room, Dept. of Public Safety**

Meeting opened at 9:10 a.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**: Bob Ellis, Mike Pullen, Dick Tarr, Jeff Ohler, Eric Dube, Dick Lambert and Steve Wintle

**EXCUSED**: Barry Chase, Russ Martin, Marc Veilleux and Roger Rossignol

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**: Chair Rich McCarthy and Secretary Kathy Robitaille

**REVIEW OF THE FEBRUARY 25, 2016 MINUTES**

**Motion**: Mike Pullen motioned to accept the minutes as presented.

**Seconded**: Dick Lambert

**Vote**: unanimous vote with three abstentions

**FINANCIAL UPDATE:** $336,147.09 in the Building Codes account as of today.

**REPORT FROM BOARD CHAIR/LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** – Rich McCarthy

As far as any building code related legislation – there is nothing going on. The Fire Marshal’s Office continues to be out straight with construction projects.

**CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSION ON 2015 ICC CODES ADOPTION**

Rulemaking – Chapter 1 changes discussed. ASHRAE – leave as a standard or make mandatory?

July 1st still the adoption date? Yes.

**Chapter 1, Section 5, pg 3 Municipal & Third Party Inspectors #1**

If the town has a current CEO and the homeowner wants a Third Party Inspector he/show knows…can they have the TPI perform the inspections? Discussion ensued with the following decision:

**Add “the decision of which provision is used is solely the decision of the municipality.”**

**Chapter 3, IBC Chapter 11 – Accessibility – add back in as part of the Code.**

**Chapter 30 – Elevators and Conveying Systems –** **add back in as part of the Code.**

**308.3.3 Daycares are licensed per NFPA. IBC is more stringent.**

**?? Fill in “tree language?”**

**Vote:** Mike Pullen voted to accept Chapter 3 with the changes/additions for the 2015 IBC

**Seconded:** by Bob Ellis

**Unanimous Vote**

**Chapter 4 – IEBC**

Mostly there are just renumbering changes in the 2015.

**Section 4 #1: Add: Chapters 1-16 and Appendixes A-C**

**Motion** to accept changes to reflect the 2016 IEBC**:** Dick Lambert

**Seconded:** by Bob Ellis

**Unanimous Vote**

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**Chapter 5 – IRC**

**Section R101.2 - Changing the language here in the 2015, to match NFPA so the Air BnB’s don’t**

**need sprinklers for three persons and under.**

**\*Delete exception 1 in its entirety.**

**\*Insert: Live/Work units as defined in the IBC.**

**Chapter 6 – IECC**

Steve Wintle, Energy TAG Chair and Board member advised that he thinks the real need in terms of the IECC is a need for education for contractors, suppliers etc. The minutes of the 2/11/16 Energy TAG meeting were reviewed. Adoption of the 2015 IECC would really change the incentives offered by Efficiency Maine. Steve would like to hear more about that from Rick Meinking and how it would affect what they offer. There is also more work needed on ventilation and what to offer to builders in terms of education.

**Public Comments on the IECC**:

Barbara Berry, Maine Realtors Association, thinks that the LCRED Legislative Committee would be in favor of staying with the 2009 version. She thinks if the 2015 were adopted, it would endanger all of the Building Code in terms of hanging onto it all. Blower door tests – are there enough trained to do them in Maine? Yes there are….but she feels education is the key for all of this.

Eric Jones, Northeast Spray Insulation, advised that he just had a blower door test done for a residence and it cost $160.00, so the cost is not prohibitive.

Chris Petitpierre, Keep the Heat, (Cellulose Insulation Installer) does think that a blower door test should be required. There’s a great return whether it’s new construction or a retrofit. Impose these requirements. If it isn’t done, who is going to pay for kids getting sick because of mold in the attic? Who will pay for repairs? Lawyer? Need a mandate and enforcement. It gives a baseline for energy auditors to come in.

Steve Carr, Top Build Homes Trainer – supports staying with the 2009 except for Manual J. The 2009 refers to the IRC and the 2015 refers to Manual J. Mechanical ventilation – many are doing dual use bathroom ventilation, but it is not found in any code – IMC, IRC, etc. Manual J will drop costs immediately. Look at standards for ventilation – i.e. ASHRAE 2013 is good.

Rich McCarthy, Chair of the Board asked…”what if we offer a phase in with requirements?” Use the 2015 IECC for Commercial, but remove the Residential. Add in other pieces – maybe phase in the blower door tests over a period of time. Keep the 2009 – maybe create a 7th Chapter of Rules to cover the Residential.

There was a lot of approval from the Board members over this idea.

Bill Nash, ICC, advised he thinks this is an appropriate path to phase things in. Come up with an example of the phase in using the 2009 with blower door tests and Manual J. Something that can be handed to Legislators that would understand it all.

\*\*Rich should check with the Energy Office about the funding??

\*\*Rich will put together the framework of options for the next meeting. All in agreement.

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**IBC TAG MEETING MINUTES**

Eric Dube, Board member gave an overview of the IBC TAG meetings on January 14th and March 10, 2016.

The purpose of discussing the Conflict that had been submitted on Ground Improvement versus Piles, was to look at improving clay soil that is prevalent in Maine, so we are not putting structures on unimproved soil.

This is based on 2012 IBC Section 1705 and 1810. The language that had been suggested by Dean Sciaraffa, P.E. from H.B. Fleming, Eric Wiburg, R.W. Gillespie & Associates and Tim Boyse, S.D. Cole Engineering is as follows to be added into Section 1810.1.4:

“Ground improvement techniques that transfer loads to deep foundation elements, including techniques that use reinforced or unreinforced fill between the bottom of footings and the top of the deep foundation elements, shall submit test data, calculations, structural properties and load capacity of the application to the specific site. Deep foundation elements that utilize grouted or bonded stone columns or case-in-place concrete columns shall test the individual elements in accordance with Section 1810.3.3.1.2. Where un-grouted stone columns are used, the bearing capacity of the improved soil shall be tested in accordance with ASTM D1194. The tests shall encompass both the existing soil and the stone column. Special inspections shall be provided in accordance with section 1705.7 or 1705.8 as applicable.”

Should this requirement be added as documents that should be submitted to the CEO? Yes, it should be submitted as part of the construction documents in our Chapter Rules.???????

**\*\***Rich will look at other sections of 1810 for clarification and will add this into the Rulemaking Language.

**Motion**: By Mike Pullen to add the above language into the IBC Section 1810.

**Second**: Jeff Ohler

**Unanimous Vote**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

Meeting ended at noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Robitaille, Secretary

Next meeting May 20, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.