**DRAFT - Technical Codes and Standards Board Meeting Minutes**

**Cross Office Building**

**October 19, 2017 10:00 a.m.**

**Board members present**: Mike Pullen, Steve Wintle, Marc Veilleux, Robert Ellis, Barry Chase, Richard Lambert, Russ Martin

**Excused**: Eric Dube and Roger Rossignol

**Staff present**: Brianne Hasty, Chair

Meeting opened at 10:03 a.m.

**Review of April 21, 2017 Meeting Minutes**

**Motion**: made by Mike Pullen to accept the minutes as presented

**Seconded:** by Marc Veilleux

**Unanimous vote** with 1 abstention

**Financial Report**: $330,811.88 in the Building Codes account as reported by Brianne Hasty.

**Report from Board Chair – Brianne Hasty**

Brianne updated the board on the move of the Bureau of Building Codes and Standards (BBCS) from Department of Public Safety (DPS) to Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). This is being achieved via department MOU for the time being. The MOU moves all duties to DECD with the exception of rule-making which will stay at DPS. The departments hope the statutory change is made during the next legislative session which is a short session. All duties of the Bureau will be transferring to DECD with the statutory change.

Brianne also informed the board that the BBCS website will moved to the DECD website. InforME is drafting a proposal for this move. The new website would be mobile friendly and will include any written interpretation provided by the board and/or the BBCS.

ICC Memberships will be purchased for all towns enforcing MUBEC or a version of MUBEC (MUBC or MUEC). This will provide those towns with one set of the code books and 4 memberships per municipality. Each of the members would then be able to call ICC for a verbal or written interpretation. Brianne is working with Paul Demers from MBOIA to develop a form for the written interpretation. This form would go to ICC and come back through the board for review. ICC does not provide interpretations that include Maine amendments. Dick Lambert asked if Brianne would be requesting a proposal from ICC for the memberships. Brianne said that yes, she will submit a request for proposal from Bill Nash of ICC. Mike Pullen asked if this comes with an expense. Brianne said that yes, the money for the memberships will come out of the BBCS fund. One membership is $135 so the total will be around $15,000. She noted that this will be a one time purchase with the new code adoption. With the next code adoption the BBCS will have to look at how the fees are coming in to fund the budget.

**Legislative Update – Brianne Hasty**

Brianne notes that there isn’t much of a legislative update because we are going into short session. There are no proposed MUBEC bills at this point. There is one bill regarding Code Enforcement Officers and their residency.

Russ Martin asked about the actions taken on the bills in the last legislative session. Brianne didn’t think any of the bills were passed. Mike Pullen asked that Brianne update the board on the status of the four bills from the session.

The following was sent to board members that afternoon:

#746 Resolve, To Increase the Permissible Size of Bed and Breakfasts – DEAD

#873 An Act To Adopt Tiny House Standards in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code – DEAD

#1140 An Act To Preserve the Economic Viability of Maine's Historic Properties – DEAD

#1392 An Act To Allow Municipalities To Opt Not To Enforce the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code – DEAD

**New Business**

**Airplane Hangers and Energy Code**

Scott Wardwell, Airport Director for the City of Presque Isle, was on speaker phone with the board to discuss the energy code requirement for single engine airplane hangers. The city was granted a Northern Borders grant to build 5 hangers as an economic development opportunity for the county. They are using premanufactured metal buildings as the hangers which are usually insulated at R19 but since Presque Isle is enforcing MUBEC the hangers must meet the IECC R-value requirements. This is an increase cost of 11%. These buildings are kept at a lower temperature and not always heated 24/7. The building official recognized that because of the lowered heat use this was a special situation. The building official thought that if the city council was OK with the reduced insulation then he would approve the use of R19 in portions of the building. The City Manager asked that Mr. Wardwell get approval from the state on the reduction or an exemption.

The board discussed this project at length. Ultimately the board did not feel that exempting hangers altogether was appropriate. They did feel this project could be included in the category of low energy buildings even though it doesn’t quite meet that definition. The board thought that a letter or email to the building official would be appropriate. The letter would state that they recognize the problem and suggest looking at the buildings as low energy buildings.

**Motion**: by Mike Pullen that the board give guidance to the local code officer that these hangers be considered as low energy buildings.

**Seconded**: by Dick Lambert

**Unanimous vote**

**Unfinished Business**

**Rulemaking**

The public comment period ended on September 28th. Brianne received the summary of public comments the day before the meeting which didn’t allow the board any time to review them. Some of the public comments will come directly from Rich but the board may wish to weigh in on some comments. If there are not substantial changes to the rules then they go through the approval process and will go into effect no more than 120 days from the end of the comment period. This puts us at the end of January.

Brianne asked the board the best way to review the comments so they can determine what they want to weigh in on. They asked that the summary be categorized by topics. Brianne will reformat the comments and send to the board.

**Public Comment**

none

**Next Meeting Date**
November 16, 2017 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brianne Hasty, Chair