**Technical Codes and Standards Board Meeting Minutes**

**Department of Public Safety – Augusta, Maine**

**Champlain Conference Room**

**December 11, 2014**

Meeting opened at 9:15 a.m.

**Board members present**: Marc Veilleux, Eric Dube, Stephen Wintle, Barry Chase, Roger Rossignol, Mike Pullen and new board member Bob Ellis.

**Excused**: Russ Martin, Dick Tarr, Dick Lambert and Jeff Ohler

**Staff present**: Richard McCarthy, Building Codes Supervisor and Kathy Robitaille, Secretary.

Bob Ellis was introduced as the newest Board member. Bob is a code enforcement officer with the Town of Oakland.

**Review of the October 9, 2014 minutes**

**Motion:** by Mike Pullen to accept the minutes as read.

**Seconded:** by Marc Veilleux

**Vote**: Unanimous with one abstention

**Financial Update**

$294,348.84 currently in the building codes account according to Rich. He reports that projects are coming in fast and furious to the Fire Marshal’s Office for plan review. Larger projects and larger renovations are being received.

**Report from Board Chair/Legislative Updates – Rich M.**

Our Chapters 1-6 from Rule-making that were sent to the AG’s office have finally been approved. The final paperwork is being completed for the Commissioner’s signature to put into law. Rich attended a meeting at the Governor’s Office who are concerned about energy code enforcement. Some energy inspectors finding new homes that are not up to energy code. Rich was asked to work with Dir. Woodcock of the Governor’s Energy Office on this issue. We may see a bill next session to pull the MUBEC and MUBC together again. There will probably be another bill for contractor licensing. Question asked how many towns currently have to enforce the Building Code. All towns over 4,000 in population are required to do so and there are 89 towns currently that come under that. Town of Warren is not included in that due to the prison population there. 20 other towns have adopted the Building Code. Towns of Portland and Sanford do their own plans review.

Rich advised the board that the Fire Marshal’s Office partnered with the Red Cross in providing battery operated smoke detectors to folks in various communities. Training is provided for volunteers who go door to door, put up the detectors and educate the homeowners. Biddeford was done by volunteers and more detectors were needed that what was allotted just for Biddeford. ½ million detectors have been donated nationwide.

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**Continued Discussion to Adopt 2015 ICC Codes – Rich M.**

Discussion on adopting the next cycle of codes will continue throughout the winter. It should just take us a couple of months.

**Unfinished Business**

2014 MUBEC commercial and residential training were held. The basic training was held for two days and one day of advanced. Portland location had between 70-75 participants, Augusta had 100 and Brewer had 60. Excellent reviews received on Steve Thomas, an ICC instructor who ran the training. Continued discussions with ICC to purchase the program from them so we can put it on ourselves.

**New Business**

1. Conflict Resolution Form submitted by Michael Hangge, Ellsworth Fire Dept.

2009 IRC Chp 3 Section 302.2 and NFPA 101 2009 Chp 30 Section 30.1.3.2

The IRC recognizes the term Townhouse as defined in section 202 which allows for the use of a NFPA 13D sprinkler to meet code requirements. NFPA does not use the term townhouse so all townhouses are considered apartment buildings and require coverage by a NFPA 13R sprinkler system. Mr. Hangge suggests that the State of Maine should follow the requirements of the IRC for installation of sprinkler systems (for townhouses).

Discussion: 13D is good for 10 minutes and has two sprinkler heads. It doesn’t require “supervision.” 13R is good for 30 minutes and has four sprinkler heads, requiring Supervision.

David LaFond from the National Fire Sprinkler Association advised that NFPA is trumping the ICC for safety concerns. Example: if you have six units under one roof, the middle unit shuts off their system and has a fire…it could overwhelm the systems in the other units.

**Motion**: by Mike Pullen to give this to the IRC/Life Safety/Sprinkler TAG for discussion.

**Seconded:** by Roger Rossignol

**Unanimous Vote**

1. Request for an Amendment to the Code – submitted by Laura Clebak, Fire Protection Engineer

This request concerns MUBEC Chapter 3 (IBC) Section 5 Item 18 under Revisions to the IBC.

“Delete all language in section ~~404.6~~ 404, Insert “see NFPA 101 ~~8.6.7~~ 8.6 (2009 edition)” in its place.

**Motion**: by Roger Rossignol to remove all of 404 and replace with 8.6.7

**Seconded**: by Eric Dube

**Unanimous Vote**

1. Radon Standard upgrade and adoption

Bob Stilwell, DHHS Radon Section leader provided copies of 1465-08A (2008 version) of the Radon Standard, asking the Board to go to the 2008A version as they go forward to adopting the 2015 Building Codes and the adopted ASHRAE and Radon standards. It has

the same editorial changes as the 2006. \*Put this on the agenda for the next board meeting.

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**Public Comment**

David LaFond, NFSA regional manager addressed the Board. He praised the board for being the most congenial group over others he has worked with in other states. He had observed that the board is respectful of each other and it is a great group.

Meeting ended at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Robitaille, Secretary