**Technical Codes and Standards Board Meeting Minutes**

**Department of Public Safety**

**Office of State Fire Marshal**

**September 24, 2020 9:00 a.m.**

**Via Zoom Meeting**

**Board members present**: Benjamin Breadmore, Marc Veilleux, Michael Pullen, Barry Chase, Eric Dube, David Matero, Michael Stoddard, Steve Martel, Randy Poulton

**Excused**: Jeremy Martin, Stephen Wintle

**Staff present**: Rich McCarthy, Greg Day

Meeting started at 9:10am with a review of the Governor’s State of Civil Emergency authorizing State agencies to conduct meetings through telephonic/electronic means, set expectations of how the meeting will be conducted, and a rollcall of board members was conducted. Quorum confirmed.

**Review of August 26, 2020 Meeting**

Rich relayed suggestions from Randy of adding Greg to the staff present and correction of date at the top. Randy also suggested to add the telephonic meeting disclaimer on the document heading.

Motion made to accept minutes with noted revisions.

Motion by Mike Pullen, second by Ben Breadmore

8 in favor, 0 opposed

**Report from Board Chair – Richard McCarthy**

Rich will be sending to board members, sent to Code Officials already, information about NEBOA online training available on five Fridays, free to code officials, and any board members that wish to participate will have any applicable fees covered by the Fire Marshal’s Office. Memberships to ICC for towns that are required to enforce it have been paid. Introduction of new employees for the Building Code Division of the Fire Marshal’s Office.

**Financial Report**: $706,277

The Building Code Surcharge continues to bring in sufficient funds to allow administrative costs and the training budget to be funded without reducing the fund balance below allowable levels.

Update on budget cuts- more federal money was provided, so budget cuts were only 3% instead of 10%, no budget cuts were made to building codes.

**Legislative update**

Nothing was submitted to legislature regarding MUBEC – no updates to provide.

**Overview of Stretch Codes – provided b/y Moses Riley**

Stretch Codes are an alternative option to the base code, for the purpose to exceed energy efficiency of the base energy code that provides interested communities a way to achieve greater energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and save consumers money. Moses Riley and Darren Port provided examples of what other states in the region are doing for Stretch Code and a summary of how they implement it. Moses provided the suggestion to consider the goals Maine has, expected upcoming code adoption, and types of sectors/communities when making the decision on how to proceed with the Stretch Code. Moses also briefly discussed Zero Energy/Zero Energy Ready and the difference between them.

The board continued the topic of Stretch Code with a general discussion of questions, comments and concerns regarding creating a Stretch Code and how it will impact communities, organizations, training needs, etc. within the State.

Motion made to send Stretch Code discussion to the TAG with suggestion that it applies only to commercial buildings.

Motion by Mike Pullen, second by Eric Dube

Motion discussed by board.

Motion amended by Mike Pullen to send it to the TAG without limitations, allowing it to be fully discussed by the TAG.

Motion by Mike Pullen, second by Eric Dube

8 in favor, 0 opposed.

**Adoption of 2015 IECC**

Rich reviewed the changes to the draft rule to make sure the board agrees with the intent of the rule so that it could be submitted to the AG’s office.

Motion made to adopt the draft rule Chapter 6 as written dated 09/24/2020.

Motion by Randy Poulton, second by Marc Veilleux

8 in favor, 0 opposed

**Mass Timber**

Eric Dube opened the discussion stating that current code doesn’t contain anything regarding mass timber and that plans to visit the UMaine lab in April regarding their work with mass timber was cancelled due to COVID-19 and directed the discussion into how Maine can adopt standards that utilize tall wood mass timber in the state.

Matt Tonnello provided information regarding the 2021 IBC and how it will be coming out with a new building type adopted within the language of the text, Type IV – A, B, and C, three new building types, allowing something other than what is currently allowed by IBC for Mass Timber (large timber elements.) Matt suggested that Maine segment out of the 2021 code an appendix that allows engineers and design professionals to use design parameters that allow taller buildings to be utilized using mass timber.

Matt Hunter provided more details regarding the work done by UMaine regarding cross laminate timbers and also suggested to look at how Virginia has managed mass timber as a good example.

The board has decided to continue the mass timber discuss in the Fire and Life Safety TAG.

**Unfinished Business**

Discussion on NFPA 101 2018 edition section 26.3.6.1

**New Business**

Stretch Codes - Energy TAG

Mass Timber – Fire and Life Safety TAG

Sprinkler discussion brought up by David Matero

**Public Comment**

Moses Riley and Darren Port shared their knowledge of stretch codes in other states.

**Next Scheduled Meeting:**

Undetermined

**Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am**

Respectfully submitted,

Rich McCarthy, Chair