

**Technical Codes and Standards Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Department of Public Safety**  
**Office of State Fire Marshal**  
**July 15, 2021 9:00 a.m.**  
**Via Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Board members present:** David Matero, Ben Breadmore, Eric Dube, Jeremy Martin, Steve Wintle, Randy Poulton, Marc Veilleux, Michael Stoddard, Mike Pullen

Jay Horr (pending board member) attended meeting as well.

**Excused:** Barry Chase, Steve Martel

**Staff present:** Rich McCarthy, Paul Demers, Greg Day, Shannon Quintal

Meeting started at 9:07 am 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 as of June 30, 2021, state of civil emergency has ended and legislation allows remote meetings to continue until July 30, 2021. Rollcall of board members was conducted. Quorum confirmed.

**1. Review of May 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Motion to move the minutes.

Motion by Jeremy Martin, second by Ben Breadmore  
7 in favor, 0 opposed, Randy Poulton abstained.

**Review of June 17, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Motion to move minutes.

Motion by Jeremy Martin, second by Ben Breadmore.  
7 in favor, 0 opposed, Randy Poulton abstained.

**Report from Board Chair – Richard McCarthy**

**2. Financial Update: \$798,077**

**3. Training Update**

Paul made comment that he sends out as many notices of training as possible, but needs the Board to assist in outreach efforts to get the message out to constituents.

IECC 2015 Training with Efficiency Maine – A series handled by Efficiency Maine offering sessions 90 minutes long, each with three sessions each on the residential and commercial IECC. Rick Meinking with Efficiency Maine shared that there were about 120 participants in commercial sessions and 300 participates from the residential and is receiving beneficial feedback and had about 55% of the participants from the Residential sessions didn't have any working knowledge of the IECC. Jeremy Martin inquired about how much of that percentage is contractors vs code officials, which Rick Meinking said he could provide details later on the overall makeup of the participants.

IECC 2015 MBOIA Training- MBOIA had two energy code trainings in mid-June of 3-hour blocks and had a 200 person attendance. In an attempt to accommodate as much as possible, the training was held 5-8pm and only had 33 attendees. MBOIA generally charge for trainings as a

membership only, but have been allowing anyone to attend without charge. Many code officials are not MBOIA members.

Legal Issues Training – provided by Durward Parkinson, trainings are 2-hour legal issues training. Working on programs with another attorney and Durward for doing two more. Durward's will focus on the average day responsibilities. Ben McCall/ Jensen Baird will have marijuana training, estimated for early Fall.

IECC 2021 Stretch code – Working with ICC on 2021 Stretch Code presentation, for around late August for a few communities with some interest in the Stretch code.

A few joint meetings with Subsurface Wastewater and Internal Plumbing have been held in Winthrop with a few attendees and in Brewer with a little larger crowd. Also working with a number of good instructors for the BRICs grant and will have more information late August. Paul has started lining people up in an effort to get monthly blocks for each discipline and provide a deeper look into each individual code.

#### **4. Legislative update**

Review of recent LD list activity with an update summary from Rich regarding the bills attachment on the last minutes.

LD1312- Act to Remove Barriers to Accessory Dwelling units. A financial order was added to this bill at the last minute because there was concern that it was an unfunded mandate. The senate carried the bill over to this session.

LD 819 - Radon to give building owner or contractor, gold star rating for following the radon standard. Doesn't start until July 2022. It had a financial note of 200 some thousand, proposing to pay for radon tests and paying the first 600 to radon mitigation. Appropriations. July 30, last appropriations meeting. At this point the bill has passed but without a known total cost due to the unknown number of people who may take part.

#### **5. Unfinished Business**

- IECC public comments received – response report coming

- Current “Rule making” status update - ICC is done in a two-step process but is in an “emergency/temporary” process to get it done by July 1, then also put it out for written comment. This prompted questions if MUBEC was a statewide code. Asked AG to focus on that and MUBEC LD1509, and our rule. Opinion is coming, in the process of writing it now. It is safe to say that a written rule as enacted and drafted, the intent of legislature is that MUBEC is statewide, but less than 4000 may opt not to enforce, but MUBEC is still required. Michael Stoddard questioned what is being heard - are towns already aware and it's just confirming or will people be surprised.

#### **6. New Business**

- IECC compliance methods confirmation (Board request)

Amendment to consider - General discussion of several options for wall construction were discussed. It was determined that those options are contained within the code and should be highlighted in future trainings. Rich noted in order to add an amendment now, it would have to start the whole process over. An administrative letter to clarify can be done if needed.

-MUBEC Annual Report Update (Board Request) – Annual report to legislature, goes to a committee that doesn't exist, typically report has been done verbally. Will be going back to review 2021 to produce a document. Suggested a running tab of items be maintained. Draft will be produced at the November meeting, and a final version at the December meeting.

- Future Meetings Format Discussion – Remote meeting ability has ended and waiting for the Commissioner to approve the meeting rules and regulations. The Board will be notified of final decisions. The next meeting, by Statute, is in person.

## **7. Public Comment**

Matt Tonello stated there is significant interest in the IECC Energy Training for today and asked if it would be recorded and available. Paul noted that the training would be recorded and available through the Efficiency Maine website and the Fire Marshal's Office website. Matt Tonello offered to be a resource if/when the 2021 Mass Timber adoption is written, and to be a resource to call to coordinate additional training. Inquired on if the Tall Mass Timber rule is written somewhere public. Rich McCarthy said it is not available yet, but it will be once received.

### **Board Member Comment:**

Randy Poulton requested on future minutes to add "draft" to minutes, add numbers to minutes to reflect agenda/create a more detailed agenda, and add "Report from the State Building Official."

Mike Pullen feels that a statement should be made in report to legislature that commercial plans review needs additional reviewers hired because the workload is too much for current number of staff and has economic impact.

Steve Wintle – Request for Rich and Paul to revisit the discussion on options included in Randy's suggestion for Wall Sections and requested to vote on items that are important or put on next agenda. After some discussion, the board felt we should try education first, and bring it back if necessary. Paul will create a "how to" document on continuous insulation and other options.

### **Next Scheduled Meeting:**

Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 9:00am

### **Meeting adjourned at 10:41 am**

Respectfully submitted,  
Shannon Quintal, Administrative Assistant