

Technical Codes and Standards Board Meeting Minutes
Department of Public Safety, Office of State Fire Marshal (via Zoom)
March 17, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

Board members present: Marc Veilleux (sitting in as Board Chair), Benjamin Breadmore, Mike Pullen, David Matero, Jeremy Martin, Eric Dube, Kim Cheslak, Randy Poulton, Michael Stoddard, Steve Martel, Barry Chase

Excused: Richard McCarthy (Chair)

Staff present: Paul Demers, Shannon Quintal

1. Call to Order – Determination of Quorum

Meeting started at 9:05 AM. Quorum confirmed.
Remote policy statement read.
Introduction of Board members.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda – no comments
Motion by Jeremy Martin, Second by Mike Pullen

3. Review of February 17, 2022 Minutes

Corrections: change LD1863 to LD1809, add “financial report was not provided”, insert “AG” to chapter review in #7, change legislation to legislature in #8.
Motion to approve amended minutes as discussed.
Motion by Jeremy Martin, second by Mike Pullen
8 in favor, 0 opposed

4. Report from Board Chair

General review of the boards purpose - to address any code conflicts that may arise between various codes as well as updating the most current edition and attempting to avoid future conflicts.

Board reappointments – email received regarding the governor’s appointment office is diligently working through the process, appointments for the MUBEC Board are a priority, but it doesn’t look like it will be for a couple more weeks.

5. Legislative Update

- LD 1977- "An Act To Require Registration by General Contractors for Home Improvement and Construction" This Bill was voted ought not to pass and was unanimous the Bill is Dead
- LD 1940- An Act To Ensure That Building Codes Allow the Installation and Use of Products and Equipment That Use Certain Federally Regulated Refrigerants" Voted ought to pass Unanimous
- LD 1691- "An Act To Require Licensing for Certain Mechanical Trades" voted Ought not to pass The bill is dead

- LD 2003- "An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Commission To Increase Housing Opportunities in Maine by Studying Zoning and Land Use Restrictions" Still pending.

6. Staff Report - Training Update

Paul has his ICC 2015 Road Tour, with two more events scheduled in York and Berwick Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling Contractors conference in Augusta asked for an update as well, did a couple last week. Well received as being helpful to understand more on the residential new construction.

LPI training by Brent Lawson and Mike Day – road tour, about every Wednesday for the next two months. Classes are full day, have been well attended, and give contractors opportunity to sit in as well.

Held a training for new plumbing inspectors. If appointed to a community, its not legal if not certified. Ten people participated in classroom setting, Mike Day and Brent Lawson did the presentation. Class will likely be repeated periodically to offset some of the plumbing needs.

BRIC Grant – once the kickoff meeting is complete, Paul has a list of people to reach out to for a proposal for training. Grant will give funding for 144 potential classes, for once a week, over the next three years. Anyone who presents will be recorded to add content to the online library.

Paul has been in contact with the community college program on a potential certificate program that communities could send new code officials to a college program with state and outside trainers.

7. Unfinished Business

- Discuss Chapter 1, 2 & 4 of Rules

- Chapter 1 draft reviewed – some changes made for text consistency and removal of unnecessary text, will revisit “seasonal dwelling” definition once a draft rewrite has been done, section 4 revised to clarify how MUBEC applies to structures/buildings and population and provide definition/word change of “political subdivision”, section 11, 1-D text rewritten on the timeframes for amendments proposal process and publicly posting after rulemaking is complete, section 12, 2-H revise to have record of deliberations “signed by the Chair”, correction to ASHRAE edition referenced in section 15.
- Chapter 2 – Paul suggested skipping Chapter 2 review for now. Doing some research on input from existing TPIs and how municipalities handle the use TPIs, to make sure the document is clear. After some comments regarding the responsibilities of a TPI, Paul noted the need to establish a procedure. Board members that had suggestions for Chapter 2 should send them to Paul.
- Chapter 4 – Review of draft, changes made for consistency of text, suggested use of “Purpose and Scope” from Chapter 1 to match, revise Appendices reference to

include any that may come up as a result of TAG discussions, numbering formatting to be corrected.

- Code copy access for Board members – Board members have received the codes, currently no issues with the download. ICC just sent a follow up email to provide further assistance.

8. New Business/Code Update

TAG committee requirements/application – Paul has revised the cover letter for TAG applications to remove the deadline date in an effort to get more participation.

Chapter schedule and Chapter 5 review skipped due to meeting time restrictions.

9. Public Comment

As part of the discussion of Chapter 1, it was noted by a member of the public that the Consumer Law Guide references to find out if the municipality has a building code, and where the whole state has one, it would need to be update to reflect that.

Additional Board Member Comment:

Discussion on the potential of eliminating the legislative update to provide more time to discuss agenda items or providing a list of legislative updates for Board members to review on their own allowing legislative discussions to use meeting time only as needed. After concerns of just becoming aware of a law a year later, a need for better notification was acknowledged, and it was suggested that the time used for legislative update could also be used to provide information on other relevant law changes as a starting point to increase awareness.

Due to discussions by Board members needing to be public, any information sent to the Chair or Paul for distribution to the Board should be marked clearly that it is a request to forward to the Board.

Steve Martel - information on an educational opportunity offered by Trane on April 7, with a presentation on building codes and asked that someone from the state be a representative in a Q&A type session.

Paul Demers - The MBOIA 50th anniversary celebration during training session May 23 and 24, ICC will be present at the event, also inviting legislative and administrative participation. Also hoping to get a proclamation from the Governor on “Building Safety Month” which would have four weeks, the first week is Energy, and the second week is Sustainability of Code Officials. MBOIA will likely extend an e-invite out.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

April 21, 2022 at 9:00 AM

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Quintal, Administrative Assistant