

IDAHO CODE COLLABORATIVE
Division of Building Safety
1090 East Watertower Street, Suite 150
Meridian, ID 83642

Meeting Summary

Date: June 7th, 2017

Time: 1 – 3 PM mountain/12 – 2 PM pacific

Attendees:

Allen Jensen, Bingham County
Charlie Allen, Ammon City
Charlie Woodruff, USGBC
David Freelove, Circuit Rider
George Klomp, Consultant
Ingo Stroup, Building Energy
Jason Blais, Boise City
Jennifer Pope, OEMR
Jerry Peterson, DBS
Joe Levitch, NARI Board

Johanna Bell, AIC
Ken Baker, NEEA
Lindsey Love, Love Shack
Pat Minegar, A1 Heating
Patrick Sullivan, Nampa City
Rob Brooks, RBA
Sharon Grant, EcoEdge
Sheree Willhite, Idaho Power
Teri Ottens, IDABO
Todd Greenwell, Idaho Power

Item: Greetings and Collaborative Introductions

Results:

Sharon Grant facilitated the discussion while Johanna Bell took notes. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves and to identify their affiliations. Sharon reviewed the agenda that had been distributed two days prior; there were no suggested changes from anyone attending today's meeting. Sharon explained that today's meeting was a "reboot" on the Collaborative, and provides an opportunity to discuss ground rules and strategy.

Item: Idaho Code Collaborative Process and Time Line

Results:

The Collaborative's purpose and role was discussed. The following observations were made:

- The Idaho Building Code Board (Board) is authorized to decide whether or not to make formal recommendations to the Legislature for subsequent deliberations and law-making. The Board may not have the resources to perform the very detailed review and analysis that Collaborative members can, and may not have the resources to represent the varied issues associated with code adoption or amendments.

- The Collaborative's role is to respond to the Board's requests, educate the Board, and vet codes through discussion. The Collaborative will strive to provide pros and cons, and develop actionable recommendations for the Board's consideration.
- The States located to the west of Idaho have developed their own codes; while those to the east have not.
- The Idaho Code Collaborative has been held up as a good example of stakeholder-led vetting of codes and code amendments nationally.

The Collaborative will discuss codes and code amendments, develop pros and cons regarding code adoption and amendments, and provide the Board with majority/minority views and 'actionable recommendations' when possible.

The Collaborative's process and time line discussed. The following observations were made:

- The 2018 codes will be published this September.
- It is anticipated that the 2018 codes will better refine and improve some aspects of previously published codes and that the addendum to the 2018 codes will provide fixes to those code published next September.
- If any proposals to adopt or amend code go forward, a code correlation review will be needed (i.e., code mash up). Some entities such as DBS and Boise City understand this need and devote resources to perform this task.
- The IDAPA Code Amendment Form sets forth some guidance for Collaborative discussions and vetting; the current Idaho Statutes also provide expectations regarding appropriate building codes.
- Certain types of detailed review and analysis may require the formation of a sub-group to do this work and then bring the results back to the Collaborative.
- Agendas and materials need to be developed with plenty of lead time so that Collaborative members can be better prepared. Also, standing monthly meetings and an annual schedule regarding code review would be helpful in order to ensure code adoption and amendments are vetted prior to next year's Board-led Negotiated Rule Making.

Item: Collaborative Review and Analysis

Results:

The Collaborative decided to meet every third Wednesday for an 8-month period starting on September 20th, 2017. The meetings will be generally 2 hours long, with options for in-person at DBS offices or via a webinar for on-line participation, from 1 – 3 PM mountain/12 – 2 PM pacific.

A draft agenda will be distributed a month prior to the meeting inviting any additional items and materials; with the final agenda and materials distributed two weeks prior to each meeting. Meeting materials will include results from the previous meeting. A proposed code review schedule was outlined, with the caveat that it might be revised if additional time is needed:

September 20, 2017: IECC (residential)
October 18, 2017: Resolve IECC
November 15, 2017: IRC
December 20, 2017: Resolve IRC
January 17, 2018: IBC and IECC (commercial)
February 21, 2018: Resolve IBC
March 21, 2018: IEBC
April 18, 2018: Resolve IEBC
May 16, 2018: Review Code Correlation (“mash-up”)

A sub-group was formed to develop a list of significant issues of the 2018 IECC (residential) prior to the September meeting. The results from this sub-group will be distributed to the Collaborative by August 20th. The members include: Charlie Allen, Dave Freelove, Sharon Grant, Pat Minegar, Jerry Petersen, Rob Brooks, and Ingo Stroup. A separate sub-group will be formed for each code (IECC residential/commercial, IRC, IBC and IEBC).

Item: Reporting to the Board

Results:

The history of code review and adoption since 2006 was briefly reviewed. Philosophical differences among Collaborative members, challenges in identifying consumer savings or priorities, and issues regarding code interpretation and enforcement were brought up as examples of long-term conflict. Recognizing that controversial issues may not achieve consensus, it was suggested that a “reason statement” be developed and always attached to any of the recommendations made to the Board. The need to describe “minority and majority” opinions to the Board was also identified. In order to facilitate outreach to the Board and to other stakeholders in the community, Collaborative meeting agendas, results, and other resources will be posted online through the idahoenergycode.com web site.

Item: Collaborative Feedback on Today’s Meeting

- Good process.
- Values among the members need more discussion.
- Good to open the process up for more transparency.
- Codes should not be ahead of practices.
- Glad to see the new approach for the Collaborative to describe minority and majority positions.
- Reports to those that were unable to make today’s meeting is important.
- Hope to move forward with the discussions and vet the agreements/disagreements.
- Would like to progress on code adoption and amendments that make sense.
- Interested in productive discussions and the development of actionable recommendations.
- Looking forward to problem solving with Collaborative members.
- Good meeting.

- Should the sequence of topics be revised in order to develop a more collaborative track record?
- Good to have established a review process that includes transparency and ample review opportunities.
- As a Board member, I appreciate the opportunity to hear the discussion.
- Discussions should be driven by what is happening out in the field.
- Sometimes it is better to take a step back and make sure we are not forcing on the consumer additional costs that are not necessary.
- Like the meeting tone and am looking forward to the next meeting.
- Interested in the process being more productive.
- Enjoyed the meeting.
- The organized process will help reduce the ‘spinning of our wheels.’”

Meeting Adjourned @ 3:05 mountain/2:05 pacific.