

**IDAHO BUILDING CODE BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING**

Tuesday – April 25, 2017 – 9:30 a.m. (MDT)

**Division of Building Safety
1090 East Watertower Street, Suite 150, Meridian
1250 Ironwood Drive, Suite 220, Coeur d’Alene
2055 Garrett Way, Building 1, Suite 4, Pocatello**

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 25, 2017 MEETING

NOTE: The following report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript of the discussions at the meeting, but to record the significant features of those discussions.

Chairman Andrew Bick called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. (MDT)

Board Members Present:

Andrew Bick, Chairman
Scott Buck
Mike Tracy
Jason Blais
Dennis Schaffner
Allen Jensen
Michael Arrington
Chuck Bleth, Teleconference

DBS Staff Members Present:

Chris L. Jensen, Administrator
Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator
Patrick Grace, Deputy Attorney General
Arlan Smith, Building Program Manager
Larry Jeffres, Regional Manager, Region 1
Jeff Egan, Regional Manager, Region 3
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2

◆ **Recognition**

Administrator Chris L. Jensen recognized Travis Beck for his years of service on the Board with a commemorative plaque.

◆ **Open Forum**

There were no new items or concerns to address.

◆ **Approval of the April 25, 2017 Agenda**

Chairman Bick called for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION: Mike Tracy made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Michael Arrington seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Approval of the February 21, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Bick called for a motion to approve the draft minutes.

MOTION: Mike Tracy made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dennis Schaffner seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Negotiated Rulemaking**

This is the first of two hearings to discuss proposed amendments to the building and energy codes.

IRC -- Tiny Homes – Macy Miller, advocate for tiny homes, brought forth a proposal to add an Appendix Q *Tiny Houses* to IDAPA 07.03.01.004.02, *International Residential Code (IRC)*, 2012 edition. If adopted, the appendix will provide a legal and permissible path to tiny homes on foundations for residents. The issue of wheels is not in this appendix; however, it is the long-term goal to address it within the next code cycle.

Dave Yorgason, Building Contractors Association of Southwestern Idaho (BCASWI) Representative, stated from the builder's perspective there is a need for rules on tiny homes. Board Member Jason Blais affirmed there was 100% consensus by the collaborative to support the proposal, and Teri Ottens, Idaho Association of Building Officials (IDABO) Representative, conveyed her board and association both support the amendment.

IBC -- Lap Splices – Tom Young, Northwest Concrete Masonry Association was not in attendance at the meeting; therefore, Chairman Bick read the proposal into the record. Mr. Young would like the following to be added to the International Building Code, section 2107.2.1 *Lap Splices*, page 438 (page 457 in the 2015 IBC): "...but need not be greater than 72db."

The code change places a cap on the required length of reinforcement lap splices for allowable stress design (ASD) of masonry; making the allowable stress maximum lap length equivalent to the current strength design maximum lap length.

Board Member Blais received an e-mail from Kent Soelberg, Senior Structural Engineer with Ch²M Hill, stating he had no issues with the proposal. As the Registered Engineer Representative on the Board, Mr. Blais suggested Board Member Jan Welch provide her opinion as well.

IRC -- IDAPA 07.03.01.02 – On behalf of IDABO President Jon Laux, Teri Ottens presented a draft proposal to IDAPA 07.03.01.02 *International Residential Code*, 2012 edition; allowing the 2015 IRC, with IDAPA amendments, as an alternative method. Mrs. Ottens' stated the amendment simply allows the use of the code as an option, not as the minimum code and in no way is a contractor required to abide by it. In addition, by adopting the proposal, design approval processes are more efficient; saving builders and designers time and money.

In 2016, the topic to adopt the 2015 IRC was discussed at several of the Code Collaborative meetings. All groups present, building officials, architects, structural engineers, energy representative, one residential builders group and an eastern Idaho builder voted for the amendment; however, only one builders group voted against it. With the majority in support of the amendment, including 50% of the builders, IDABO asked the Board to determine the collaborative did indeed reach consensus and approve the amendment.

Chairman Bick reiterated the current code would remain in place; however, the proposal would allow an alternate path in following the 2015 IRC as a means of compliance.

Dave Yorgason, BCASWI Representative, stated there does not need to be an alternative code in place since cities/counties can already adopt the 2015 IRC. In addition, the largest concerns/gaps are in the energy code. Based on local costs and analysis the BCASWI is not in favor of the proposal.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

New Position – The Building program has an opening for a plans examiner.

Building Program – There has not been much change in the program since this topic was addressed at the February 2017 Board meeting

◆ **Administrator Report**

Positions – Besides the plans examiner position, the Division has a number of inspector positions to fill. At this time, the DBS is struggling to fill those positions as it is competing, monetarily, with some of the local jurisdictions.

2017 Legislation – The following codes were approved by the legislature: 1) 2017 National Electrical Code, 2) 2015 Idaho State Plumbing Code, 3) 2015 International Building Code, 4) 2015 International Existing Building Code, and 5) International Energy Conservation Code (commercial only).

International Mechanical Code (IMC) Vs. Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC) – As asked by Board Member Blais, the HVAC Board will discuss the codes at its May meeting; determining whether to go back to the UMC.

Financial Report – The Idaho Building Code Fund FY 2017 financial statement, as of March 31, 2017, was addressed.

Chairman Bick asked the font size of the verbiage in the boxes located in the two graphs be increased for easier reading.

ACTION: For future meetings, the color-coded description in the financial charts will have a larger font size.

Budget – The 2017 legislature authorized approximately \$6,000 dollars more than the Division's \$14 million dollar budget for FY 2018. The additional monies will go toward increasing the DBS inspector's salaries.

Permits – Currently, the Division is issuing a little over 200 permits a day.

Solar Projects – The Division just finished inspecting its fourth big solar project.

Nuclear Fuel Facility – East of Idaho Falls, construction on a new two to three billion dollar facility should begin in 2019. This long-term project will take approximately six years to build. Upon completion, the facility will process and store spent nuclear fuel from the nation’s nuclear-powered submarines and aircraft carrier.

School Bonds – In March 2017, school bonds worth \$700 million dollars passed throughout the state of Idaho.

◆ **Adjournment**

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mike Tracy made a motion to adjourn. Dennis Schaffner seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. (MDT)

ANDREW BICK, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO BUILDING CODE BOARD

CHRIS L. JENSEN, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

06/27/2017rb

DATE