

**IDAHO BUILDING CODE BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Tuesday – April 13, 2021 – 9:30 a.m. (MDT)

**Division of Building Safety
1090 East Watertower Street, Suite 150, Meridian
1250 Ironwood Drive, Suite 220, Coeur d'Alene
155 North Maple Street, Blackfoot**

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2021 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 9:30 a.m. (MDT)

Board Members Present:

Andrew Bick, Chairman
Jason Blais, Vice-Chairman
Ron Johnson
John Cotner
Jeremy Maxand
Kent Soelberg
Jon Laux
Nick Guho
Rob Brooks-Telecon.
Chuck Bleth-Telecon.

DBS Staff Members Present:

Ron Whitney, Administrator
Spencer Holm, Deputy Attorney General-Telecon.
Jeff Egan, Building Program Manager
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Manager, Region 3
Lisa Stover, Building Program Supervisor
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2

◆ **Open Forum**

There were no new issues to address under open forum.

◆ **Recognition**

Captain Ron Johnson was welcomed as the Fire Official Representative and newest member of the Board.

◆ **Approval of the April 13, 2021 Agenda and February 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Jon Laux made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and the minutes as written. Jason Blais seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Mass Timber Structures – House Bill 143**

House Bill 143 passed the House and Senate Committees and now adds to the existing law that by January 1, 2022, the Idaho Building Code Board will adopt certain International Building Code (IBC) provisions for the use of mass timber. This will include permitting of the three mass timber construction types, IV-A, IV-B, and IV-C, along with the corresponding maximum heights and fire safety features.

The city of Denver, Colorado, adopted into its code an Appendix U; which is in the board packet. The multipage document touches on the chapters of the 2021 IBC. Due to the volume

of amendments and red tape reduction, the Administrator proposed to develop an appendix, similar to the city of Denver, adopting the new provisions in code by reference as a temporary rule.

Heather Stegner, American Wood Council (AWC), agreed to provide the Board with how other states have adopted the provisions in their codes, as well as have AWC's code expert review and define the changes to the code.

Board Member Ron Johnson requested, and Suzanne Mayr, National Fire Sprinkler Association, agreed to research which states have adopted the provisions in the fire codes. The fire codes will be addressed by the Idaho Department of Insurance, not this board.

◆ **Definition of Conditioned Space: IECC**

In the packet was a revised amendment to the energy code; adding a note "a" that would exempt load calculation equipment sizing from Section R403.7.

Additional suggestions were: 1) Limit to 3-4 BTU per cubic foot of building on existing building size, and 2) Require a certain amount of insulation in the walls or ceiling of a garage for new construction. Currently, Section 503.2 states if an unconditioned space is made into a conditioned space the full-requirements of Section 402 must be met; however, if the new amendment is accepted, it would be exempt.

Dave Freelove, Idaho Energy Code Circuit Rider, addressed the following draft amendments:

- R403.6.1 – The whole-home ventilation is a very good strategic way to meet the ventilation requirements for residential construction. Under "Exception" the following verbiage would be removed "... the air handler shall be powered by an electronically Commutated Motor." Listed appliances could then be installed without the ECM motor.
- IDAPA 24.39.30.04.j – The pressure to test blower doors must equal 50 Pa. A simple change would be to remove 33.5 psf and add 0.2-inch w.g.

Currently, mass timber is the only topic authorized for negotiated rulemaking at the board's June meeting. Upon further discussion, the draft amendments to the energy code would need to be posted and reviewed at the board's June 2021 and August 2021 meetings to meet the requirements of negotiated rulemaking.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

Construction – Since the February 23, 2021 meeting, the Building program has received approximately 45 state projects, mostly deferred maintenance and remodels. Following are a few projects: 1) Medical Educational Building, University of Idaho (U of I), Moscow, \$608,000; 2) College of Law Building, U of I, Moscow, \$515,000; 3) ADA upgrades, Lewis and Clark State College, Lewiston, \$425,000; 4) Office of Emergency Management, Boise, \$1,700,000; 5) Idaho Military Division, Boise, \$440,000; 6) Administration Building, U of I, Moscow, \$760,000; 7) New roadway lighting, U of I, Moscow, \$820,000; 8) Idaho Transportation Department, Boise, \$340,000; 9) Idaho Transportation Department, Carey, \$500,000; 10) Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Naples, \$230,000; 11) Idaho Veterans Services, Lewiston, \$540,000; and 12) Idaho Wheat Commission, Boise, \$750,000.

◆ **Administrator Report**

International Code Council (ICC) – The ICC is blending the current amendments into the Idaho Residential Code and Idaho Energy Conservation Code. The PDF versions are available for purchase through the ICC store, and on April 23, 2021, the free view and digital codes will be posted on ICC’s website.

Legislative Update – Senate Bills 1024, 1026, and 1056, relative to the new Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses, have been signed by the House Speaker and Senate President and will now be signed by the Governor.

There are two bills regarding electrical journeyman to apprentice ratio. House Bill 145 would remove, and Senate Bill 1161 would put back in the requirement. It is anticipated there will be no further activity on either bill this legislative session.

House Bill 274 did not move forward; however, if it had, it would have amended and added to existing law to provide for the Idaho Energy Conservation Code, to provide for legislative approval of certain codes, and to provide for preemption.

Permit Activity – Permits issued in January, February and March 2021, have exceeded 2020 by 18 percent, and in 2020, permits were higher than 2019 by ten percent.

Financial Report – Revenue is at 108 percent of what DBS budgeted and expenses are at 92 percent of what DBS budgeted. The FY 2017–2021 Month-End Available Cash graph only goes to \$2 million dollars. For the next meeting, that number will be raised to reflect the accurate amount available.

International Code Council (ICC) (Cont’d) – As soon as the updated Idaho codes are available, the Division will reactivate the link to ICC’s website.

◆ **Adjournment**

MOTION: Jon Laux made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeremy Maxand seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

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

ANDREW BICK, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO BUILDING CODE BOARD

RON WHITNEY, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

DATE

05/07/2021rb