

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

Tuesday – June 27, 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
Department of Environmental Quality
1118 F Street, Lewiston**

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 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 9:34 a.m. (MDT)

Board Members Present:

Andrew Bick, Chairman
Scott Buck, Vice-Chairman
Mike Tracy
Jason Blais
Michael Arrington
Jan Welch, P.E.
Allen Jensen
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
Adam Kampenhout, Building Inspector
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2

◆ **Open Forum**

Fire Stop Special Inspection – Alvin Hill, Special Inspector with the firm Materials Testing and Inspection, informed the Board there is a new section in the International Building Code (IBC) where special inspections are now required for categories three and four buildings in chapter 17; however, the International Code Council (ICC) does not have a test for it yet. The problem Mr. Hill is finding is certain jurisdictions in Idaho are either unaware of the change, choose to pass on it or ignore it. Currently in code, the authority having jurisdiction dictates who is/is not a responsible educated individual to provide inspections.

Kraig Stevenson, ICC Representative, confirmed he has been involved in this issue for several years. Beginning with the 2012 code, Washington State and the Washington Association of Building Officials (WABO) asked ICC if it planned to do the certification. WABO eventually chose to design its own program, which is now complete and ready to begin the implementation and advertisement process for individuals to take the exam. Over the course of the coming year, ICC would like to look at WABO’s program and try to forge a partnership to create a code branded label.

Mr. Stevenson offered to contact the Executive Director of WABO to provide information on its program to the Idaho Building Code Board.

Custom Codes – Kraig Stevenson, ICC, recently attended the Idaho HVAC Board meeting where it was discussed whether to adopt the next mechanical code; using the International Mechanical Code or Uniform Mechanical Code. Also mentioned was the possibility of incorporating the fuel gas, mechanical provisions and all of the residential codes into one book.

Upon pondering this topic, Mr. Stevenson questioned how many states have adopted the International Residential Code (IRC) in its entirety, 35. For the purpose of the home building industry, and contractors dealing just with the residential code, Mr. Stevenson suggested if all DBS boards worked together to create one complete residential document, ICC would to the customization.

Idaho Code Collaboration – Sharon Grant, EcoEdge, provided a summary of the Idaho Code Collaborative meeting held June 7, 2017 via teleconference/videoconference from the Division’s three office locations. Beginning September 2017, the Collaborative will meet every month for eight months; discussing the 2018 codes.

Ms. Grant requested the topic *Idaho Code Collaborative* be added to future board meeting agendas as an informational item. It was determined the topic will be added to “Open Forum” on a regular basis.

ACTION: Beginning at the October 2017 Board meeting, the topic *Idaho Code Collaborative* will be a regular topic on the Board’s agendas under “Open Forum”.

◆ **Approval of the June 26, 2017 Agenda**

To determine whether a special meeting is necessary in August, Chairman Bick requested the topic *August 22, 2017 Special Building Code Board Meeting* be added to the agenda as item 04d under “Action Agenda”.

The Chairman called for a motion to add item 04d to the agenda.

MOTION: Mike Tracy made a motion to add the topic *August 22, 2017 Special Building Board Code Meeting* to the agenda as action item 04d. Scott Buck seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the revised agenda.

MOTION: Mike Tracy made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Allen Jensen seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Approval of the April 25, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes**

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

MOTION: Scott Buck made a motion to approve the minutes as written.

Board Member Jan Welch stated she was not at the April 25, 2017 Board meeting and asked her name be removed from the minutes.

REVISED MOTION: Scott Buck made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Michael Arrington seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Negotiated Rulemaking**

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

IRC -- Tiny Homes – Macy Miller, advocate for tiny homes, reiterated her proposal from the April 25th meeting to add an Appendix “Q” *Tiny Houses* to IDAPA 07.03.01.004.02. The appendix addresses, in part, exceptions for houses under 400 square feet, ceiling heights, sleeping lofts, smaller staircases and the ability to have a ladder/ships ladder as a primary access to the space. The 2012 edition of the IRC already has an appendix “Q”; therefore, the appendix would be “R”. For the 2018 IRC, “Q” is the correct appendix for tiny houses.

Arlan Smith, Building Program Manager, noted corrections on page five under Section AV105.1, “Exception”. The verbiage “Egress roof access windows ...” is an inconsistent term for the code as there is no such thing as an egress window. The language “Escape and rescue” should replace “Egress” in two areas of the paragraph. Board Member Jensen noted the same editorial change is required on page three in the title EGRESS ROOF ACCESS WINDOW.

IBC -- Lap Splices – Board Member Jan Welch spoke with Tom Young prior to the meeting and is content with the structural engineer’s recommendation on the passage of the language. Chairman Bick read Mr. Young’s proposal into the record. The proposal will be included in both the 2015 and 2018 IRC.

IRC -- IDAPA 07.03.01.02 – On behalf of the Idaho Association of Building Officials (IDABO) President Jon Laux, Teri Ottens emphasized the amendment proposes the 2015 IRC be an accepted alternate provision. The 2015 IRC would not be implemented/instituted unless a designer or builder requested to utilize it. The purpose of the amendment is to lessen paperwork for everyone involved when requesting to use the 2015 IRC and provide builders and designers more options.

Comparing the 2015 IRC to the current code, Rob Brooks, Rob Brooks & Associates, asked for clarification to any energy efficiency changes; i.e., installation levels. Board Member Jensen stated the amendments to the 2012 IRC did not change; however, would simply need to be reformatted/re-referenced in the 2015 code.

Recognizing building officials need training on the 2015 codes, IDABO will hold classes on all of the codes the second week of September 2017 and third week of January 2018.

Although the intent and need is apparent, Steve Martinez, Tradewinds, and Dave Yorgason, Building Contractors Association of Southwestern Idaho Representative, expressed working with two set of codes could cause greater problems, as well as confusion to the industry and building officials.

◆ **Vote on Proposed Amendments**

Prior to voting, Board Member Chuck Bleth signed-off the meeting via teleconference.

IRC -- Tiny Homes

Chairman Bick called for a motion to the IRC -- Tiny Homes proposal.

MOTION: Jan Welch made a motion to approve and move forward with the amendment to the 2018 legislature. Jason Blais seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

IBC -- Lap Splices

Chairman Bick called for a motion to the IBC -- Lap Splices proposal.

MOTION: Allen Jensen made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mike Tracy seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

IRC -- IDAPA 07.03.01.02

Chairman Bick called for a motion to the IRC -- IDAPA 07.03.01.02 proposal.

MOTION: Jason Blais made a motion to approve the proposal. Allen Jensen seconded. Roll call vote: Jan Welch–nay, Michael Arrington–nay, Jason Blais–aye, Allen Jensen–aye, Scott Buck–nay, and Mike Tracy–nay. Four nays and two ayes. Motion did not pass.

◆ **August 22, 2017 Special Board Meeting**

MOTION: Mike Tracy made a motion to cancel the August 22, 2017 special board meeting. Scott Buck seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

Building Program – The Division continues to have staffing challenges.

Permits – During fiscal year 2016, DBS has processed, and has done/is doing inspections on approximately 2,500 permits.

Plan Reviews – With a staff of approximately 12, the Building Program has reviewed plans for 26 schools, as well as have had 866 modular plan reviews, building permits or insignias issued from January 2017 to date.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Financial Report – The Board is in good shape, as are all the Boards under the Division and funds continue to grow rapidly.

Change in Employee Compensation (CEC) – Recently the staff received a 3% increase in wages based on the CEC. The Division of Financial Management approved a program, put together by DBS, to raise the inspector base pay from \$18.31 to \$21.00. The new wages become effective immediately and will help with recruitment.

Eclipse – The total solar eclipse will appear on August 21, 2017. Idaho’s I-15 corridor is in the pathway of the eclipse, with Menan Butte having the best view in Idaho. There is anticipation thousands of people will descend upon the Butte. The dilemma the Division has is whether to continue inspections in the I-15 corridor and/or block the Division’s on-line inspection system for a couple of days in that area.

Paperless Board Packets – Beginning September 2017, board packets will only be available electronically through the Division’s website. This is a great cost-savings for the Division’s eight boards.

◆ **Adjournment**

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mike Tracy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jan Welch seconded. Vote called. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. (MDT)

ANDREW BICK, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO BUILDING CODE BOARD

RON WHITNEY, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

DATE

09/20/2017rb