

UNAPPROVED/UNOFFICIAL – MINUTES

These minutes are DRAFT minutes and are posted here to comply with RSA 91-A:2. The Board has not voted to accept them. Changes may/may not be made prior to their adoption at the next Board meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BUILDING CODE REVIEW BOARD

DRAFT – Minutes of Regular Meeting – March 8, 2013

NOTE: The regularly scheduled meeting of February 8, 2013 was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Attendance:

Bill Benard, NH Electrical Contractors Business Association
Donald P. Bliss, Chair, Designee of the Commissioner of Safety
Barbara Chalmers, AIA, Board of Architects, Licensed Architect
Wayne Fillion, PE, NH Board of Engineers (Mechanical Engineer)
Edward J. Gibson, PE, NH Board of Engineers (Electrical Engineer)
Michael Hoisington, NH Association of Fire Chiefs
Richard Hopley, CBO, NH Building Officials Association
David Lage, Associated General Contractors of NH, Inc.
Linda McNair-Perry, Vice-Chair, NH Board of Engineers (Structural Engineer)
Jonathan Mitchell, NH Bureau of Electrical Safety & Licensing
Jonathan Osgood, NH Public Utilities Commission
John Starr, CGB, NH Home Builders Association

Excused:

Timothy J. Dupont, Board for the Licensing and Regulation of Plumbers
David Gleason, Governor's Commission on Disability
Robert Ives, NH Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association
Medard Kopczynski, NH Municipal Association
Kevin MacCaffrie, NH Association of Fire Chiefs (resigned, effective March 1, 2013)

Guests:

Wayne Richardson, NH Building Officials Association
Tom Clark, City of Dover

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 am by Donald P. Bliss, Chair. A quorum was declared. Members were introduced.

John Starr **MOVED** to adopt the January 11, 2013 meeting minutes as written. **SECONDED** by David Lage.

Motion Carried (abstentions: Benard, Hoisington, Osgood, Starr)

OLD BUSINESS

Legislative Issues

Chairman Bliss is still attempting to schedule a meeting with legislative leaders, but calendars have been difficult to coordinate. Board members will be notified when a meeting has been scheduled.

BCRB Website Update

Linda McNair-Perry provided an update on the changes to the website. The website has been completely revised and updated, and Linda will continue to coordinate updates as needed.

MOVED by Richard Hopley, **SECONDED** by Jonathan Osgood to remove this item from "Old Business".

ADOPTED by unanimous vote.

Update on the Activities of the Joint Sub-Committee with the Board of Fire Control

As requested at the January meeting, Chairman Bliss contacted State Fire Marshal Degnan concerning the need to reconvene the joint subcommittee to discuss the feasibility of removing the height and area limitations requirements that have been adopted in the state building code so that the requirements in the 2009 International Building Code will apply. Marshal Degnan will call a meeting of the sub-committee in the near future.

Report on the Task Group on Means of Egress Harmonization

Nothing new to report.

Status of Bcr 100 and Bcr 200 updates

The updated versions of the board's administrative rules, Chapter Bcr 100 (Organizational Rules) and Chapter Bcr 200 (Practice and Procedure) were provided to the board. Because of the changes to RSA 155-A that were implemented in the 2012 legislative session, it will be necessary to make further revisions to Bcr 100. Chairman Bliss will ask Attorney Modigliani to begin this process.

Update on the Amendment Review Subcommittee

Nothing new to report.

Follow-up on Response to Mr. Tepe

Linda McNair-Perry reported that she had informed Mr. Tepe of the actions of the board in response to Mr. Tepe's recommendations concerning code amendment information on the website.

Follow-up Concerning Accessibility Issues

Chairman Bliss reported that he is working with David Gleason to schedule a presentation by Jillian Shedd at a future meeting of the board.

Fire Extinguisher Monitoring Requirements

Michael Hoisington asked if any member of the board had heard of any difficulties with the fire extinguisher monitoring systems that are required in certain buildings by the state fire code. The board held a brief discussion to clarify the applicability of the requirement.

TABLED ITEMS

Exhibit EX-09-04-12, International Existing Building that was tabled on December 14, 2012 remains on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of RSA 91-A (Right-to-Know" law)

Chairman Bliss reviewed a PowerPoint presentation from the NH Department of Justice that summarizes the key requirements of RSA 91-A. Board members were reminded that board business should not be discussed or deliberated via e-mail or other electronic means.



Cocheco Millworks Request for Waiver

The Public Utilities Commission received a request to waive its "master metering" rule for the Cocheco Millworks rehabilitation project in Dover. As a condition of its approval, the PUC instructed the developer to obtain a waiver from the Building Code Review Board for a concurrent requirement in the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). Since that time, it has been determined by the National Park Service that the buildings qualify as certified historic structures for the purposes of rehabilitation. Therefore, the IECC is not applicable and a waiver is not required.

Chairman Bliss will notify the PUC that no waiver is required, and that future issues of this type should be referred to the local jurisdiction for consideration and action.

Linda McNair-Perry suggested that the board should hold a discussion in the future concerning the development of a form for waiver requests. It may be necessary to seek guidance from the attorney general's office concerning the board's authority to grant waivers.

State Fire Code Review

Chairman Bliss reported that State Fire Marshal Degnan has notified him that the Division of Fire Safety has begun an internal technical review of the 2012 edition of NFPA 1 *Fire Code* to determine the feasibility of adopting the 2012 edition of NFPA 1.

The board held a discussion concerning the need to review the 2012 ICC codes. Wayne Richardson (NH Building Officials Association) recommended that the board wait until the 2015 ICC codes are issued before making any recommendations to the legislature concerning updating the State Building Code.

It was the consensus of the board that the 2012 ICC codes should be reviewed, but that no action should be taken at the present time to recommend updates to the State Building Code. Barbara Chalmers will coordinate the review, and board members were asked to initiate a review of the 2012 ICC codes in their areas of expertise and responsibility.

Resignation of Chairman Bliss

Chairman Bliss notified the board that he had accepted the position of Vice-President, Field Operations with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), effective April 1, 2013. Therefore, he has submitted his resignation from the board to Commissioner Barthelmes, effective March 31, 2013. Chairman Bliss expressed his appreciation to the members of the board for their dedication, professionalism and support during his tenure.

The next meeting of the Building Code Review Board will be held on Friday, April 12, 2013 at 10am, second floor conference room, Department of Safety.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 11:35am.