

**Residential Code Review Committee  
2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code  
Regular committee meeting minutes  
- FINAL -**

**May 31, 2007**

**Members present:** Patrick Bridges  
John Caul  
Chuck Day  
David DeHarpport  
Gary Lampella  
Alan Seymour

**Members absent:** Raymond Miller

**Staff present:** Twyla Knowles, policy and technical services assistant manager  
Richard Rogers, structural program chief  
Mike Ewert, code specialist  
Marianne Manning, rules coordinator  
Heidi Shamberger, structural para-technical specialist

**Guests present:** Robert Rice, Josephine County  
Eric McMullen, Oregon Fire Marshals Association  
Lori Graham, City of Portland  
Darrell George, City of Portland  
Dwight “Mac” Sheldon, Demilec (USA) LLC

**1. Approval of minutes**

Amendment to the minutes by Chairman Bridges on page 10. The motion for Section R901.1 should state, “Motion by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendment to be consistent with statutory provisions.”

Motion by Chairman Bridges to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2007 committee meeting as amended.

Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Bridges reminded members of the audience to sign up for testimony, that testimony time will be allotted five minutes. During committee discussion, audience members may comment for an allotted time of one minute. Audience members should speak from the presenters table when acknowledged.

Chairman Bridges welcomed committee member David DeHarpport, who was unable to attend the first two committee meetings.

**2. Code review of 2006 IRC (model code) changes from previous code and existing 2005 ORSC (Oregon amendments)**

## **Chapter 3 continued**

### **R311.4.3, model code and Oregon amendment adds language**

Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code language.  
Motion withdrawn.

Motion by Gary Lampella to adopt model code language in the body of the section.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Chuck Day to retain model code in exception 1 and retain the Oregon amendments in exceptions 2 and 3 because it addresses an Oregon construction practice that has worked well and served the interest of the building community and public for many years.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **R311.4.1, Oregon amendment adds language**

Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendment because it fills a gap in model code language.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **R311.5.1, Oregon amendment adds exception**

Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendment because the mandatory egress stair requirement is already met and this Oregon exception doesn't diminish the model code requirement.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **R311.5.3.1, Oregon amendments adds language**

Motion by Gary Lampella to delete the last sentence, which is an Oregon amendment. The language is repeated by model code in Section R311.5.3.2.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendment dealing with stair geometry requirements, to be consistent with previous action in Section R311.4.3.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **R311.5.3.2, Oregon amendment changes dimensions**

Motion by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendment to be consistent with previous action taken.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **R311.5.3.3, Oregon amendment changes dimensions**

Motion by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendment to be consistent with previous action taken.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R311.5.3.4, R311.5.3.5, Oregon amendments adds language**

Darrel George, City of Portland, discussed his experience with slope issues in this section. He does support the use of a definition.

Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendments because it fills a gap in model code language and increases safety.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R311.5.4, model code adds language**

Motion by Gary Lampella to adopt model code language in the exception.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R311.5.6, Oregon amendment adds language**

Mr. George commented that this requirement increases safety on winder stairs where the inside radius of the tread is very narrow. He indicated the handrail accomplishes two functions: creates a gripping surface on the common path of travel and forces travelers to be further away from the narrowest tread depth of the winder stairway.

Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendment because it fills a gap in model code language and enhances safety.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R311.5.6.1, Oregon amendment lowers stair height to accommodate goose necks**

Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendment because it addresses a specific handrail configuration not addressed in the model code. .

Motion passed unanimously.

**R311.6.1, model code changes slope measurement**

Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code language.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R311.6.3.1, Oregon amendment changes dimensions for handrail height.**

Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendment to be consistent with previous action taken in Section R311.5.6.1.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R312.1, model code creates editorial changes**

Chairman Bridges ruled editorial changes be accepted.

**R312.2, Oregon amendment changes in exception**

Recommendation by Mike Ewert, code specialist, to delete the Oregon amendment in the body of the section that changes “which” to “that” because it is editorial in nature.

Chairman Bridges ruled editorial changes in the body of the section be deleted.

Motion by Chuck Day to delete the Oregon amendments in exception 2 that adds the word “open,” to replace “the” and to also retain the rest of the Oregon amendment to the exception because of an ongoing safety need.

Motion passed unanimously.

The committee took a brief break.

## Chapter 6

**R601.1**, Oregon amendment gives a roadmap for straw bale construction  
Chairman Bridges ruled this change is a roadmap and will be retained to fill a gap in model code.

**R602.1.3**, model code creates a new section for structural log members  
Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.3.2**, model code adds clarification for top plate application, editorial Oregon amendment  
Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.  
Chairman Bridges ruled that the Oregon amendment is editorial and will be deleted.

**Table R602.3(1)**, model code changes, Oregon amendments add references  
Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon because it fills a gap in model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**Table R602.3(2)** Oregon amendment modifies table  
Motion by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendment because it fills a gap in model code language and refers to specific climatic conditions in Oregon.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.6**, model code separates notching from drilling requirements  
Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.6.1 through R602.8.1.2**, model code adds clarification  
Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Bridges explained that Vice-chairman Raymond Miller, unable to attend today's meeting, sent his recommendations about Chapter 6 to the committee through Chairman Bridges, who will refer to those comments as the committee reviews Chapter 6.

**R602.9** Oregon amendments add clarification  
Raymond Miller suggested through the Chairman that the committee retain the Oregon amendments because it clarifies the provisions.  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendments because it clarifies the provisions in this section and provides more restrictive requirements than model code.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10, Table R602.10.3(1), and Table R602.10.3(2), Oregon amendments about wall bracing**  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendments because the provisions add clarification and fills a gap in model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.1 Oregon amendment adds language**  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendment because it addresses requirements more specifically than model code.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**Table R602.10.5, Oregon amendment adds column information**  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendment because it addresses construction practices specific to Oregon.  
Motion passed unanimously

**Figure R602.10.5, Oregon amendment replaces model code figure**  
Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendment because it is important for energy conservation and is not addressed in model code.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.2, Oregon amendment adds cripple wall bracing language including exception**  
Mr. Rice commented on R602.9 and R602.10.2 and indicated he was opposed to the adoption of this amendment. Mr. Rice's code proposal for the section will be reviewed at a future meeting.  
Motion by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendments to clarify the requirements of bracing walls in R602.9.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.3(5), Oregon amendment adds language**  
Motion by Gary Lampella to delete the Oregon amendment.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.3, 602.10.4, model code adds reference**  
Chairman Bridges ruled this change is a roadmap. .

**R602.10.5, Oregon amendment adds language**  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendment because it is more specific than model code.  
Motion amended by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendment and to modify code language to eliminate "...and interior braced wall lines where required..." from model code language because it is more specific than model code.  
Mr. Rice questioned the reason behind deleting interior braced wall lines from code language. Mr. Day stated that interior walls should not be addressed in this section as the intent of the code was never to change how interior walls are braced and limit bracing to method three. Mr. Rice expressed his approval of the change to the language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Chairman Bridges to adopt the Oregon amendment for the entire section.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.5.1, R602.10.5.2**, Oregon amendments adding new sections

Chairman Bridges referred the committee to a BCD [document regarding changes to Appendix O](#). He indicated that these modifications delete all references to Appendix N with modifications only to townhouse construction.

Ms. Graham recommended that the committee change “dwelling units” to “townhouses” in this section. The committee agreed that the intent of the code was to refer to “townhouses.”

Committee will come back to this section when they review the Appendix O paper.

DEFERRED

**R602.10.6.1**, model code adds section and Oregon amendment changes language

Mr. George commented on the Oregon amendments, which provide more options than model code. Mr. Rice suggested the committee keep the model code language and delete the Oregon amendments.

Motion by David DeHarpport to retain the Oregon amendment without model code changes because the amendment clarifies code.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.6, R602.10.6.2**, model code adds new sections

Mr. George said that model code will codify interpretive rulings with more flexibility and more options. Mr. Rice concurred with Mr. George.

Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code language with the provision that interpretive rulings be reviewed.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Table and Figure 602.10.6**, model code adds figure and table

Chairman Bridges ruled, based on previous action, the table is not approved because it was not approved with action for R602.10.1, but the figure is approved because it is part of the last motion.

**R602.10.7**, model code adds language

Motion by Gary Lampella to adopt model code language.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.8**, Oregon amendment and model code adds language

DEFERRED

Mr. Rice encouraged the committee to adopt the model code language for R602.10.8. He indicated that his proposal will add options to model code language. He does not support the adoption of this Oregon amendment.

The committee took a lunch break.

**R602.10.9**, Oregon amendment changes dimensions, adds clarification and deletes exception  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendment because it adds more  
specificity to model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.11**, model code adds Seismic Design Category D<sub>0</sub> and Oregon amendment adds  
Seismic Design Category C  
DEFERRED

**R602.10.11.1**, Oregon amendment changes dimensions, deletes model code exception, adds new  
exception  
Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendment because it is consistent with  
previous action.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.11.2**, Oregon amendment modifies section  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendment because it better clarifies the  
delineation between interior and exterior braced wall lines, delete seismic reference in the  
first line of the subsection and “application for interior brace wall line” in exception and,  
in the exception, change “lines” to “panel.”  
Staff will delete one of the words “method” where it was doubled and will delete the  
redundant seismic wording.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.11.3**, model code adds new numbers and editorial modifications  
Motion by Gary Lampella to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.11, R602.10.11.4, R602.10.11.5**, (renumbered from R602.10.11.1 and R602.10.11.2)  
Oregon amendment adds sections  
Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the Oregon amendment because it adds a construction  
method not addressed in model code.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.11.1**, Oregon amendment about cripple wall bracing  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendment deleting these requirements  
because it is already addressed in R602.10.2.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.10.11.3 (renumbered to R602.10.11.6 in new code)**, Oregon amendment  
Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the existing Oregon amendment because it adds  
specificity to code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.11.1**, model code and Oregon amendment language changes

Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code language and eliminate Oregon amendment

Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.11.2**, Oregon amendment adds clarification

Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendment because it clarifies construction methods.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R602.11.3**, Oregon amendment adds clarification

Motion by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendment because it clarifies code requirements.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R603 through 610**, model code language changes

Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt all of the model code requirements that apply to steel framing.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Section 611**, model code

Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt all model code language in this section.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R613.4**, model code exterior windows and glass doors

DEFERRED for review by the committee's Department of Energy representative.

**R613.7(4), R613.2**, Oregon amendment

Motion by Chuck Day to retain the Oregon amendment which deletes R613.7.

Motion amended by Chuck Day to also retain the Oregon amendment because the tables it references do not exist in Oregon code.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R613.1**, model code changes

Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code language with the caveat that the work of the Construction Claims Task Force may need to be addressed in the future.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ewert recommended that the committee carefully review Section R613.2 because it is a new provision in the model code level.

**Chapter 7**

**R702.3**, model code adds section

Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code language in Section 702.3 and table.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R702.4.1**, model code adds section  
Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R703.1**, model code adds language  
Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R703.2**, model code adds language  
Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R703.4**, model code adds language  
Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R703.6, R703.6.2**, model code, **R703.7.4.1, R703.9**, Oregon amendments  
Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt model code and the Oregon amendments, which are editorial.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R703.7, Table 703.7**  
DEFERRED for new proposal review.

## **Chapter 8**

**R801.4**, Oregon amendment adds section  
Motion by Gary Lampella to retain the existing Oregon amendment because it is needed to fill a gap in the model code that relates to Oregon's specific climate.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R802.1.3.2.2 through R802.3.1**, model code change  
Motion by Gary Lampella to adopt model code language.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R802.5**, Oregon amendment adds exception  
Chairman Bridges ruled the adoption of the Oregon amendment as a roadmap.

**R802.7.2 through R802.10.5**, model code and Oregon amendment  
Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code and the Oregon amendment because Oregon does not adopt that table.  
Motion passed unanimously.

**R802.11, Table R802.11, Oregon amendment adds language**

Motion by Alan Seymour to adopt the existing Oregon amendment because it is consistent with previous action taken in Chapter 3.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R803.2.2, model code adds reference**

Chairman Bridges rules the adoption of this language as it is editorial.

**Section R804, model code adds language**

Motion by Chuck Day to adopt model code language.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R806.2, Oregon amendment adds clarification**

Motion by Chuck Day to adopt the Oregon amendment because it clarifies the intent of the code.

Motion passed unanimously.

**R806.4, model code**

Dwight “Mac” Sheldon, Demilec USA, noted that he represents a spray foam manufacturer as well as the spray foam industry. Mr. Sheldon presented a visual presentation which gave information about the energy benefits of attic and wall spray foam insulation. He offered language alternatives to model code language for this section.

Chairman Bridges asked Mr. Sheldon if he was aware of the [paper modifying code language](#) submitted at the second hearing in Rochester by Joseph Lstiburek. Chairman Bridges recommended that Mr. Sheldon review the changes and return to the committee at a future meeting. Mr. Sheldon stated that he was aware of the language presented in Rochester by Dr. Lstiburek and indicated that the modifications could easily be accommodated into his suggested changes.

Mr. Sheldon distributed [code language suggestion](#). Mr. Seymour expressed reservations about some of the language in the suggested changes. Chairman Bridges requested that Mr. Seymour meet with Mr. Sheldon in his role as a representative of the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) to review the suggested changes. Mr. Seymour has a code proposal that will be heard, not submitted under the auspices of ODOE, in the same section.

Chairman Bridges recommended that Mr. Sheldon meet with representatives of ODOE to discuss his proposed changes. Mr. Sheldon indicated he had attempted on several occasions to meet with representatives of ODOE, but had not been successful.

Richard Rogers, structural program chief, indicated that the committee was not empowered to consider code proposals that were not received within the time set forth for the receipt of code proposals. Mr. Day said that the committee had the latitude to modify a proposal if the proponent agrees.

Mr. Sheldon thought that the best way to address these issues was for all interested parties to sit down together and come to consensus about proposed changes. Mr. Sheldon agreed to return to the committee meeting on July 19, at which time the proposed code change would be heard as the first item on the agenda.

DEFERRED.

**Section R808.1, Oregon amendment**

Motion by Alan Seymour to retain the Oregon amendment because it is the location of the Chapter 11 requirements.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. DeHarpport and Mr. Ewert left the meeting. The committee took a short break.

**Section R317, Townhouse/Appendix O, Oregon amendments**

Chief Rogers distributed and discussed [Appendix O task force recommendations](#). Lori Graham, City of Portland, distributed and discussed [suggested revisions to Appendix O](#). Mr. George discussed various aspects of Appendix O.

Following discussion of property line definitions, utility metering requirements, construction methods, structural interdependencies, previous interpretations and other aspects of the appendix, no consensus on the proposed recommendations was reached. The committee agreed that Chief Rogers will work with the task force to make new recommendations to Appendix O to be presented to the code review committee at its June 28 meeting.

DEFERRED

Mr. Day distributed an [Issue Summary, "Why Fire Sprinklers Should Not Be Mandated in One- and Two-family Construction"](#) and asked that it be included in the record of the meeting.

The committee was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.