



Oregon

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Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code
Thursday, May 14, 2009
Minutes

****NOTE:** *The following minutes are a summary of the committee's discussion.
To review the meeting in its entirety, the archived video of the meeting is available
on the committee's Web site at the following link:*

<http://www.cbs.state.or.us/external/bcd/committees/10omsc.html>

Members Present: (Chair) Jay Winchester, Washington County
(Vice-chair) Lew Seagraves, Mechanical Engineer
John Caul, Fire Marshall
Paul Lukes, Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning National Association (SMACNA)
Bruce Lewis, NW Natural Gas Company
Brian Kreig, Sheet Metal Workers (Local 16)

Members Absent: Merlyn Gagle, Gagle's Heating Air Conditioning and Plumbing
Guy Sperb, Mechanical Board Member
Susan Steward, Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)

Guests Present: John Stelzenmueller, Oregon Mechanical Officials Association (OMOA)
Alan Seymour, Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE)

Staff Present: Micheal D Ewert, Residential and Mechanical Code Programs
Jim Hanson, Policy Analyst
Shauna Parker, Rules Coordinator
Dana Fischer, Building Code Para-Technical

Introductions

Mike Ewert welcomed everyone, thanked the committee members for attending today and for participating in the review process for the 2010 Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code (OMSC).

Staff and committee members introduced themselves.

Mr. Ewert asked Jim Hanson to speak about the committee process.

Mr. Hanson thanked the committee members for their time and commitment to serve on the committee. He reviewed information contained in the handouts given to the committee today, related to the following

documents: 1) rules of order, 2) goals and outcomes, 3) OMSC timeline, 4) meeting schedule, 5) life of a code, 6) Energy Committee, 7) parking.

Motion to nominate Jay Winchester as chair of the 2010 OMSC committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to nominate Lew Seagraves as vice-chair for the 2010 OMSC committee.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ewert explained to the committee that they have been given the 2009 International Mechanical and Fuel Gas Code (IMC and IFGC), a binder containing the matrix and code chapters which show changes and additions. He further explained that the IFGC is incorporated into the mechanical code as Appendix C. For consistency purposes many Administrative sections and other duplicated information have been eliminated from Appendix C.

CHAPTER 2: DEFINITIONS

Standing Motion to approve Chapter 2, including approval of existing Oregon Amendments and International Code Council's (ICC's) code changes to the 2009 IMC.

So moved.

Section 201.4 Terms not defined

Mr. Ewert asked the committee to consider a modification to Section 201.4. This modification will provide consistency between this code and the Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC) and Oregon Structural Specialty Code (OSSC). The current verbiage includes a reference to the 1986 edition of the Webster dictionary which is hard to come by.

Chair Winchester asked if the committee understands this code change.

Mr. Ewert explained that this change has been completed in the residential code, is being done in the structural code and is now being proposed in the mechanical code. He further explained that the Webster Dictionary language was an Oregon Amendment, not model code. There was model code, which was deleted by the Oregon Amendment. The proposal is to reinstate model code language and modify the Oregon Amendment by deleting reference to 1986 Webster Dictionary.

Motion to approve staffs proposed changes to Section 201.4.

Motion carried unanimously.

202 General Definitions

John Stelzenmueller stated that the Oregon and ICC amendments seem appropriate, but disagrees with ICC's deletion of the definitions for "confined spaces", "unconfined spaces" and "unusually tight construction". He believes no other section explains these specific parameters and their application. This makes it difficult when questions arise in the field. Chair Winchester agrees there is no other place in the code that provides these definitions. Mr. Ewert stated ICC has deleted these definitions because they have deleted Chapter 7. Mr. Stelzenmueller stated he is ok with tabling the discussion until the committee reviews Chapter 7.

Motion to table discussion on definitions of "confined spaces", "unconfined spaces" and "unusually tight construction", until the committee reviews Chapter 7.

Motion carried unanimously.

Definition of - Air Dispersion System

Paul Lukes asked that the word "metal" be added to the end of the last sentence.

Motion to add the word "metal" to the end of the last sentence in the definition of "Air Dispersion System".

Motion carried unanimously.

Definition of - Listed

Mr. Lukes voiced his concern with the definition of "Listed" and asked why the second portion has been deleted. Mr. Ewert stated the change happened at the national level. The definition of the word "Listed" refers to recognized national organizations acceptable to the code official. Mr. Lukes would like to see better clarification so it is easy to tell what organizations have been approved, otherwise people will have to rely on the code official's decision of whether or not the organization is recognized. John Caul reminded the committee that this change has been reflected in all the ICC codes and if the committee decides to make this amendment, then amendments to the other codes will have to be made as well.

Chair Winchester feels this amendment gives code officials more opportunity to approve an item listed to an international standard which may not be currently recognized in the US. Mr. Stelzenmueller agrees with Chair Winchester that if you start listing organizations the list becomes too narrow and could inhibit the building official from recognizing some important testing agencies.

Motion on Definition of "Listed", to stay with 2006 model code language and not accept changes made in the 2009 edition.

Vote: 1-5: yes-Lukes.

Motion failed.

Motion to approve the standing motion to Chapter 2 as modified above.

Motion approved unanimously.

CHAPTER 3: GENERAL REGULATIONS

Standing Motion to approve Chapter 3, including approval of existing Oregon amendments and ICC's code changes to the 2009 IMC.

So moved.

Mr. Ewert reviewed with the committee, changes in Chapter 3.

Section 304.5.1.2 Louvers and grilles

Vice-chair Seagraves voiced his concern that metal louvers are allowed 75 percent of free area. He stated that 50 percent would be a normal figure for a prefabricated louver, and is what most manufacturers build to. His main concern is if someone manufactures their own hand-made louver and uses 75 percent of allowed area, there may be an airflow deficiency.

Mr. Stelzenmueller stated that this section is referring to factory louvers and grilles which are part of an engineered system. Free area will be looked at based on design. It also gives installers doing air flow calculations on residential or commercial projects a way to reduce their calculation percentage to accommodate their duct sizing and grill size for discharge or return air.

Section 307.2.2 Drain pipe materials and sizes

Mr. Stelzenmueller voiced his concern to the committee that this section references the requirements for joints and connections out of the plumbing code. He explained there is an administrative decision in Oregon that states if you don't have a certification in a particular code, you can not call out requirements from that code (referred to as 'write it, cite it'). Referencing plumbing code installation requirements within the mechanical code could create a conflict for mechanical plan reviewers or inspectors who are not plumbing certified. To keep consistency between the codes, he asked the committee to consider deleting the plumbing reference. Chair Winchester stated he understands Mr. Stelzenmueller's concerns with the "write it, cite it" issue.

Motion to delete the new ICC code language, "Joints and connections shall be made in accordance with the applicable provisions of Chapter 7 of the International Plumbing Code relative to the material type" from Section 307.2.2.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the standing motion to Chapter 3 as modified above.

Motion carried unanimously.

CHAPTER 4: VENTILATION

Standing Motion to approve Chapter 4, including approval of existing Oregon Amendments and ICC's code changes to the 2009 IMC.

So moved.

Mr. Ewert reviewed with the committee, changes in Chapter 4.

Section 401.1 Scope

Mr. Ewert explained to the committee, that the Office of Energy is proposing to update the edition for ASHRAE 62-2001 to 2007 and that the mechanical code should do the same.

Motion to change ASHRAE Standard 62-2001 to 62-2007.

Motion carried unanimously.

Section 401.4.1 Intake openings

Mr. Ewert stated there is an Oregon Amendment on "intake opening location", as they relate to gas meters. Because of the reformatting to Section 401 by ICC the Oregon Amendment needs to be inserted into another location or deleted. It appears to fit best in Section 401.4, Item number 2. Mr. Lewis agreed that it should remain in the code.

Motion to include "gas meters" in Section 401.4, Item number 2 as follows, "...such as vents, streets, alleys, parking lots, loading docks and gas meters,..."

Motion carried unanimously.

Section 402 Natural ventilation

Motion to approve the staff recommendation to put back into the code the natural ventilation sections of the building code, but add a note that it is for reference only.

Motion carried unanimously.

Section 403 Mechanical ventilation

Mr. Ewert reviewed with the committee, changes in Section 403. Chair Winchester suggested that the committee table discussion on this section until the next meeting. Committee members need time to review the changes before discussing them in detail.

Motion to table Section 403 until the next meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Section 404 Enclosed parking garages and Section 405 Systems control

Mr. Ewert reviewed with the committee, changes and/or additions to Sections 404 and 405. He explained that these sections are existing Oregon Amendments that are roadmaps to the OSSC energy requirements.

Motion to approve the standing motion to Chapter 4 as modified above.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.