



Oregon

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**2011 Oregon Residential Specialty Code Committee
July 14, 2010
Meeting Summary**

****NOTE:** *The following is 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.bcd.oregon.gov/committees/11orsc.html>

Members Present: Johnathan Balkema, Oregon Home Builders Association
Mike Goodrich, Legend Homes Corporation
Tracy Hankin, Hankins Construction
Gary Lampella, City of Redmond
Eric McMullen, Oregon State Fire Marshal

Members Absent: Alan Seymour, Oregon Department of Energy
Ravi Mahajan, Clackamas County

Guests Present: John Caul, Oregon State Fire Marshal
Dick Honey, Portland Fire & Rescue
Mike Hansen, OFCA
Crosby Grindle, NFPA
LonJean Fobert, Habitat For Humanity
Stephanie Stafford, Oregon Fire Fatality Renew Committee (OSFM)
Don Miner, Oregon Manufactured Housing Association (OMHA)
Joe Andre, NEMA
Buzz Moubiel, Housebuilders Northwest
John Patterson, City of Medford Fire & Rescue
Jason Cane, Polk County Fire Department
Claire McGrew, Oregon Fire Fatality Renew Committee (OSFM)
Norm Nomie, City of Gresham
James Bela, Oregon Earthquake Awareness
Anthony Rocco, Chemeketa CWE Student
Thomas Phillips, City of Salem
Stacy Warner, Office of State Fire Marshal
Debbie McDermott, City of McMinnville Fire Department

Guests Present: Larry Thornton, City of Monmouth
(continued) Rod Albin, Albin's Plumbing
Phil Sample, Lake Oswego Fire Department
Donna Disch, Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal
Cave Kamrath, Habitat For Humanity
Robert Rice, Oregon Building Officials Association

Staff Present: Chris Huntington, Policy and Technical Services Manager
Richard Rogers, Structural Chief
Rich Baumann, Policy Analyst
Dana Fischer, Building Code Para-Technical
Ernie Hopkins, Structural/Mechanical Inspector
Chad Brooks, Structural/Mechanical Inspector

Introductions

Gary Lampella, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting began late due to technical difficulties. Chair Lampella explained that due to the amount of public testimony, testimony will be limited to 3 minutes.

*The committee began their discussion with items **tabled** at the last meeting.*

Chapter 3, Building Planning

Tabled items

Section R313 Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems

Chair Lampella explained the language in the model code. Eric McMullen provided testimony for the National Sprinkler Coalition. He testified in support of keeping the model code language.

Public Testimony

John Caul, Deputy Oregon State Fire Marshal and representing the National Sprinkler Coalition, testified in support of *residential fire sprinklers*.

Dick Haney, Portland Fire Department testified *in favor of residential fire sprinklers*. He shared with the committee statistics on residential fires and loss of life for both the public and fire fighters.

Mike Hanson, Douglas County Fire Department testified *in favor of residential fire sprinklers*.

Crosby Grindle, representing National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) testified that *residential fire sprinklers* reduce water use and greenhouse gases during a fire.

Stephanie Stafford and Claire McGrew both representing Oregon Fire Fatality Review Committee (OSFM), shared information about an advisory group of fire industry individuals. The purpose of the group is to review the different causes of fire fatalities. Ms. Stratford shared

the statistics on how many people die in a fire per nationality, disability and smoke alarm failure data. She stated that her organization is *in support of residential fire sprinklers*.

Don Miner representing Oregon Manufactured Housing Association testified that his organization is *not opposing residential fire sprinklers*, but shared concerns associated with cost of installation.

Stacy Warner, Assistant Chief Oregon State Fire Marshal, testified *in support of residential fire sprinklers*.

Rod Albin, a member of the general public testified *in support of residential fire sprinklers*. He did express concern and his wishes that the general public should not have access to any water supply shut off.

James Bela representing Oregon Earthquake Awareness testified *in support of protecting emergency workers*.

Debbie McDermott representing McMinnville Fire Department and Donna Disch representing Oregon State Fire Marshal testified that although they are both *in favor of residential fire sprinkler requirements*, they are concerned that insurance rates could increase if sprinkler requirements are not adopted.

Dave Kamrath representing Habitat for Humanity testified that because the families he represents are low-income, the costs associated with installation of residential fire sprinklers could be too costly. He stated that although saving lives is very important, he would like to ensure that the voice of low-income families will be heard.

Robert Rice representing Oregon Building Officials Association and Josephine County testified *in support of sprinklers* but not that they become mandatory for every residence. He stated that many rural communities do not have the availability of installing sprinklers due to lack of a water source.

Code Change Proposal [ORSC11-05](#), [ORSC11-06](#) and [ORSC11-14](#)

Robert Rice, OBOA explained each proposal.

Code Change Proposal [ORSC11-50](#)

Johnathan Balkema, OHBA explained the proposal.

BCD Memo on [Residential Fire Sprinkler Systems](#)

Chris Huntington, Manager Policy and Technical Services, explained the memo given to the committee. The committee members asked questions and provided comment.

Motion to approve code change proposal ORSC11-06 to delete Section R313 in its entirety. Chair Lampella provided comment. Mike Goodrich asked if the proposal passes, would the division look at the existing fire sprinkler report. Mr. Balkema agreed.

Vote: 4-yes to 1-no

Motion approved.

Motion to disapprove code change proposal ORSC11-05 since code change ORSC11-06 accomplishes the same thing.

Motion approved unanimously.

Code change ORSC11-50 withdrawn by proponent.

Motion to approve ORSC11-14.

Motion withdrawn.

Motion to table for further discussion.

Motion approved unanimously.

Chair Lampella asked Mr. Balkema and Mr. McMullen to work with the division on drafting language in the form of a proposal that looks at possible trade-offs for sprinklered structures. The review would include Sections R302.2, R302.2.4, R317.2 (2008 ORSC language dealing with townhouses) and ORSC11-14. He asked that they bring the proposal back to a future meeting.

Break

The committee took a break

Section 315 Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Code Proposal [ORSC11-11](#)

Joe Andre representing National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA) spoke to the committee sharing information on carbon monoxide alarms and the intent behind the proposal. The committee asked questions and provided comment. He expressed concerns about existing alarms that are not hard wired into an existing system.

The committee discussed at length, Mr. Andre's [document](#) compared with the division's [draft document](#), and the proposal and issues on carbon monoxide alarms in general. On the division's proposed document, Exception 2, the *last sentence was deleted* due to an Oregon Amendment being previously approved that deleted the same language. Modifications to the division's document and code proposal [BCD-6](#) were discussed.

Motion to approve code proposal BCD-06 draft for Carbon Monoxide Alarms including today's modifications.

Motion approved unanimously.

Break

The committee took a lunch break.

Section R302.13 Combustible Insulation Clearance

The committee discussed the language. Mr. Andre representing NEMA provided comment pertaining to electrical issues associated with combustible insulation clearance.

TABLED: *The committee agreed to table the discussion until Alan S. could be here.*

Chapter 2, Definitions Tabled items

High-Efficacy Lamps

TABLED: The committee agreed to table the discussion until Alan S. could be in attendance.

Thermal Isolation

TABLED: The committee agreed to table the discussion until Alan S. could be in attendance.

Vapor Retarder

TABLED: The committee agreed to table the discussion until Alan S. could be in attendance.

Vapor Retarder Class

TABLED The committee agreed to table the discussion until Alan S. could be in attendance.

Chapter 3, Building Planning Remainder of tabled items

Motion to disapprove code proposals ORSC11-11 and ORSC11-51 due to the approval of code proposal BCD-06.

Motion approved unanimously.

Section R301.3 Story height

TABLED: for further discussion along with Chapter 6.

Code change proposal [ORSC11-47](#)

The committee discussed the proposal. Mr. Balkema provided additional modified language to the Exception.

Motion to approve as modified code proposal ORSC11-47.

Motion approved unanimously.

Chapter 4, Foundations

Section R401.2 Requirements

Richard Rogers, Structural Chief explained the existing Oregon Amendment.

Section R401.3 Drainage

Chief Rogers explained the change to the model code language as well as the existing Oregon Amendment. The committee discussed the language.

Code Change Proposal [ORSC11-44](#), Section R401.4 Soil Tests

Mr. Balkema explained the proposal and the committee discussed it.

Motion to approve code change proposal ORSC11-44 on the basis that the model code language is not clear.

Vote: 3-yes to 2-no

Motion approved.

Motion to approve all existing and new amendments in Section 401, including modification made by ORSC11-44.

Motion approve unanimously.

Break

The committee took a short break.

Chair Lampella explained that the committee needs clarification on the Motion for R313. As clarification, Mr. Balkema stated that the original language as written could potentially increase costs which would affect industry.

Section R402.3 Precast Concrete Foundation Materials

Chief Rogers explained the model code language.

Motion to approve new model code changes in Section 402.

Motion approve unanimously.

Table R403.1 Minimum Width of Concrete, Precast or Masonry Footings

Chief Rogers explained the language.

Section R403.3 Continuous Footing in Seismic Design Categories D₀, D₁ and D₂

TABLED: *the last sentence in Section R403.3 was tabled for discussion along with Chapter 6.*

The committee continued their review of Chapter 4.

Section R403.1.5.2 Seismic Condition

TABLED: *for further discussion along with Chapter 6.*

Section R403.1.8 Foundation Anchorage

TABLED: *for further discussion along with Chapter 6.*

Section R403.1.8.1 Foundation Anchorage in Seismic Design Categories C, D1 and D2

The committee discussed *item 3* and whether the language should be deleted or not.

Motion to disapprove model code change language.

Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to retain existing Oregon Amendments in Section 403.1.8.1.

Motion approve unanimously.

Section 403.4 Footings for Precast concrete Foundations and R403.4.1 Crushed Stone Footings

Chair Lampella explained the model code change language.

Motion to approve all existing and new amendments in Section 402, including modifications made to specific code sections.

Motion approved unanimously.

Section R404 Foundation and Retaining Walls

The committee reviewed the changes to Section R404.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.