

Technical Codes and Advisory Committee

July 9th, 2019

9:00 AM

**8181 Independence Blvd
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806
Meeting Minutes**

The Chair welcomed all present and **called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Chair requested a roll call of the members which reflected the following:

Members Present: Mr. Linden Raimer (Ex-Officio); Mr. Chester Cabirac; Mr. Marty Campbell; Mr. Jake Causey; Mr. Bhola Dhume; Mr. Gerard Rinchuso; Mr. Bren Kramer; Mr. David Thibodeaux

Members Absent: Mr. Hebert; Mr. Ben Gootee; Mr. Bodie Bridges

Excused absence: Mr. Hebert; Mr. Ben Gootee; Mr. Bodie Bridges

8 members present and 3 members absent constitute a Quorum.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Review and Adoption of the Minutes from the May 14th, 2019 meeting.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Dhume to adopt the minutes from the May 14th, 2019 meeting. The **motion received a second** from Mr. Thibodeaux. The Chair asked if there were any objections to the motion. There were no objections and the **motion was approved.**

There was no other Old Business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion on new proposed amendments for the 2015 IPC and 2015 IRC. (Jerry Hebert)

P2503.6 312.9 Shower Liner

Shower receptors shall be tested with a minimum 2” potable water.

Who will test marble bases and ceramic covers installed by others? Plumbers don't install showers

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Several members of the plumbing industry spoke on behalf of several proposed changes that they would like for the Technical Committee to consider concerning the IPC and IRC amendments concerning plumbing. Those presenting the concerns were Mr. Jimmy Lockwood, Mr. Terry Smith, Mr. Wayne LaFluer (LaFluer's Plumbing), Mr. Matt Varnado (Leonard's Plumbing)

The concern with this amendment is that the plumbers do not normally install the pan and that there needed to be a specific statement to cover the testing and that it would be the responsibility of whoever installed the pan. Mr. Raimer noted that cost should never be a factor when it comes the safety of the public.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Heier to amend the IRC R2503.6 and IPC 312.9 to state "Testing of shower receptacles shall be the responsibility of the installer." The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Campbell. There was no further discussion. Mr. Raimer asked if there were any objections to the motion. **There were no objections and the motion passed.**

P2603.4 Pipes Through Foundation Walls (addresses water pipes)

A pipe that passes through a foundation wall shall be provided with a relieving arch, or a pipe sleeve shall be built onto the foundation wall. The sleeve shall be two pipe sizes greater than the pipe passing through the wall

-What's the definition of "relieving arch" and is this a solution so you don't have to use a sleeve?

After discussion it was determine and agreed that the committee would not make any changes to this amendment. **NO CHANGE**

A **motion was made** by Mr. Thibodeaux that there would be no changes made to P2603.4. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Duhme. There was no further discussion. Mr. Raimer asked if there were any objections, there were no objections to the motion. **The motion passed.**

P2603.5 Freezing

When **water, soil or waste, pipes** are installed in exterior walls, attics or crawl spaces or any place subject to freezing temperatures. The piping must be adequately protected from freezing by insulation or heat or both.

-all waste piping in outside wall such as washing machine drain, sink drain, lavatory drains, waste piping to the upper floors and A/C p-traps will have to be insulated in these locations. Insulation of drain, waste and vent piping below the floor of pier and beam home.

-Insulate all DMV piping.

-Even if pipe won't freeze it was said by DPW that it doesn't matter the code says it has to be insulated

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A **motion was made** by Mr. Heier to remove “**soil and waste**” and add “**water pipes and sanitary traps**” in the IRC P2603.5 The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Cabirac. There was no further discussion. Mr. Raimer asked if there were any objections to the motion. There were no objections, the **motion passed**.

IRC Residential P2604.1 IPC Commercial 306.2 – Trenching and Bedding

Unstable soil shall be over excavated by two or more pipe diameters and brought to the proper grade with a suitable granular material.

- **Who decides what is unstable soil?**
- **Probably would want pipes in sand and having plumbers putting it in sand will a take a couple of hours of labor**

After discussion it was determine and agreed that the committee would not make any changes to this amendment. **NO CHANGE**

IRC Residential P2604.3 IPC Commercial 306.3 – Backfilling

Piping must be covered by not less than 12” of tamped earth

- Drain, waste and vent (DWV) piping below the slab**
- Sewer to the existing main**
- How will you enforce this?**

After discussion it was determine and agreed that the committee would not make any changes to this amendment. **NO CHANGE**

IRC Residential P2604.4 IPC Commercial 307.5 Protection of Footings

Trenching installed parallel to footings and walls shall not extend into the bearing plane of a footing or wall.

After discussion it was determine and agreed that the committee would not make any changes to this amendment. **NO CHANGE**

IRC Residential P2903.5 IPC Commercial 604.9 – Water Hammer

Water hammer arrestors shall be installed in accordance with ASSE 1010. This will include washing machines, refrigerators and dishwashers.

- **manufacturer says you don't need hammer arrestors.**
- **will double in cost \$25 wshing machine box will be \$50 to add hammer arrestors.**

After discussion there was a concern that there was not enough clarification on when water hammer arresters and/or air chambers could be used in residential applications. It was determine and agreed that the committee would not make any changes to this amendment and the concern be tabled until more information could be brought to the committee concerning the standards used to determine the best application especially in residential applications. **NO CHANGE AT THIS TIME.**

IRC Residential P3001.2 IPC Commercial Protection from Freezing (addresses DWV pipes)

No portion of the above grade DWV system other than vent terminals shall be located outside of a building. In attics or crawl spaces, outside walls or in any other place subject to freezing temperatures unless adequate provision is made to protect them from freezing by insulation or heat or both, except in localities having a winter design temperature greater than 32 degrees.

- What does winter design mean?**
- DPW says weather in BR does dip below 20 degrees so we have to do it**

Mr. Joiner noted that there is a code in the IRC that address freeze protection. Mr. Roberts noted that Appendix G in the 2015 IPC shows the freezing temperatures and insulations requirements.

Mr. Raimer noted that this concern had already been addressed in other parts of the code and asked if there was any further discussion needed. There was no other discussion. It was agreed upon by the committee members present that this was already addressed in other parts of the code.

IRC Residential P2503.4 - Building Sewer Testing

The building sewer shall be tested between the building and the public sewer with 10'head of water

- Plumbers have been doing this**

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After a lengthy discussion of the committee members and those present in the audience a motion was made to address the concern.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Heier to amend the wording of IRC P2503.4 to “the testing of a building sewer and/or public sewer shall be performed by the installer using a 10’ head of water.” The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Causey. There was no further discussion. There were objections so the motion went a vote. 8 Yes, 2 Nay, No Abstentions. The **motion passed**.

IRC Residential P2603.2.1 Protection Against Physical Damage

Stud shoes and nail guards

- Plumbers have always used nail guards**
- New product has increased cost**

The concern is that new construction is causing changes to the installation of some plumbing piping. After discussion it was agreed there would be no changes made to the code as it is currently stated.

2015 International Commercial Plumbing Code
IPC –Commercial 610.1 Disinfection of Potable Water Systems
-Plumbers haven’t chlorinated

There were no real issues just that the code should be looked at to make sure it is properly worded for the protection of the public.

The committee decided no action needed to be taken on this concern.

IPC –Commercial 704.2 Change in Size

There was no concern with this code and no changes made.

P2503.5 Drain, Waste and Venting

There was no concern with this code and no changes made.

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Mr. Joiner opened the discussion on the issue concerning Compost Toilets. During the previous meeting the issue was tabled pending information on whether NSF/ANSI Standard 41 covers compost toilets. NSF International responded to Mr. Bodie Bridges via letter and a copy of the letter was present to the Technical Codes Committee. Per the letter it was verified that NSF/ANSI Standard 41, non-liquid saturated treatment systems, covers systems called “compost toilets.” Compost Toilets are addressed in the Code Section P2723 and especially in P2725 – non liquid saturated toilets.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Heier to amend P2725 “the installation of compost toilets is prohibited.” The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Kramer. There were no further discussions or objections to the motion. **The motion passed.**

Mr. Joiner presented to the committee information concerning the conflict in the code and Revised Statue concerning the authority having jurisdiction of Medical Gas. Per the R.S. 40:1730.28.3 the Louisiana Department of Health is the regulating authority over medical gas and medical vacuum systems. Per the 2015 IPC Chapter 1 Scope and Administration A101.2 Scope. 2nd sentence This code shall regulate nonflammable medical gas, inhalation anesthetic, vacuum piping, nonmedical oxygen systems and sanitary and condensate vacuum collection systems.

The floor was opened for discussion. The statue trumps the code therefore it was discussed that removing the sentence from the 2015 IPC would keep any confusion down.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Thibodeaux to removed sentence #2 from 2015 IPC Chapter 1 – Scope and Administration A 101.2 Scope – “This code shall regulate nonflammable medical gas, inhalation anesthetic, vacuum piping, nonmedical oxygen systems and sanitary and condensate vacuum collection systems.” The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Causey. There was no further discussion or objections to the motion. **The motion passed.**

The Chair requested a motion to adjourn. The **motion was made** by Mr. Gootee to adjourn. The **motion received a second from Mr. Dhume.** The **meeting ended at 11:35 am.**

END OF MINUTES