

Technical Codes and Advisory Committee
April 11th, 2023
10:00 AM
8181 Independence Blvd
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806
Meeting Minutes

The Chair welcomed all present and **called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Members Present: Ms. Jackie Dadakis (Chair), Mr. Chester Cabirac, Mr. Jake Causey, Mr. Roy Young (EO), Mr. Marty Campbell, Mr. Bobby Byrd, Mr. Keenan Glover, Mr. Scott Masterson, Mr. Gerard Rinchuso

Members Absent: Mr. Eric Parnell, Mr. Stephen Laughlin

Excused absence: Mr. Eric Parnell, Mr. Stephen Laughlin

9 members present and 2 members absent constitutes a Quorum.

OLD BUSINESS:

A **motion was made** by Mr. Bobby Byrd to approved the minutes from the February 14th, 2023 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting as presented. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Marty Campbell. There were **no objections to the motion. The motion passed.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review and discussion of proposed corrections and changes for 2021 I-Codes and 2020 NEC amendments (Jackie Dadakis)

Ms. Dadakis, Committee Chair, asked the members present to pull the sheet from their packet of the corrections and changes.

Item #1 - IPC 403.3 Exception 2. Structures and tenant spaces, intended for quick transactions, including takeout, pickup and drop-off, having a public access area less than or equal to 300 square feet (28 m2) **and shall be prohibited from containing tables and chairs.** (Add this language to be the same as LDH restaurant requirements)

A **motion was made** by Jake Causey to amend the verbiage of IPC 403.3 Exception 2 to add the language “and shall be prohibited from containing public tables or chairs on the premises.” Marty Campbell **seconded the motion.** The Chair opened the floor for any discussion. The Chair asked if there was any objections to the motion. There were no objections. **The Motion Pass Unanimously.**

Item #2 - 3” vs 4” on residential sewer

Ms. Dadakis asked for discussion from the committee members on the concern with the difference of the 3” and 4” piping for residential sewer.

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A **motion was made** by Mr. Marty Campbell to amendment to 4" pipe, to align the IPC and the sewer requirements for the residential code (IRC). The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Scott Masterson. There were **no objections to the motion**. **The motion passed unanimously**.

Item #3 - 2" drain reroute from sink or washer to building sewer service line (mostly residential but could be both IPC and IRC) Once it gets 30" from the building inspectors are requiring 3 or 4 inch to tie back into building sewer.

After a lengthy discussion it was determine that the committee would take no action and leave as it is stated.

Item #4 - Metal pipe for residential lawn irrigation backflow preventers to match IPC requirements?

A **motion was made** by Mr. Gerard Rinchuso to match the IRC with the IPC and provide for metal pipe for residential lawn irrigation system backflow preventers. Mr. Marty Campbell **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for public comment. There was no comment or further discussion. There were no objections to the motion. **The motion passed unanimously**.

Item #5 - Testing requirements for residential lawn irrigation backflow preventers?

This is a federal requirement for testing. The location that this has had to biggest complaints has a local ordinance and the LSUCCC does not enforce, the local jurisdiction is the enforcement of this complaint of annual testing for lawn irrigation assemblies. The biggest complaint is that this is a yearly requirement on residential lawn irrigation systems.

This has been brought about from LDH guidelines to meet federal guidelines for inspections of the backflow preventers. This requirement is in the 2003 EPA guidelines according to Mr. Rinchuso, committee member. This particular jurisdiction is charging an administrative fee due to the requirement of tracking information of these inspections. This is part of this jurisdictions ordinance that is in place at this time. Ms. Dadakis requested a letter be provided on the LSUCCC's stance of the matter and that this has been created by LDH notifying local jurisdictions that they are to become up to date with federal guidelines. This includes the inspection of backflow preventers to make sure they are working properly. Mr. Cabirac asked if the time could be amended to every two years, instead of annually. Mr. Bobby Byrd asked that the committee look at the issue and look for ways to make it more attractive for homeowners to comply with the requirements of properly installing lawn irrigation systems and to comply with the requirements of having the backflow preventers inspected. Most manufacturer and local ordinances are actually stating that the backflow preventers are to be inspected annually, per Mr. David Clothe, Building Official.

Item #6 - Review and "tweak" the CO detector amendments

There have been several different interpretations between the amendments in the code, the bill that has been put into effect through legislation. After a very lengthy discussion between members of the Technical Committee and those present in the public, this item was moved back to the IRC Review committee to request for options of verbiage that can be considered by the Technical Committee and the Council to correctly word this amendment for more clarification.

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Item #7 - Generator Automatic Transfer switches (ATS) being installed for “future” generator installations.

In some parishes ATS switches are being installed with this possibility that the homeowner will add a permanent standby generator in the future. The code states when a generator is installed and not when an ATS is installed; therefore, these installations do not get re-inspection and verified that the required CO detectors are added to the home when the generator is hooked up. This is done without a new permit requiring to be pulled.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Scott Masterson to add the verbiage to the amendment “when a generator or an Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) is installed” to clarify this further. Chester Cabirac **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for any further discussion. There was not objections to the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Item #8 - Using ATS for main disconnect on homes.

The concern is that alternative power that is provided, such as with standby generators, reenergizes the power to a home therefore there is still live voltage to the home during a fire emergencies. The code provided for a means to disconnect (emergency disconnect) the power in order to protect the fire service members who would be fighting the fire. With the standby generators this is causing a problem. At this time there is not a switch that shuts down the generator. There is a need to find a way to get an emergency shutoff for the generator that is properly labeled and accessible for the fire service to use to kill the power to the generator.

There is a means, on the homeowner’s side, where a shut-off valve can be installed to cut the gas to the home. This would be up to the homeowner or property owner. The code reads that a shut-off at the ATS breaker or at the generator (E-Stop) is to be provided but at this time there is not a UL listed device to address this. At this time they are suggesting to place a placard noting where the generator is located; however, those located in a locked yard area is not quickly accessible.

After a very lengthy discussion it was determined by The Chair, Ms. Dadakis, and the Technical Advisory Committee to refer to the local level and the local building official on what their requirements would be to address this concern and issue with the standby generator shutdown during an emergency, such as a house fire.

Item #9 - NEC Article 230.67 **Surge protection for dwelling units**

Ms. Dadakis, The Chair, asked Mr. Mark Joiner to please explain the concern with this issue. Mr. Joiner stated that he had reached out to many in the industry on how they were addressing it. After many discussions this has been brought forth to the Technical Committee with a suggestion from the Manufacture Housing Commission to exempt mobile homes from this requirement.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Gerard Rinchuso to exempt mobile homes from the requirement of surge protection as noted in NEC Article 230.67 – Surge protection in dwelling units. Mr. Scott Masterson seconded the motion. There was no further comment or discussion. There were no objections to the motion. The motion passed.

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Item #10 Amend Section 903.2.9.4, Group S-1. Amend Exception Adopt Item (2) (2.) The requirement of Section 903.2.9.4 shall not apply to mini-storage facilities less than 12,000 sf. **Mini-storage facilities, including mini-storage facilities which are climate-controlled, shall comply with 903.2.9(1) thru 903.2.9(4)2021.** Remove highlighted section—This should not be in this section.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Scott Masterson to correct the grammatical error in the code concerning mini storage facilities. Mr. Gerard Rinchuso **seconded the motion**. There was no further discussion. There was no objection to the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Item #11 - Smoke detectors in commercial applications (IMC 606.2)

A **motion was made** by Mr. Chester Cabirac to amend the code to leave the smoke detection in the return air. Mr. Marty Campbell **seconded the motion**. There was no further discussion. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms Dadakis stated there are two other items that will be coming at a later date concerning the pool and spa code (Item #12 on List) concerning barriers and the medical gas inspection and regulation responsibilities (Item #13 on List).

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn. The **motion was made by Mr. Jake Causey and seconded by Mr. Scott Masterson**. There were no objections, and the meeting was adjourned at 12:01 PM.

END OF MINUTES