

**Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC)**  
**March 10, 2009**  
**10:00AM**  
**8181 Independence Blvd.**  
**Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806**

**Meeting Minutes**

The Chair welcomed all present and **called the meeting to order at 10:05AM**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Members Present: Mr. Boudreaux; Mr. Bourgeois; Mr. Gadberry; Mr. Gil; Mr. Henderson;  
Mr. Holden; Mr. Kothe; Mr. Lucky; Mr. Landry; Ms. McKinney; Mr.  
Metcalf; Mr. Noel; Mr. Sandage; Mr. Touchet; Mr. Trosclair; Ms. Weems.

Members Absent: Mr. Barry; Mr. Besette; Ms. Mire.

Excused absence:

16 members present and 3 members absent constitute a Quorum.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Henderson to adopt the minutes, as amended, from the February 9, 2009 LSUCCC meeting and received a second from Mr. Gil. The chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 16 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

A **motion** was made by Ms. McKinney to conduct the next LSUCCC meeting in Baton Rouge on April 14, 2009, at 11:00AM and received a second from Mr. Trosclair. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 16 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

The Chair opened the floor for a report from Ms. McKinney, Chair of the Technical Codes Study and Advisory Committee. The technical committee met earlier in the day, and reviewed written comments from the public. Those comments requested the full adoption of the 2008 NEC. There was some discussion about the AFI and GFCI, with no conclusion. The committee has scheduled another meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 9a.m. here in Office of Management and Finance, at which time the committee will continue to review public comment and decide on the final recommendation for the Council at the April 14, meeting.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Touchet to accept recommendation of the technical advisory committee to send notice to all permitting authorities regarding the rounding down to the nearest whole number and reminding the permitting authorities that it does not apply to the LA State Plumbing Code, the motion received a second from Mr. Holden. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 16 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

Ms. McKinney informed the Council that the Technical Committee will begin the evaluation of the 2009 International Codes, she has submitted a request that the public be notified, and for recommendations for

the appointment of non-Council experts in respective industries be allowed to have positions on the sub-committees for the purpose of the evaluation of the I-Codes for adoption. **No action required** at this time.

The Technical Codes Committee also reviewed the ICC 600 Standard for Residential Construction in High Wind Regions, and is making a recommendation to the Council that is amend R301.2.1.1 to include the ICC 600 as an acceptable standard.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gil to accept recommendation of the Technical committee to amend the R301.2.1.1 design criteria to include *ICC 600 Standard for Residential Construction in High Wind Regions* through a and received a second from Mr. Metcalf. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 16 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

Ms. McKinney concluded her update of the Technical committee review with a comparison of the IBC and the NFPA requirement for sprinklers, and at this time the technical committee is still discussing the matter. Mr. Noel made mention that the conversation is that the administrative chapter in the IBC was excluded, but if the local jurisdiction adopts an administrative chapter that gives the code official the ability to do equivalencies the code official then has the ability to interpret the requirement suggested by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The Chair requested that the minutes reflect the conversations, and made a motion to notify the jurisdictions of there authority to adopt the administrative chapters.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Noel to notify code offices of their ability to adopt an administrative chapter and make mention of the authority granted in Section 104 of the IBC administrative chapter the motion received a second from Mr. Touchet. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 16 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

The Chair opened the floor for an update from the remaining committees to give a preview of the items on the next agenda. Ms. Weems that the Administrative Advisory committee will be discussing a building code effectiveness rating schedule and the issue of the statewide IT portal systems and finalize the list of needs. Mr. Kothe the Chair of the Code Enforcement Advisory committee will be discussing the solar energy inspection, and also any discussions needed about the ongoing complaints. **No action required** at this time.

Mr. Lucky requested that a public comment be heard concerning the solar energy issue for the next CEA committee meeting. Mr. Ken Antee, Wilhite Solar Solutions, of Shreveport asked to address the council. He commented on the experience of his company and the process they use for inspections during installation, he asked that the Council be careful to specify the inspections needed and processes to the specific types of solar installations, and not include them all together. **No action required** at this time.

The Chair opened the floor for the review and discussion of GOHSEP grant revision request for Plaquemines Parish government. A **motion** was made by Mr. Touchet to approve request from Plaquemines Parish to reallocate \$20,000.00 from software category to computers category in their GOHSEP grant award and received a second from Mr. Gil. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 15 yes and 1 recusal by Mr. Metcalf, and the **motion was adopted**.

The Chair opened the floor for an update of the LSUCCC sponsored training. Ms. Jobe gave a brief review of total certificates of completion issued to those who attended the code training for the month. Also the student satisfactions forms have been received in the administrative office, with an approval rating remaining from 4.3 to 4.5 out of a possible 5. LAIBTS is looking into amending the current training schedule to accommodate a residential plan review course. **No action required** at this time.

The Chair opened the floor for the review and discussion of proposed legislation concerning residential sprinklers and smoke detectors. The Chair mentioned proposed legislation allowing for an insurance discount to homeowners who install residential sprinkler systems voluntarily. Also legislation that requires all home purchased in Louisiana require a smoke detector installed have a lithium ten year battery, and as part of the legislation require that all newly constructed homes have a hardwired smoke detector installed. Mr. Kothe made a mention that it has happened in other parts of the country that the discounts for sprinkler system only apply to the fire protection portion of the policy, and may not be as substantial a discount as homeowners are led to believe. Mr. Gadberry made mention discount received versus the amount required to install the system, it may take a homeowner 30 years to recover the cost. Mr. Noel made the comment that these are proposals and that the installation of the systems would be voluntary. **No action required** at this time.

Mr. Touchet requested that the Chair move item two under new business to allow for the return of voting members before presenting item one. The Chair agreed and opened the floor for a report on the Awards committee. The Aid to Local Government and Awards committee met with a representative of the GOHSEP office, and the DPS to discuss the reimbursement of funds for the GOHSEP reimbursable grant. The main topic of discussion being the unreasonable amount of time for the processing of the reimbursements, and from this meeting was generated a meeting with all parties and the legislative auditors. The outcome of these meetings was that the two main items of contention were the procurement of vehicles and software. If a jurisdiction is purchasing a vehicle the reimbursement would be for the purchase price of the vehicle not including additional options. The software items that would require sole sourcing, the reimbursement request would need to be accompanied by the three quotes and an explanation for why the jurisdiction sole sourced the item, based on their system needs and requirements. Also, the legislative auditors have begun an outline of the procurement procedures for spending the remaining funds that they will give to the Council to help alleviate many of the problems, which the Council will provide as soon as it is available. **No action required** at this time.

The awards committee also discussed the approval of a requested change to the categories for St. Tammany Parish. A **motion** was made by Mr. Noel to approve recommendation from ALG committee to approve request from St. Tammany Parish to allocate funds in their GOSHEP grant award and received a second from Mr. Holden. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 15 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

The Chair discussed another issue of the GOHSEP grant funds concerning the distribution of the funds, which had been previously distributed to the jurisdiction by GOHESP. Now there is questions as to whether the agreement allows for that process, if it does not the funds would need to be reimbursed to DPS and then by DPS to the jurisdictions. This process would require DPS to obtain a budget authority which could delay the process even further. The Council will update this issue as the decisions are made. **No action required** at this time.

The Chair opened the floor to consider the extension of the temporary certification exemption for building code enforcement officers. Mayor Roy Hebron, City of Ball along with the support of the Louisiana Municipal Association, and the Building Officials Association of Louisiana, requested that the Council grant an extension of twenty-four months for provisionally registered building code enforcement officers, who could demonstrate that they have been working towards the required certifications. Mayor Hebron, the Louisiana Municipal Association and the Building Officials Association of Louisiana are concerned that without the extension of the provisional certificate of registration, many individuals currently employed as building code enforcement officers throughout the state would lose their jobs, which they have held, and have demonstrated that they are qualified to hold for many years.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Touchet to a request for amendment to rule §903 of Chapter 9, Title 55 Part VI to provide an additional 24 month extension for building code enforcement officers who can demonstrate that they have attempted an ICC certification exam before January 1, 2010 and received a second from Mr. Lucky. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 15 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

The Chair opened the floor for a review and discussion of the on-line registration and renewal process. Ms. DeBarbieris informed the Council that the on-line database for registration and renewal is going live in the next week, and that registrants are required to provide an e-mail address in order to access the registration process. Third-party providers will be the first to be contacted with the building code enforcement officers to follow. Members or registrants should contact the office should they have any questions or need assistance. **No action required** at this time.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Trosclair to adjourn and received a second from Mr. Bourgeois with no action required the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

END OF MINUTES