

Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC)
July 11th, 2017
8181 Independence Blvd
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806
Meeting Minutes

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Members Present: Mr. Byrd; Mr. Campbell; Mr. Courouleau; Mr. Dhume; Mr. Heier; Mr. Harris;
Mr. Hebert; Ms. Peers; Mr. David Robinson; Mr. Raimer; Mr. David Thibodeaux;
Mr. Wallace

Members Absent: Mr. Brown; Mr. Cabirac; Mr. Causey; Ms. Dadakis; Mr. Gootee; Mr. Kramer;
Mr. Miller

Excused absence: Mr. Brown; Mr. Cabirac; Mr. Causey; Ms. Dadakis; Mr. Gootee; Mr. Kramer;
Mr. Miller

12 members present and 7 member absent constitute a Quorum.

The Chair opened the meeting recognized and welcomed Mr. Raimer as one of the new members that has been appointed to the Council.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Dhume to adopt the minutes from the July 11th, 2017 meeting. The **motion received a second** from Mr. Scott Wallace. The Chair asked if there were any objections to the motion. There were no objections and the **motion was approved**.

Tentative date for the next meeting August 8th, 2017. The agenda item was deferred to later in the meeting.

Technical Codes Study and Advisory Committee Reports. (Jerry Hebert)

Mr. Hebert stated the committee has not met since the previous meeting. Mr. Hebert has received the IRC comments and would like to set up a meeting with the Technical Committee to discuss those items.

Legislation Advisory Committee Report (Jackie Dadakis)

There is no report at this time.

Code Enforcement Advisory Committee Report (David Thibodeaux)

There has not been a meeting and no report at this time.

New Business:

1. Discussion on Executive Order JBE 17-14. (Bobby Byrd)

The Chair opened up discussion concerning Executive Order JBE 17-14. Mr. Joiner spoke concerning the Executive Order and stated that the council could proceed with their normal duties and have committee meetings under the order; however, they can not submit to the register for adoption prior to June of next year (2018) There would be about a 120 Day implementation period which would put the codes with an adoption and effective date of January 1st. Jerry Hebert asked if there was a way to get the IBC moved forward. The IBC seems to be the code that the industry really needs to go into effect to proceed with projects. Most of the voiced concerns that are being generated around the executive order have to do with the residential code and not the commercial code. Mr. Joiner noted that under the order one section of the codes could not be separated and adopted without the Governors approval. Logistically it is possible but there would need to be more information that could be provided that would show major reasons why a new order should be provided and how it would benefit the citizens of the State of Louisiana.

There are a few items that are being worked out between the different codes since the adoption date. July 1st the NFPA 101, changes were adopted. The code references other codes and years that were not adopted due to the executive order.

There is also a concern that by not adopting the new codes this could affect jurisdictions CRS (Community Rating System) and the jurisdictions scores. Mr. Zachary Smith, CBO of City of New Orleans, spoke on behalf of the City of New Orleans and the Orleans Parish area. According to Mr. Smith they have identified Hundreds of Millions of Dollars in projects in Orleans Parish alone that have to be tabled, re-planned (mostly commercial projects) etc that were waiting for the July 1st 2017 adoption date. The application process for those projects was set to start the week the new codes were to be adopted.

Mr. Smith stated there is a concern that by not adopting the codes it would affect the CRS ratings for the City of New Orleans and Orleans Parish. The CRS score effects insurance ratings and can cause rates to go up for businesses and homeowners. According to Mr. Smith, the adoption of the 2015 Codes actually helps him to help the constituents in his area and it allows him more flexibility. Mr. Smith asked if there was a way that an analysis could be done to compare the cost of projects between the 2012 and the 2015 Codes. This would provide data to show how the adoption of the 2015 Codes would be more cost effective. Mr. Hebert requested information and a list of projects, along with dollar value of those projects, which are currently on hold due to the codes not being adopted from Mr. Smith. Mr. Hebert stated he felt it was important that this information be shared with the Governor's office; especially if the information and data showed an economic impact could be beneficial in moving the code process through. Mr. Joiner stated he has received calls from contractors and investors who are pulling projects. Also, Mr. Smith stated that some of their projects were being put on hold such as projects that would provide affordable housing for citizens of the State of Louisiana, not just large commercial projects.

Mr. Heier wanted the record to reflect his comment from the previous meeting concerning the matter was not noted. He also requested the record to reflect that the Notice of Intent is not a rule; it is a Notice of Intent to make a rule. A final rule is not filed. The industry was misguided by the Notice of Intent. The Notice of Intent is not a final rule but a proposal to adopt a rule at some time in the future.

2. Discussion on LSUCCC meetings for summer months. (Bobby Byrd)

The Chair opened the floor for discussion concerning whether the Council would take off the month of August for vacation. After a discussion it was agreed upon that the Council would not meet for August however the Spray Foam Committee and other committees would still meet if necessary.

There **was a motion** by Mr. Hebert to take the Month of August off. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Courouleau. The Chair asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. **The motion passed.**

With no other items on the agenda the Chair requested a motion to adjourn by Mr. Courouleau. There was a second to the motion by Mr. Dhume. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM

END OF MINUTES