

Technical Codes and Advisory Committee

March 13th, 2018

8181 Independence Blvd

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

Meeting Minutes

The Chair welcomed all present and **called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Members Present: Mr. Chester Cabirac; Mr. Marty Campbell; Mr. Gerard Rinchuso; Mr. David Thibodeaux; Mr. Bhola Dhume; Mr. Ben Gootee; Mr. Bren Kramer

Members Absent: Mr. Jerry Hebert; Mr. Jake Causey, Mr. Jeremy Harris

Excused absence: Mr. Jerry Hebert; Mr. Jake Causey, Mr. Jeremy Harris

7 members present and 3 members absent constitute a Quorum.

The Chair addressed those present to open the meeting. Comments need to be brief so that as much information can be covered as possible.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Review and Adoption of the Minutes from the November 14, 2017 meeting.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Thibodeaux to adopt the minutes from the February 20th, 2018 meeting. The **motion received a second** from Mr. Cabirac. The Chair asked if there were any objections to the motion. There were no objections and the **motion was approved**.

2. Discussion on proposed amendment for blower door test when spray foam insulation is utilized. (Bhola Dhume/Jerry Hebert)

Mr. Joiner asked Ms. Reichel to come to the front and speak to the committee and those in attendance concerning the proposed amendment and her follow up research. During the discussion she commented on the two proposals that the representative from Iscynen had brought to the committee during the previous meeting. Ms. Reichel noted that after discussion and some research Proposal 1 was off the table and should not be presented to the committee. Ms. Reichel stated again that the spray foam committee could only address spray foam issues during their meetings. If you have a spray foam home that tends to be very air tight, and because of this, there is nowhere in the code that states where mechanical ventilation is addressed in homes utilizing spray foam

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(Attached is a copy of proposals that were presented to the Committee from Iscynen) Ms. Reichel noted that it was being suggested that the Committee consider another amendment in the future to lower the maximum ACH from 7 to a lower number to close the window of guess work that the Mechanical Contractor has to take into consideration in order to determine that correct equipment. Ms. Reichel stated that this particular amendment was more directed to Health and Safety. Mr. Joiner stated that he and Mr. Byrd went to the Licensing Board and asked that these individuals be licensed, which would have to be handled through legislation. Mr. Gootee spoke noting that the amendment at this time requires the blower door test and if the test comes back with less than 3 ACH's that it would still not require the mechanical ventilation be provided.

Rick Kensel from Coburn's Supply noted that the supply minimum air change per hour is not being set. The AC Contractor is required to design a system based on what he expects the outcome to be which he is expected it to be less than 3 ACH and this would include mechanical ventilation in the foam encapsulated home. However, the state is requiring him to build to less than 7 ACH and if he comes in at 3 ACH then the contractor has to now add mechanical ventilation. This creates an issue for the AC Contractor because now he has to design for 1 to 7 ACH and then the possibility of mechanical ventilation and addition of humidifiers. This could lead to bad practices in the industry. Ms. Reichel noted that the newer codes prior to 2009 are requiring blower door test now in order to both provide adequate ventilation air and the sizing of the AC equipment. Only visual inspections do not require ventilation. Spray foam homes should be less than 3 ACH and if the ACH is not less than 3 then it has not been applied correctly. If the blower door test shows 3 ACH or less than mechanical ventilation should be required. There are those test that are coming back with 5-7 ACH and according to the code the state is saying that it is ok but it does not take into account ventilation air and that the equipment is being overused.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Kramer to accept the Proposal 2.2 provided to the council by the Icyne representatives and that this proposal would be moved to the Council for further discussion so that a proper determination can be made on the wording that will be needed in order to be submitted to the register. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thibodeaux. The Chair asked for any objections, there were no objections. The motion was passed.

3. Discussion on plumbing concerns and proposed plumbing amendments to 2015 IPC, 2015 IRC, and existing Louisiana amendments addressing plumbing. (Bhola Dhume/Jerry Hebert)

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1. City of Lafayette – TABLED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

Section P3008 Back water Valves: All finished floor elevations shall be at least 12 inches above the elevation of the manhole cover of the next upstream manhole in the public sewer. In existing buildings where the finished floor elevation is below or less than 12 inches above the elevation of the manhole cover of the next upstream manhole in the public sewer, the plumbing fixtures shall be protected by a backwater valve installed in the building drain, branch of the building drain, or horizontal branch serving such fixtures.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion. The amendment was tabled for further discussion and it was to be brought back for the next meeting in order to rewrite the language and clean it up. The wording that was stated was “12 inches above slab” that showed the most concern. Mr. Mark Roberts noted that the exception was concerning local governments having the ability to make the change if they saw the need concerning the elevation and this could be handled on the local level. Mr. Joiner said he would work on the wording of the exception for both the IPC and IRC. Mr. Roberts noted that backwater valves are bad about creating stoppages and that is the reason on the national level that this was removed. Mr. Wiche spoke to the committee stating that the elevation requirement should be handled on the local level and it should be based on what they see fit for their jurisdictions. The amendment was tabled in order for Mr. Joiner and Legal Counsel to work on an exception.

4. 2015 IPC Section 504.6 allows T&P drain into pan and reduces from 1' to ¾”.

Section 504.6 Requirements for discharge piping.

The discharge piping serving a pressure relief valve, temperature relief valve or combination thereof shall:

1. Not be directly connected to the drainage system.
2. Discharge through an *air gap* located in the same room as the water heater.
3. Not be smaller than the diameter of the outlet of the valve served and shall discharge full size to the *air gap*.
4. Serve a single relief device and shall not connect to piping serving any other relief device or equipment.
5. ~~Discharge to the floor, to the pan serving the water heater or storage tank, to a waste receptor or to the outdoors.—Delete~~

6. Discharge in a manner that does not cause personal injury or structural damage.
7. Discharge to a termination point that is readily observable by the building occupants.
8. Not be trapped.
9. Be installed so as to flow by gravity
10. Terminate not more than 6 inches (152 mm) above and not less than two times the discharge pipe diameter above the floor or *flood level rim* of the waste receptor.
11. Not have a threaded connection at the end of such piping.
12. Not have valves or tee fittings.
13. Be constructed of those materials listed in Section 605.4 or materials tested, rated and *approved* for such use in accordance with ASME A112.4.1.

A motion was made by Mr. Campbell to delete #5 wording “to the pan serving the water heater or storage tank” The motion was seconded by Mr. Rinchuso. The Chair asked for any discussion. After a brief discussion the Chair asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. The motion passed.

Section 504.6 Requirements for discharge piping.

A motion was made by Mr. Rinchuso to add to #5 “mop sinks” after the word “receptor”. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thibodeaux. The Chair asked if there were any objections. There were objections. The motion went to a vote, the vote reflected 6 yes’s, 2 no’s. The motion passed.

P2804.6.1 Requirements for discharge pipe.

The discharge piping serving a pressure-relief valve, temperature-relief valve or combination valve shall:

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1. Not be directly connected to the drainage system.
2. Discharge through an air gap located in the same room as the water heater.
3. Not be smaller than the diameter of the outlet of the valve served and shall discharge full size to the air gap.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Campbell to accept the requirements of IRC P2804.6.1 and for it to have the same language as IPC 504.6. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Cabirac. The Chair asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. The **motion passed**.

6. 2015 IRC Section 3005.9 1 ½ " drain in slab **Fixed in IPC amendments**

Add Section 710.3, Underground Drainage Piping.

a. Any portion of the drainage system installed underground or below a basement or cellar shall not be less than 2-inch diameter. In addition, any portion of the drainage system installed underground which is located upstream from a grease trap or grease interceptor as well as the underground horizontal branch receiving the discharge there from shall not be less than 3-inch diameter.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Campbell to add the same language in the IPC amendment 710.3 to the IRC Section P3005.9. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Cabirac. The Chair asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. **The motion passed**.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Campbell to add the same language from the IPC 415.i.1 to match the IRC to state no less than 2" shower drain. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Gootee. The Chair asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. **The motion passed**.

10. Repairs under slab IPC addresses IRC does not.

2015 IPC-Add Section 701.9, Repairs to Drainage System via Re-Route.

a. In the case where it is determined that there is a broken underground drain line including, but not limited to, broken drain lines under the slab of a building, and a drain line re-route is performed, the existing broken underground drain line shall be and sealed watertight and gastight using approved plumbing materials and joining/jointing methods, e.g., properly install an approved cap, plug, or cleanout on the cut or disconnected pipe.

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A **motion was made** by Mr. Rinchuso to add to the IPC but not put in the IRC because it would only need to be done in commercial application. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Kramer. The Chair asked if there were any objections, there were objections. The motion went to a vote with the vote reflecting 5 Yes 1 No. The **motion passed**.

1. ADD TO IRC SECTION P 2503.1 THE FOLLOWING IPC AMENDMENT: Amend Section 312.3, Drainage and Vent Test.

a. An air test shall be made by forcing air into the system until there is a uniform gauge pressure of 5 psi (34.5 kPa) or sufficient to balance a 10-inch (254 mm) column of mercury. This pressure shall be held for a test period of not less than 15 minutes. Any adjustments to the test pressure required because of changes in ambient temperatures or the seating of gaskets shall be made prior to the beginning of the test period.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Rinchuso to add IPC 312.3 Drainage and Vent Test as stated above to the IRC P2503.1 to allow air testing to the drainage system testing methods. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Campbell. The Chair asked for any objections. There were no objections and the **motion passed**.

3. ADD TO IRC SECTION P3005.4.2 THE FOLLOWING 2015 IPC AMENDMENT - Amend Table 710.1(1).

A. Table 710.1(1)—Building Drains and Sewers (Maximum drainage fixtures allowed in a building.)

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A **motion was made** by Mr. Kramer for P3005.4.1 and P3005.4.2 to remain as is with no changes. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Cabirac. The Chair asked if there were any objects, there were no objects. The **motion passed**.

IRC Section P3005.2.2 Building sewers.

Building sewers smaller than 8 inches (203 mm) shall have cleanouts located at intervals of not more than 100 feet (30 480 mm). *Building sewers* 8 inches (203 mm) and larger shall have a manhole located not more than 200 feet (60 960 mm) from the junction of the *building drain* and *building sewer* and at intervals of not more than 400 feet (122 m). The interval length shall be measured from the cleanout or manhole opening, along the *developed length* of the piping to the next drainage fitting providing access for cleaning, a manhole or the end of the *building sewer*.

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A **motion was made** by Mr. Campbell to amend P3005.2.2 – Building Sewers to 80 feet. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Rinchuso. The Chair asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. The **motion passed**.

4. Discussion on requirements for Tiny Houses in Louisiana. (Bhola Dhume/Jerry Hebert)

Mr. Joiner opened the floor with discussion. Office of Motor Vehicles deems these tiny homes as recreational vehicle because they are placed on chasses. Mr. Joiner and Mr. Roberts talked about Appendix Q and that once an agreement is signed Mr. Roberts can provide that information to the committee.

Mr. Joiner introduced Mr. Bhola Dhume as the interim chairman until there is an official vote by the Technical Advisory Committee. The next meeting will be prior to the LSUCCC meeting 9 AM on April 10th.

NEW BUSINESS – NO New Business

The Chair requested a motion to adjourn. The **motion was made** by Mr. Campbell to adjourn. The **motion was seconded** by Mr. Gootee. The **meeting ended at 11:45 am**.

END OF MINUTES