

**Energy Code Commission  
December 13th, 2022  
10:00 A.M.  
8181 Independence Blvd  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806  
Meeting Minutes**

The Chair, Ms. Dadakis welcomed all present and **called the meeting to order at 10:13 am.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ms. Dadakis requested a roll call of the members, which reflected the following:

Members Present: Mr. Bonaventure, Ms. Dadakis, Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Kincl; Mr. Landry (left at 2 p.m.); Mr. Z Smith, Mr. Kraft, Ms. Morris, Mr. Morris, Mr. Visser, Mr. Steiner, Ms. Evans

Members Absent: Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Naquin, Mr. Bell, Mr. O'Brien

Excused absence: Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Naquin, Mr. Bell, Mr. O'Brien

12 members present and 4 members absent constitute a Quorum.

The Chair, Ms. Dadakis' opening remarks to the commission members and those in attendance.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Review and Adoption of the Minutes from the November 29th, 2022, meeting.**

**A motion** was made to accept the minutes from the November 29th, 2022, meeting. Motion made by Mr. David Bonaventure Mr. Charles Visser **seconded the motion**. There were no objections. The minutes **were accepted as written**.

**2. Review and discussion on tabled items.**

The Chair, Ms. Dadakis, stated to the commission that 3 proposed amendments could not be addressed by the commission and would need to move to the LSUCCC. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis, stated that she had spoken to the LSUCCC Chair and asked that a task force take up the concerns related to M1505.4.1. M1505.4.3 and M1505.4.3 (1) when the LSUCCC convenes in January 2023.

**402.4.1.2 - The building or dwelling unit shall be tested for air leakage.**

**A motion was made** by Mr. Z Smith to adopt R402.4.1.2 as worded in the spreadsheet provided to the commission members - The building or dwelling unit shall be tested for air leakage. The maximum air leakage rate for any building or dwelling unit under any compliance path shall not exceed 5.0 air changes per hour or 0.28 cubic feet per minute (CFM) per square foot [0.0079 m<sup>3</sup>/(s × m<sup>2</sup>)] of dwelling unit enclosure area. Testing shall be conducted in accordance with ANSI/RESNET/ICC 380, ASTM E779 or ASTM E1827 and reported at a pressure of 0.2-inch w.g. (50 Pascals). Where multiple dwelling units or other occupiable conditioned spaces are contained within one building thermal envelope, each unit shall be considered an individual testing unit, and the building air leakage shall be

the weighted average of all testing unit results, weighted by each testing unit's enclosure area. Units shall be tested separately with an unguarded blower door test as follows: 1. Where buildings have fewer than eight testing units, each testing unit shall be tested. 2. For buildings with eight or more testing units, the greater of seven units or 20 percent of the testing units in the building shall be tested, including a top floor unit, a ground floor unit and a unit with the largest testing unit enclosure area. For each tested unit that exceeds the maximum air leakage rate, an additional two units shall be tested, including a mixture of testing unit types and locations. Mr. Blake Steiner **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. There was no discussion. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

A **motion was made** by Mr. Blake Steiner to amend the climate zone statewide to Climate Zone 2A. Ms. Morris **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. After discussion, The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Accept the HERS Index as an ERI Alternative (Best Practice)**

R406.5 ERI-Based compliance. Compliance based on an ERI analysis requires that the rated proposed design and confirmed built dwelling be shown to have an ERI or **HERS Index** less than or equal to the appropriate value indicated in Table R406.5 when compared to the ERI reference design. Return the ERI Index in Table R406.5 to the 2018 levels.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Z Smith to amend 1106.5 (R406.5) adding the words “HERS Index” Ms. Evans **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. Ms. Dadakis, the Chair, asked Ms. Evans to explain the options of her proposal. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis, if there were any objections to the motion. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **R406.4 and 1106.4 - Remove the ERI Ventilation Penalty:**

R406.4 Energy Rating Index. The Energy Rating Index (ERI) shall be determined in accordance with RESNET/ICC 301 ~~except for buildings covered by the International Residential Code, the ERI reference design ventilation rate shall be in accordance with Equation 4-2.~~

~~Ventilation rate, CFM=(0.01 x total square foot area of house) + [7.5 x (number of bedrooms + 1)]  
(Equation 4-2)~~

A **motion was made** by Ms. Morris to strike 1106.4 (R406.4) removing the ventilation penalty. Mr. Blake Steiner **seconded the motion**. The Chair asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Change Back to 2009 IECC (match other paths and above code programs)**

A **motion was made** by Ms. Evans to correspond to 1106.3.2 (R406.3.2) deleting 402.1.2 402.1.4. See explanation from email from 12/13/2022 and Ms. Evans. R406.3.2 On-site renewables are included. Where on-site renewable energy is included for compliance using the ERI analysis of Section R406.4,

the building thermal envelope shall be greater than or equal to the levels of efficiency and SHGC in Table 402.1.2 or Table 402.1.4 of the 2018 **R402.1.1 or R402.1.3 of the 2009** International Energy Conservation Code. The **motion was seconded** by Ms. Morris. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis opened the floor for discussion. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis, asked if there were any objections to the motion. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **N1106.4 R406.4 to allow the credit on onsite renewables.**

Ms. Evans would like to see a maximum allowance on onsite renewables. The Home Builders had wanted to increase it but the proposal is to remove the limit.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Blake Steiner to strike the limitations in N1106.4 (R406.4) ... ~~For compliance purposes, any reduction in energy use of the rated design associated with on-site renewable energy shall not exceed 5 percent of the total energy use.~~ The **motion was seconded** by Ms. Morris. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections to the motion, there were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Two motions were proposed and then removed from the table by Ms. Morris concerning Table N1106.5.

A **motion was made** and amended by Mr. Charles Visser to add two exceptions to N1106.5 - 1) HERS calculation method shall be an equivalent to the ERI analysis in calculating compliance and 2) other alternate means of home energy rating as approved by the building official. Ms. Morris **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. Ms. Morris seconded the motion. The floor was open for discussion. After a lengthy discussion, the Chair, Ms. Dadakis, asked if there were any objections to the motion on the table. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Rick Kincel pulled the proposed amendment to N1103.4. This was just for clarification; it was stated that it could stay as stated in the code.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. Review and discussion of 2021 IECC and 2021 International Residential Code Chapter 11**

#### **N1103.3.1 - Ducts located outside conditioned space.**

A **motion was made** by Rick Kincel to amend N1103.3.1 (R403.3) to strike R-8, add R-6 and amend as stated on the spreadsheet line #50 as well as all in Chapter 16 of the IRC - Ducts located outside conditioned space. Supply and return ducts located outside conditioned space shall be insulated to an R-value of not less than ~~R-8~~R-6. Flexible ducts located in unconditioned attic spaces shall be suspended above the attic insulation in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions and Section 4.6 of Flexible

Duct Performance and Installation Standards, 5th Edition, © 2010 Air Diffusion Council. Ducts buried beneath a building shall be insulated as required by this section or have an equivalent thermal distribution efficiency. Underground ducts utilizing the thermal distribution efficiency method shall be listed and labeled to indicate the R-value equivalency. Mr. Blake Steiner **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. After discussion, The Chair Ms. Dadakis asked for a roll call vote. The roll call vote reflected 5 Yes, 6 No **The motion failed**.

The Chair, Ms. Dadakis, called for a break. Once the commission returned from break The Chair asked for a roll call of the members. Mr. Joiner made a roll call with all members returning after the break constituting a quorum.

The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked for the commission to move to the spray foam concerns and changes that may need to be addressed. Ms. Morris did leave the meeting for a brief time frame, but a quorum was still in place. Ms. Dadakis asked Mr. Roberts to please place the handout on the screen so everyone could view the handout. Ms. Dadakis asked Dr. Claudette Reichel to please come to the table and talk through the conflicts that need to be addressed by the commission.

**A motion was made** by Mr. Blake Steiner to repeal the amendment made to section N1102.2.6 but keep the exception Item (1.) Plastic Spray Foam cannot be applied to finish flooring where no subfloor exists. Mr. David Bonaventure **seconded the motion**. There were no objections to the motion. **The motion passed unanimously**.

**A motion was made** by Mr. Blake Steiner to repeal previous spray foam amendments N1102, Access Hatches and Doors, Section N1102, Air Sealing and Insulation, Section N1102.4.2.1, Testing Option. Mr. David Bonaventure **seconded the motion**. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously**.

**A motion was made** by Mr. David Bonaventure to repeal Section N1102.4.3, Fireplaces - New wood-burning fireplaces shall have outdoor combustion air due to be covered elsewhere in the new code. Mr. Charles Visser **seconded the motion**. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously**.

**A motion was made** by Mr. Blake Steiner to repeal Section N1102.4.6, Rooms containing fuel-burning appliances, along with Exceptions 1 and 2, and its verbiage due to already being addressed elsewhere in the codes. Mr. Audrey Evans **seconded the motion**. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously**.

**A motion was made** by Mr. David Bonaventure to repeal N1103.2.1 Insulation, N1103.2.2 Sealing, Exception – HVAC Contractors, Section N1103.2.2 Sealing, Post Construction Test, Rough-In Test and Exception Item (1.) Duct tightness test is not required if the air handler and all ducts are located within conditioned space due to it being addressed elsewhere in the codes. Mr. Blake Steiner **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously**.

**A motion was made** by Mr. David Bonaventure to repeal Section N1103.8.3, Pool Covers - Pool covers shall not be required to meet the energy efficiency requirements of this Section. Mr. Charles Visser **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Items located in green on the handout are in the mechanical code and will be addressed by the LSUCCC and the Technical Committee.

The Chair, Ms. Dadakis ask the commission to move to the top of the handout to Section N1101.9.2.1 Louisiana Insulation Certificate Template. Ms. Reichel asked the commission to consider some changes that would add clarification and accuracy to the certificate. Mr. Rick Kincel requested that a space be added for the expiration date of the product being used.

**A motion was made** by Mr. David Bonaventure to amend the Louisiana Insulation Certificate Template as proposed during the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting to include updated wording for columns and headings, along with a space for expiration date. Mr. Rick Kincel **seconded the motion**. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made** by Mr. Rick Kincel to amend N1102.2.1 to make necessary corrections strike the work “space” to “insulation” in the Exception. There is no (c.) it should be indented. To indent is not allowed by the register so Mr. Joiner to amend that per the registers required format method. After “from the attic space there should be a comma “,” And not a period (.) and the wording changed to continue sentence ‘if it covers less than 10% of the total”, (d) would become (c). Ms. Audrey Evans **seconded the motion**. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made** by Ms. Audrey Evans to adopt Section N1103.5.1 Bathroom Exhaust - Homes utilizing insulation to create an unvented attic shall have bath fans properly sized and installed according to manufacturing recommendations, shall be vented to the outside and shall be performance verified after installation. No second received.

**A motion was made** by Mr. Charles Visser to repeal Section N1103.5.1 Bathroom Exhaust. Mr. David Bonaventure **seconded the motion**. **The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. The motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made** by Mr. Z Smith to refer Section N1103.5.1 Bathroom Exhaust to the LSUCCC and the Mechanical Review Committee. Mr. Blake Steiner **seconded the motion**. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**A motion was made** by Mr. Charles Visser to add language at the end of Section N1103.6 - Fans and automatic dampers utilized to achieve mechanical ventilation, in accordance with M1505, shall be interlocked with the associated heating and cooling equipment when it is in heating or cooling mode.

Mr. David Bonaventure **seconded the motion**. There were objections to the motion. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked for a roll call vote. The roll call vote reflected 2 Yes, 8 No, Ms. Morris did not vote. **The motion failed.**

## **2. Review and discussion on existing International Residential Code energy amendments.**

There were no new amendments. The Chair Ms. Dadakis then asked for any items that the commission would wish to revisit.

Mr. Blake Steiner asked the commission members to please re-visit N1105.2.

A **motion was made** by Mr. Blake Steiner to strike Item 1, just the Table, from 1105.2 to remove any conflicts between the code official and the rater. Mr. Z Smith **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked for a roll call vote. The roll call vote reflected 5 Yes, 5 No, 1 Abstained. **The motion failed.**

A **motion was made** by Mr. Charles Visser to keep 1103.3.1 as is, which would repeal the previous motion adopted earlier in the commission meetings and adopt the wording that all ducts shall be insulated with R-8. Mr. David Bonaventure **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. After another lengthy discussion. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis requested a roll call vote. The roll call vote of the present voting members, 5 Yes, 4 No, 1 Abstained. **The motion passed.**

A **motion was made** by Ms. Audrey Evans to add language to N1103.3.6 Section 2 at the end of Post Construction Test – add wording at the end “or leakage to outside shall be less than or equal to 4 cfm per 100 sq feet of conditioned floor area.” Mr. Blake Steiner **seconded the motion**. The floor was open for discussion. The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there were any objections, there were no objections. **The motion passed unanimously.**

The Chair, Ms. Dadakis asked if there was any other business to discuss. With no other items on the agenda or discussion, a motion was made by Mr. David Bonaventure to adjourn. Mr. Blake Steiner seconded the motion. There were no objections. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.

**END OF MINUTES**