

**Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC)**  
**Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
**10:30AM**  
**Administration Conference Room**  
**2021 Industrial Park Rd**  
**Alexandria, Louisiana 71303**  
**Meeting Minutes**

The Chair welcomed all present and **called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Members Present: Mr. J Barry; Mr. Boudreaux; Mr. Byrd; Mr. Gadberry; Mr. Gil; Mr. Herbert; Mr. Hoffman; Mr. Holden; Ms. McKinney; Mr. Thibodeaux

Members Absent: Mr. W Barry; Mr. Brown; Mr. Courouleau; Mr. J. Henderson; Mr. R Gautreaux; Mr. Metcalf; Ms. Mire; Mr. Price; Mr. Trosclair.

Excused absence:

10 members present and 9 members absent constitute a Quorum.

Mr. Randy Gautreaux of Acadiana Builders in Gonzales, LA is the newest member to the council, he replaces Mr. M Henderson.

The Chair opened the meeting and address cell phones and usage of microphones when speaking.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Hoffman to adopt the minutes from the June 12, 2012 LSUCCC meeting and received a second from Mr. Boyd. The chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 10 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted.**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Barry to conduct the next LSUCCC meeting in Baton Rouge, LA @ Office of State Fire Marshal 8181 Independence Blvd on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at 10:00AM and received a second from Mr. Holden. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 10 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted.**

The Chair opened the floor for a Technical Codes Study and Advisory committee report from Ms. McKinney.

Ms. McKinney would like to get updates from each one of the committees. Jerry Hebert spoke on behalf of the IBC committee. They have met June, July and August and have addressed up to Chapter 18 so far and will have a final report to submit to the Council by the middle of December for review. It is a great group with a lot of input. There have been some modifications that will be proposed that will make a positive impact and if the council would like they can provide a copy of the modifications for early review.

IRC, Mr. Hoffman, committee has met in May, June and July and is finished with their review. All of the recommendations will be finalized in writing in November and a report should be ready for the council by November or December. The group is a very experienced group of 10 to 12 members strong that has worked hard and comprises of individuals in the industry and building officials from all over the state.

Mr. McKinney noted they are planning on having recommendations from each of the sub-committees at the January Technical Committee Meeting so then we can refer that to the full council by February and have it ready for when the Legislature meets in March, 2013.

IMC, IFGC review Committee, Mr. Thibodeaux. The committee will meet after the meeting and Mr. Thibodeaux does not for see any issues with having their modification report ready for December to present.

Ms. McKinney addressed three items to be referred to the Technical Committee and added to the agenda in September. These items need to be added for advisory purposed by the Technical Committee and request that they be added to the next month's agenda for Discussion.

Those items are:

2009 IBC 903.2.1.3 and 903.2.1.4  
2012 IBC 303.3 and IBC 903.2.1.2  
2012 IRC Section 301

A **motion** was made by Ms. McKinney to refer the above three items to the Technical Committee for the next month's meeting agenda and received a second from Mr. Gil. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 10 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

The Chair then addressed those in attendance that the Legislature requires the council to review the codes every three years. The review includes reviewing the code books in order to add, modify or take away items so that it matches things that are happening in the State of Louisiana, both north and South. The recommendations are presented to the Legislature, which will be in February for this code cycle. The recommendations will then be acted upon the next Legislative Session and go into effect the following January. The codes that are being reviews at this time are the 2012 codes and those recommendations will then be voted upon and then in January 2013 they will be implemented as amended.

The Chair opened the floor for an **Administrative Advisory Committee report** from Mr. Brown. Mr. Joiner spoke on behalf of Mr. Brown. There had not been a meeting and therefore no report.

The Chair opened the floor for a **Code Enforcement Advisory Committee report** from Mr. Gil. No items to be discussed, no action needed, there was no report.

The Chair opened the floor for the review and discussion of the GOHSEP grant expenditure amendments for the City of New Orleans. Mr. Joiner stated that the auditors have requested the City of New Orleans to move monies from one particular category to another so that the expenditure would be more in line with what they are actually spending the money on, but they need the council's approval to do so since the council is the one who administers the grant. The items requested have been checked and they are in compliance for the request.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Jerry Hebert to approve the change and received a second from Mr. Hoffman. The Chair requested a vote of the members present which reflected a vote of 10 yes and 0 no, and the **motion was adopted**.

The chair then opened the floor to the next item on the agenda which was New Business, Public Comment. He welcomed anyone who would like to come and address the council on any concerns or questions to please feel free to do so.

Mark Roberts – ICC – Invited anyone on the council who would like to participate in the ICC process is welcome to come.

Mark Joiner – Needs names of individuals, within 30 days (Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012), that wish to attend the ICC meeting in Portland, OR for 2012 and also 30 days in advance if they would like to attend the ICC meeting in Dallas in 2013. A form has to be filled out and sent in so that voting credentials can be arranged. Mr. Hoffman questioned what would be the agenda for the Dallas Meeting. The Dallas Meeting will have the committee hearings. The Committee will address any/all proposals at that meeting and the audience will be involved in voting on the committee's actions. Mr. Hoffman asked Mr. Roberts to please send the agenda information out so that the members could look over the information that will be covered.

Mr. Robichaux, Ratcliff Construction – Question: Interpretation of the Code – Who has the final say? Jurisdiction should have appeals board to address questions or concerns between a contractor and a violation that has been cited during an inspection. There should be a process in place to provide for interpretation of the citing of the violation as it relates to the Code. Local building officials/jurisdiction make the decisions and appeals should go through their Administrative Section. If it is an ICC issue then that request for interpretation can be brought forth and addressed directly by the ICC. The ICC determinations are not binding to the local jurisdiction. If the interpretation is asked of the council Ms. McKinney can receive the complaint via the system but the determination can take up to several months. Phil Hoffman stated that discrepancies need to be brought forth by the contractor so that it can be addressed for future reference by the Code Council. Issues really need to come to the council or the ICC. Local jurisdiction cannot set ordinances that circumvent State Law or make you do more than the code. It is a minimum to maximum. The Council interprets state law. Special rights and some considerations are handled by certain departments like as with Plumbing, such as for grease traps and water management, that pertains to the Sewage System of the local jurisdiction. Question was raised

if this was in a particular area by the head of the Code Advisory Committee. Mr. Joiner noted that

John Rino – Commercial Electric-Alexandria. Question: What is the relationship with the UCC, NEC, and City Ordinances? Specifically, can a City Ordinance exclude an approved wiring method in the NEC Code? There are some jurisdictions that change and make ordinances to change some things in the code. City of Natchitoches, as a local jurisdiction, has a city ordinance that precludes certain portions of the codes and changed some NEC requirements. Mr. Joiner noted that there are many small cities that have done this and if this happens then this needs to be sent to the Code Council so they can address this issue. The local jurisdictions think that their codes are above those adopted and passed by State Law and overseen by the Council. That is not correct; they cannot be any less stringent or harder than the codes that are adopted by the state. These changes must be reported through the complaint form because it needs to be addressed by the council. The Cities have been notified of this and if they continue to have issues then they need to notify Mr. Joiner and the complaint form is the best route.

Representative from B & B Builders – Residential Question: Where is the line between who has the final say when an inspection is being conducted in an area where two entities meet on a project, such as rural electricity? Those that have jurisdiction will be where the utilities connect, but they cannot inspect the house. They can only inspect up to where their tie in is at the service point it connects to the house. Mr. Hoffman stated that if a contractor follows what the state has adopted and put where the GFI's and AFCI's are to be placed, and you pass the inspection. As long as you follow the NEC is being followed then the inspection is legal. If someone tells a contractor different then a complaint needs to be filed so the Council can help. Mr. Gadberry noted that, at one time, there was a chart developed to show everywhere a GFI or an AFCI is required. Mr. Joiner is going to find this chart and have it put back on the website for access. Ms. McKinney stated that many complaints that are received can sometimes be settled simply by a phone call. Mr. Joiner reiterated that many times the concerns/complaints do not come in on the complaint form; it may be a simple email. Mr. Burcher talked about concerns he is having with a project and confirmed that he would have to have a review even if it is stamped by an architect that designed his own plans. What is the time frame for Plan Review at this time? In some areas it takes longer because a jurisdiction owns their own utilities so they send plans out for their inspectors to verify. If the area does not own their own utilities then it may require the contractor to provide documentation that each utility is provide with the plans. Mr. Joiner noted that upwards of 5 to 10 workdays may be the time frame. Has the Council considered a uniform fee form? These fees are set up by the Budget in the jurisdictions and regulation of fees could be difficult and cause issues. The law states that a jurisdiction can charge a necessary fee that is equivalent of what would be needed to in order to keep their office open yearly.

Spokesman for Habitat for Humanity – Questions: Where is the state on Sprinkling of Residential Structures (1 and 2 family dwelling)? State Legislature passed a law where it is not required to install residential sprinklers in new residential homes.

With no other items on the agenda, and no motion to accept other business. A **motion** was made by Mr. Hoffman to adjourn and second by Ms. McKinney. With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m..

END OF MINUTES

Note: The September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012 was cancelled due to weather conditions associated with Hurricane Isaac. The next meeting of the LSUCCC will therefore be October 2nd, 2012 @ Office of Management and Finance Building, Room #308, 7979 Independence Blvd Baton Rouge, LA 70806