

**DRAFT**  
**State of Oregon**

**Building Codes Structures Board**

**Regular meeting minutes**

**August 2, 2006**

**Members present:** Martin Brown, Acting Chair /Vice-chairman  
Blair Bubenik  
Chris Davis  
Terry Dieter  
Bruce Dobbs  
Lawrence Hite  
Jim Schwager  
Michael Steffen

**Members absent:** None

**Staff present:** Andrea Simmons, Policy and Technical Services Manager  
Richard Rogers, Board Secretary and Structural Program Chief  
Ravi Mahajan, P.E., Code Facilities Engineer  
Michael D. Ewert, Mechanical Code Specialist  
Shane Sumption, Fire & Life-safety, ADA Program Specialist  
Lori Graham, Code Specialist  
Michael Morter, Regional Coordinator  
Dodie Wagner, Rules Coordinator  
Heidi Shamberger, Structural Para-technical Specialist  
Debi Barnes-Woods, Boards Coordinator/Recorder

**Guests Present:** Peggy Collins, Collins Consulting  
Gary Lampella, City of Tigard  
Patrick Bridges, Oregon Home Builders Association  
James Bela, Oregon Earthquake Awareness  
Michael Rosenberg, Oregon Department of Energy  
Eric McMullen, Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue  
John Caul, Office of Oregon State Fire Marshal

**I. Board Business**

**A. Call to order.**

Acting Chair Martin Brown called the Building Codes Structures Board meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held at Building Codes Division, Conference Room "A," 1535 Edgewater NW, Salem, Oregon.

**B. Roll call.**

All members were present.

**C. Approval of agenda and order of business.**

Acting Chair Brown **RULED** the agenda approved.

- D. Approval of the May 3, 2006 regular board meeting minutes.**  
Acting Chair Brown **RULED** the May 3, 2006 regular board meeting minutes approved.
- E. Date of the next regularly scheduled meeting.**  
November 1, 2006.

## **II. Public Comment**

James Bela, President of Oregon Earthquake Awareness discussed the historical development of the code adoption process with respect to foundation sill plate anchorage in residential construction. He said that 3-inch steel plate washers were replaced by 2-inch steel plate washer for residential structures prescriptive methodology in mid-cycle after the 2000 code was adopted. In his opinion, this weakened the earthquake design provisions. Mr. Bela also discussed the requirements of the public meetings law as it relates to the adoption of the 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code.

Patrick Bridges, Oregon Home Builders Association, and chairman of the Structural Code Committee said that Mr. Bela's testimony was irrelevant to today's process. The plate washer requirement was retained in the 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code as it is in the model code.

## **III. Reports**

### **A. Administrator's report.**

Policy and Technical Services Manager Andrea Simmons gave the BCD's update and distributed a packet of information, *Exhibit "A."*

**BCD's organizational chart:** Senate Bill 421 allowed BCD to create a regional program. The program is listed in the division's organizational chart under "Statewide Building Services." Manager Simmons introduced Michael Morter, the first individual to be hired as a new regional coordinator in the Willamette Valley area.

**BCD contact information:** The division recently developed a contact sheet to distribute at industry meetings and division board meetings.

**Summary of rulemaking:** The 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code and the 2007 Oregon Mechanical Structural Specialty Code are expected to be effective April 1, 2007. At its next meeting, the Residential Structures Board will be reviewing a proposal to relocate Appendix Chapter "N," of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code that deals with Low-Rise Apartment Buildings into the Oregon Structural Specialty Code.

**Proposed legislation:** The division has four legislative concepts. The first builds on House Bill 2181, which created standard administrative procedures for boiler, electrical, elevator, and plumbing licensing without changing the scope of the licenses. The legislative concept will continue to streamline licensing administration. The second concept would provide the division with the ability to

suspend egregious violators before a hearing. The last two legislative concepts are placeholders for anticipated legislation relating to the boiler program and the Construction Claims Task Force.

**Construction Claims Task Force:** The division developed a document, “A Framework for Change” that categorizes the concepts and recommendations that have been discussed at the task force meetings. For contact and updated information, visit BCD’s Web site <http://egov.oregon.gov/DCBS/CCTF/>.

**B. Program update.**

This item was discussed under the Administrator’s report.

**IV. Communications**

**BCD’s new employees:**

- Michael Morter, regional coordinator.
- Heidi Shamberger, promoted as the new structural para-technical specialist.

**V. Appeals – None.**

**VI. Unfinished Business – None.**

**VII. New Business**

**Board review and approval of 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code adoption for public hearing.**

Structural Program Chief Richard Rogers explained code proposals review process. Chapters were grouped together for public comment. Public comment was limited to five minutes per person per group because of large quantity of submittals.

The 2004 Oregon Structural Specialty Code was used as a baseline by the Structural Code Committee in preparing the proposed 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code. An updated matrix of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code amendments was distributed, *Exhibit “B.”*

Acting Chair Brown recognized the work of the Structural Code Committee and its chair Pat Bridges, for its work reviewing code submittals.

Structural Program Chief Rogers recognized the work of Lori Graham. Ms. Graham, who is currently working with BCD through an IGA with the City of Portland, reviewed, prepared and organized the committee’s and division’s recommendations.

BCD staff Ravi Mahajan and Shane Sumption were also recognized by Richard Rogers for their hard work and long hours reviewing the code changes submitted by various groups, and Peggy Collins, a public participant, for her input.

**Chapter 1 (Administrative), Chapter 2 (Definitions):**

Peggy Collins – Chapter 1, Section 105.2 Work Exempt from Permit. Last paragraph the note that follows Item # 14. The language currently states “and that are in accordance with this code and ASCE 24.” Ms. Collins suggested language that may be clearer, “in accordance with this code, FEMA regulations and ASCE 24.”

**MOTION by Terry Dieter** to accept the recommended language proposed by Peggy Collins for Section 105.2, last paragraph, end of the sentence in the note that follows Item #14 to read, “in accordance with this code, FEMA regulations and ASCE 24.”

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

James Bela – Referring to Chapter 1, said that Section 101.2 Scope should remain in the code. He said this should be an approved alternate method for buildings.

Mr. Bela had another concern with Chapter 1, bottom of page 1. The committee added the word “demolition” as it shall not apply to this code. He said that if there was an earthquake, it may be necessary to demolish the building.

**MOTION by Jim Schwager** to approve Chapter 1 as amended by the board for Section 105.2 and Chapter 2 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapters 3 through 5 (Existing Oregon Amendments) Chapter 6 (General Building Heights and Areas)**

James Bela – Referring to Chapter 3, proposed amendment 07-03, if this is going to be adopted, should have stronger support other than dropping it without an explanation.

Mr. Bela objected to the proposed language in Chapter 4 Section 412.2.6 Fire suppression.

Acting Chair Brown related that the committee reviewed this chapter section extensively and recommended approval of the aircraft hangar exception.

Mr. Bridges said that without this clarification, Group 1 Hangars may have overly restrictive requirements in the code.

Jim Schwager said that because the I-Codes now allow the open flame to be regulated as a particular hazard, the fire service did not object to this change.

**MOTION by Terry Dieter** to approve Chapters 3 through 6 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapter 7 (Fire-Resistance-Rated Construction) Chapter 8 (Interior Finishes) Chapter 9 (Existing Oregon Amendments)**

Mr. Bela asked for clarification on Code Change No.: OSSC07-87. He said there is no explanation of the amendment and why it was approved by the committee.

Mr. Schwager specifically addressed [F] 903.2.7.2, referring to Mr. Bela's concerns. He explained that this language was moved from Appendix K to the body of the code.

Mr. Schwager asked why proposed code amendments were not included in the public record.

Mr. Bridges noted that all proposals reviewed by the committee were available to the public for review and discussion, and that Mr. Bela was present during those discussions.

Mr. Schwager recommended an amendment to Chapter 9, Existing Oregon Amendments. [F] 903.2.9 Group S-2. Second line the word "garages" has been deleted. Mr. Schwager recommended keeping the word "garages," to remain consistent with the rest of the language. Item 1, capitalize the word "Group," and in Item 2, insert the word "garage" after parking.

**MOTION by Jim Schwager** to approve Chapters 7 and 8 as recommended by committee. Approve Chapter 9 with the amendment made by the board by adding the word "garages" in [F] 903.2.9 Group S-2.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapter 10 (Existing Oregon Amendments) Chapter 11 (Accessibility)**

**MOTION by Terry Dieter** to approve Chapters 10 and 11 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapter 12 (Existing Oregon Amendments) Chapter 13 (Energy Conservation)**

Mr. Bela objected to existing Oregon amendment 1203.4.1, "The minimum openable area to the outdoors shall be four percent of the floor area being ventilated," because the new exception added the words "natural ventilation." Mr. Bela said that by using this design system there is no guarantee that it would work and also commented on Chapter 13 that Oregon should retain national model code language.

Ms. Graham distributed copies of Errata changes that were not included in the original packet of material, although committee reviewed and approved the

changes. *Exhibit "C."* She explained that there is one change in Chapter 13 Table 13-M and a change in OSSC 09-23.

**MOTION by Terry Dieter** to approve Chapters 12 and 13 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapters 14 and 15 (Existing Oregon Amendments)**

Mr. Bela objected to weakening any of the seismic requirements of the model code in Chapter 14, Section 1405.5.2.

Code Facilities Engineer Ravi Mahajan, P.E. said that the language was added for clarity and to update the requirement to make the standard more user-friendly.

**MOTION by Jim Schwager** to approve Chapters 14 and 15 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapters 16 through 19 and Chapter 21 and 23 (Existing Oregon Amendments) Chapter 20 (Aluminum) Chapter 22 (Steel)**

Ms. Graham explained that one item approved by the committee, Chapter 18, Section 1802.2, was included in the new matrix, *Exhibit "B."* Additional Errata changes were also approved by committee and added to the Errata changes *Exhibit "C,"* that were distributed to board members. Those changes were to Docket 16-2 Table 1604.5, Docket 16-4 Section 1605.3.2, Docket 16-5 Section 1607.7.1 footnote j., Docket 16-6 three updated wind and seismic maps in Section 1605.3.2, 1607.7.1, and #EA04-16, Docket 17-2 Chapter 17 Section 1705.3 and 1706.1, 1707.1, Docket 17-3 Section 1704.3, and Docket 18-7 Section 1802.2 Exception. Other changes included items to the existing Oregon amendments to Chapters 21 and 23. Docket 23-3 Section 2308.3.2 was added with two drawings that were approved by committee.

**MOTION by Terry Dieter** to approve Chapters 16 through 23 as recommended by committee, and to include the additional Errata items listed above.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapter 24 (Glass and Glazing) Chapter 25 (Gypsum Board and Plaster) Chapter 26 (Plastic)**

**MOTION by Bruce Dobbs** to approve Chapters 24 through 26 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapter 27 (Electrical) Chapter 28 (Mechanical)**

**MOTION by Jim Schwager** to approve Chapters 27 and 28 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapter 29 (Plumbing Systems)**

**MOTION by Michael Steffen** to approve Chapter 29 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapters 30 and 31 (Existing Oregon Amendments) Chapter 32 (Encroachments into the Public Right-of-Way) Chapter 33 (Safeguards During Construction)**

**MOTION by Terry Dieter** to approve Chapters 30 through 33 as recommended by committee.

**Chapter 34 (Existing Oregon Amendments)**

Chief Rogers explained that adopting the un-amended existing building code as part of this process would cause statutory conflicts in Oregon. Therefore, it was pulled out of the process for further review. The division will convene an Ad Hoc Committee to determine how the existing building code can be integrated into Oregon with modifications during the mid-code cycle adoption.

Mr. Bela said that if model code language were to be deleted, a clear statement should be made available to the public as to its deletion, and that OSSC07-53 does not clearly define the entire structure and the affected structure, and said it would be safer to stick with the model code language.

**MOTION by Bruce Dobbs** to approve Chapter 34 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Chapter 35 (Existing Oregon Amendments)**

**MOTION by Michael Steffen** to approve Chapter 35 as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Appendices Chapters**

Chief Rogers explained that because of statutory conflicts in Oregon, Model Code Appendices A (Employee Qualifications), B (Board of Appeals), D (Fire Districts), E (Supplementary Accessibility Requirements), F (Rodent Proofing), and H (Signs), are not adopted in Oregon. Appendix K (Fire Flow) is not being moved forward because these provisions are covered under the fire code.

Chief Rogers said that moving Appendix Chapter “N” from the Oregon Residential Specialty Code to the 2007 OSSC may require having a special teleconference meeting to vote on the proposal.

**MOTION by Bruce Dobbs** to approve all of the Appendices Chapters as recommended by committee.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Disapproval docket:**

Ms. Graham distributed copies of the newly disapproved docket, *Exhibit “D,”* which included one additional item. Section 1608.2, snow load maps, were disapproved based on the committee’s approval of item number EA04-16.

Jim Bela – OSSC 07-29 (Rooftop anchors) Section 1501.2 Mr. Bela said that requiring anchor points for building maintenance would be a good idea.

Mr. Mahajan explained that the committee disapproved the proposal because the amendment addressed only one portion of the entire issue related to roof-top anchors. The proponent was instructed to resolve the issues and re-submit the proposal during the mid-cycle code change.

Mr. Bela questioned OSSC07-41 (Soil inspections by the design soils engineer only). Mr. Mahajan said that the code change required that the design engineer would be the only engineer allowed to perform the site inspection. The committee found that not to be feasible at times and disapproved the code change submittal based on the added cost.

Mr. Schwager said that Section 1607.7.1, referencing to glass handrail requirements, has no technical bearing on any review. The language says to refer to Section 2407 when using a glass handrail. If the item were to be removed from model code, a yellow page would be created for insertion into code.

Mr. Mahajan noted that the committee thought the requirement was misplaced in this Section. Section 2407 deals with safety glazing requirements for the glass.

Mr. Schwager said that when creating a yellow page, there should be some beneficial value. He said that the scoping in Section 1607.7.1 is clear to the limits of handrails and guards.

**MOTION by Jim Schwager** to leave Section 1607.7.1 as the national model code change language unchanged and bring it forward to the 2007 edition of the Structural Specialty Code.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION by Bruce Dobbs** to approve the disapproved docket as recommended by the committee with the modification to Section 1607.7.1.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MOTION by Terry Dieter** to approve all recommended changes from the committee and the amendments made by the board and send to public hearing, with the finding that the added cost, if any, is necessary to the health and safety of the occupants or the public or necessary to conserve scarce resources.  
**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **VIII. Announcements**

- The Commercial Structural Code Forum will meet Wednesday, September 20, 2006, 4:00 p.m., Sunnybrook Service Center Clackamas County Auditorium, 9101 SE Sunnybrook Blvd., Clackamas, Oregon, Room 140.
- A public hearing on the 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code will be held Tuesday, October 3, 2006, 9:00 a.m., BCD's Conference Room A.

### **IX. Adjournment**

Acting Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Debi Barnes-Woods  
Boards Coordinator

### ***Exhibits:***

- A. A packet of BCD's update, ***Agenda Item III.A, page 2.***
- B. Updated matrix of Oregon Structural Specialty Code amendments, ***Agenda Item VII, page 3.***
- C. Changes to the Errata, ***Agenda Item VII, page 6.***
- D. New disapproved docket, ***Agenda Item VII, page 8.***