

Building Codes Structures Board

Regular meeting minutes

May 7, 2008

- Members present:** Martin Brown, acting Chairman
Chris Davis
Terry Dieter
Eric McMullen *(new member)*
Thomas Sjostrom
- Members absent:** Bruce Dobbs
- Staff present:** Mark Long, administrator
Richard Rogers, structural program chief
Chris Huntington, policy and technical services interim manager
Celina Patterson, policy analyst
Shauna Parker, rules coordinator
Debi Barnes-Woods, division boards coordinator
- Guests Present:** Bob Sinclair, Powers Fasteners, field engineer
Kent Carlson, Powers Fasteners, field technical service manager
Keith Bohren, Simpson Strong-tie Company
James Bela, president and founder of Oregon
Earthquake Awareness
John Caul, Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office
Chris Burnett, Simpson Strong-tie Company
M. Finzen, Simpson Strong-tie Company
Alan Seymour, Oregon Department of Energy
Lori Graham, City of Portland
Ann Hushagen, Oregon Department of Energy
Tonya Habg, SEAO
Andy Stember, SEAO

I. Board business

A. Call to order

Acting Chairman 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 Street NW, Salem, Oregon.

B. Roll call

Bruce Dobbs was absent excused.

C. Approval of agenda and order of business

Agenda was amended moving communication item IVB to new business item VIE.

Acting Chairman Brown **RULED** the agenda approved as amended.

D. Approval of the February 6, 2008 regular board meeting minutes

Acting chair Brown **RULED** the February 6, 2008 regular board meeting minutes approved.

E. Date of the next regularly scheduled meeting

August 6, 2008

F. Formal farewell to board member Jim Schwager

Administrator of Building Codes Division Mark Long publicly thanked Mr. Schwager for his 10-year service as a board member. His letter of appreciation and certificate of service will be mailed since Mr. Schwager was not in attendance.

New board member Eric McMullen, the fire protection agency representative, relayed comments made by Jim Schwager to the division and the board. Mr. Schwager noted that the public receives great benefit from the work of staff and the board. Mr. Schwager thanked the division and the board for his rewarding years of service.

G. Welcome new board member Eric McMullen

Acting Chairman Brown asked existing members to announce their names and the position they represent on the board.

II. Public comment

President and founder of Oregon Earthquake Awareness James Bela asked the board's permission for time at the next scheduled meeting to review the new USGS seismic hazard maps. He believes the maps will be incorporated into the 2012 International Building Codes.

III. Reports

A. Building Codes Division administrator's report

Administrator Long presented the packet of information "[BCD Update](#)." The packet contained [2008 board meeting dates](#), and [summary of rulemaking and other projects](#). He noted that in April 2009 the division would begin accepting code proposals for the Building Code expected to go into effect April 2010.

Administrator Long talked about [BCD in Perspective](#), including sustainability and green building issues. He announced that Andrea Simmons has accepted the position of Legislative and Sustainability Manager. She will be leading the division in addressing issues concerning: LEED standards, energy conservation, carbon usage, new products, new materials, new methods, training and education. Ms. Simmons will also be working with the governor's work groups on sustainability.

Administrator Long noted that the division is working in concert with the City of Portland for modification or a local amendment to allow for higher standards in sustainability. He recommended to city officials and anyone interested in participating in the "TAG group" to contact the City of Portland.

<http://www.portlandonline.com/bds/index.cfm?c=46751>

Training and education: The division is now providing state [training](#) to inspectors for the new code changes through video streaming equipment. These pilot training classes, or “Webinars,” will allow individuals to view training materials through the Web.

Accreditation: A workgroup has been established to discuss building program [accreditation options](#), cost for administering these options, publishing outcomes for the public, and ongoing building department program monitoring.

Proposed residential fire sprinkler requirements: A [public hearing](#) is scheduled seeking public input on the proposed fire sprinklers requirements for residential structures. The division’s proposed implementation date is January 2009.

Engineering requirements for sprinkler plans: The plans will require a stamp of a sealed and qualified engineer. The Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) is working on clarifying when engineering is required for fire protection systems. Once the division receives clarifying information from OSBEELS, the division will circulate the information.

Ethics and conflicts of interest: Administrator Long briefly discussed the changes that occurred with the [ethics and conflict of interest](#) issues for the division’s boards.

IV. Communications

A. New ventilation requirements for kitchens and bathrooms

Policy Analyst Celina Patterson briefly discussed the new requirements for preventing mold. She explained that during the residential code adoption process, [new provisions](#) were included in the code dealing with kitchen and bathing facility ventilation to reduce the amount of moisture in houses.

(This agenda item was moved to new business item VI.E)

B. Grace period for compliance with acceptance criteria for expansion, screw in and adhesive anchors

V. Unfinished business

Mid-cycle amendment to section 903.2.7.1 of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code

Structural Program Chief Richard Rogers explained that the proposed amendment is for the purpose of consistency with the actions taken by the Residential Structures Board. The division recommends the board delete Section 903.2.7.1 in its entirety and re-number the remainder of the sections for rulemaking and subsequent adoption, effective October 1, 2008 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 by Eric McMullen to approve the proposed mid-cycle code amendment for rulemaking and subsequent adoption, effective October 1, 2008 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

VI. New business

A. Board review of interim code amendment related to childcare facilities

Structural Program Chief Rogers explained that the statutory changes to the rules governing childcare in homes have increased the maximum allowable number of children in certified family child care homes to 16 or fewer children, and in registered family childcare homes to 10 or fewer children. These changes amend sections 202, 308.5, 310.1 and 310.2 of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code.

Motion by Terry Dieter to approve the proposed amended sections 202, 308.5, 310.1 and 310.2 of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code for rulemaking and subsequent adoption, effective October 1, 2008 with the finding that the added costs, if any, are necessary to the health and safety of building occupants or the public, or necessary to conserve scarce resources.

Motion carried unanimously

B. Board review and approve technical and scientific facts relating to Statewide Alternate Method No. OSSC 08-01 snowload

Structural Program Chief Rogers noted that the proposed statewide alternate method ruling allows the ground snow load to be determined in accordance with the *Snow Load Analysis for Oregon* published by the Structural Engineers Association of Oregon, October 2007.

Andy Stember, Structural Engineers Association of Oregon, and Tonya Halog, Structural Engineers Association of Oregon, were both present to answer any question.

Mr. Stember explained there are many areas in Oregon that the national snow load map does not cover, therefore special calculation needs to occur. The new publication takes advantage of modern environmental data collection through a remote data collection system known as SNOTEL as managed by the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRSC).

Motion by Terry Dieter that the Building Codes Structures Board concurs with the scientific and technical facts of the proposed alternate method.

Motion carried unanimously

C. Board review and approve technical and scientific facts relating to Statewide Alternate Method No. 08-02 power actuated fasteners in seismic loads

Structural Program Chief Rogers explained the alternate method would allow the continued use of power actuated fasteners in certain seismic applications subject to specified limitations.

James Bela, Oregon Earthquake Awareness, said he has not seen any of the test data for the fasteners, or cost analysis. He noted that in an actual earthquake, the power actuated fasteners would not hold-up in concrete.

Motion by Terry Dieter that the Building Codes Structures Board concurs with the scientific and technical facts of the proposed alternate method.

Motion carried unanimously

D. Board review and approve technical and scientific facts relating to Statewide Alternate Method No. OSSC 08-03 continued use of screw anchors

Structural Program Chief Richard Rogers noted the division is asking the board to approve the scientific and technical facts of the proposed alternate method allowing the continued use of screw anchors in concrete subject to certain considerations for an interim period.

Bob Sinclair, Powers Fasteners, field engineer, and Kent Carlson, Powers Fasteners, field technical service manager are both in support of the continued use of screw anchors.

Mr. Sinclair asked when the transition between the legacy report and newly submitted data takes place. Chairman Brown responded that the date the submitted plans are stamped is the date the plan-check process follows.

James Bela, Oregon Earthquake Awareness noted it is not clear from the alternate method what is being anchored and where the anchors are being used. He questioned the test data on how will the anchors fail.

Policy Analyst Celina Patterson explained not every item needs to have test data per se, although these items were tested, the requirement is that the item needs to be scientifically and technically equivalent.

Motion by Eric McMullen that the Building Codes Structures Board concurs with the scientific and technical facts of the proposed alternate method.

Motion carried unanimously

(This item was moved from communications to new business)

E. Grace period for compliance with acceptance criteria for expansion, screw and adhesive anchors

The purpose of moving this item to new business from communication is because industry is interested in having an alternate method ruling for adhesive anchors similar to the alternate method ruling approved for screw anchors. Structural Program Chief Rogers said the grace period expired for adhesive anchors on April 30, 2008.

Bob Sinclair, Powers Fasteners, field engineer, and Kent Carlson, Powers Fasteners, field technical service manager are both in support of adhesive anchors as an alternate method ruling similar to what was approved for screw anchors.

Keith Bohren, Simpson Strongtie Anchor Systems, engineer, said his company has also submitted products that have been tested to International Codes Council Evaluation Service waiting for approval. He noted there is one adhesive anchor currently on the market that has been approved but is not usable for all applications. Mr. Bohren is in support of adhesive anchors as an alternate method ruling similar to what was approved for screw anchors.

James Bela, Oregon Earthquake Awareness, said although he is in support of the proposal, he would like to see technical testing done on the seismic performance of the anchors. He noted the adhesive anchors have been the standard and not the screw anchors.

The Structural Engineer Association of Oregon's (SEAO) committee met, says Structural Program Chief Rogers, and provided a document [in support](#) of the alternate method. Because the document is not a recommendation for an alternate method, the board cannot take action on the item in support of an alternate method like the other anchors.

Bob Sinclair, Powers Fasteners, asked if the alternate method for the anchors would be delayed until August when the next Building Codes Structures Board is scheduled to meet.

Administrator Long noted the different processes available for industry, the design community, and code officials. A statewide alternate method is one choice, although the division needs to receive direction and the request needs to be properly noticed before the board could take action. If the direction of the board is to have the division prepare the alternate method, the division could properly give notice to local jurisdictions and have a document ready for the next scheduled board meeting.

Motion by Tom Sjoström to authorize the division to advise building officials to consider allowing the use of adhesive anchors as a site-specific alternate method using the same limitations found in Statewide Alternate Method No. OSSC 08-02 for Power Actuated Fasteners and for a final recommendation at the board's August meeting.

Amendment to the motion by Terry Dieter adding that what would come back to the board would be in the form of a statewide alternate method ruling.

Amendment to the original motion accepted by Tom Sjostrom.
Motion carried unanimously

VII. Announcements – None

VIII. Adjournment

Acting Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am

Respectfully transcribed and submitted by,

Debi Barnes-Woods
Division Boards Coordinator