

**Final
State of Oregon**

Building Codes Structures Board

Regular meeting minutes

August 6, 2008

- Members present:** Martin Brown, acting Chairman
Chris Davis
Terry Dieter *teleconference*
Bruce Dobbs
Rene Gonzalez *new member*
Eric McMullen
Thomas Sjostrom
Bill Wellard *new member*
- Members absent:** Steven Wood *new member*
- Staff present:** Mark Long, administrator
Richard Rogers, structural program chief
Chris Huntington, policy and technical services interim manager
Dave Bassett, special projects coordinator
Shane Sumption, fire, life safety/ADA specialist
Kristy Nielsen, policy analyst
Shauna Parker, rules coordinator
Debi Barnes-Woods, division boards coordinator
- Guests Present:** Bob Sinclair, Powers Fasteners, field engineer
Keith Bohren, Simpson Strong-tie Company
James Bela, president and founder of Oregon
Earthquake Awareness
John Caul, Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office
Alan Seymour, Oregon Department of Energy
Bob Eugene, Underwriters Laboratories Inc.

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

New board member Steven Wood was absent excused.

C. Approval of agenda and order of business

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

D. Approval of the May 7, 2008 regular board meeting minutes

Acting Chairman Brown **RULED** the May 7, 2008 regular board meeting minutes approved.

E. Date of the next regularly scheduled meeting

November 5, 2008

F. Possible special teleconference meeting: Thursday, September 4, 2008

G. Formal farewell to board member Michael Steffen and Blair Bubenik

In the absence of the two leaving board members, Administrator Long publicly recognized them for their years of service as board members. Letters of appreciation and certificates of service for both were sent by mail.

H. Welcome new board members Rene Gonzalez, Bill Wellard and Steven Wood

II. Public comment - None

III. Reports

A. Building Codes Division report

Administrator Long presented the packet of information “BCD Update.” Some items of interest included in the packet were the 2008 board meeting dates, and summary of rulemaking and other projects.

Administrator Long focused on a document included in the BCD Update called “BCD in Focus.” He noted that the division has created a green building services section. The section serves as a point of contact for sustainability and green building. Andrea Simmons is heading up the section with Gabrielle M Schiffer as green building services coordinator.

Administrator Long briefly discussed local code amendments and rules that the division is developing that will establish a consistent process for local jurisdictions to apply to the division for a local amendment. Local amendments may address any issue related to the building code but are most likely to address issues such as energy efficiency, sustainability (green building), fire sprinklers, and other issues like downtown revitalization, historic building preservation, and main street projects. The City of Portland is holding meetings to develop a green building ordinance that may result in a request for local amendment. The division has been meeting with the group.

The division is currently working with a group in the Portland area that is part of the governors’ climate change agenda. Part of the package the governor’s office is proposing to the Legislature concerns energy efficiency. The governor’s office is proposing legislation that presents a 2030 energy efficiency model. The goal they would like to set is for construction to reach a Net-Zero Energy usage by the year 2030 in residential and commercial applications or as close to this goal as economically and technically possible. This would be achieved through providing both a standard code and a reach code for each code cycle. The reach code would consist of optional requirements builders would meet for financial incentives. These same reach requirements would then be added to the code as standard requirements in the next code cycle. The division is also expecting to adopt a more robust requirement in energy efficiency in Oregon for the 2010 Oregon Structural Specialty Code.

The division has begun providing Web based code-change courses to inspectors and will continue to explore different methods of providing training through the Internet.

IV. Communications

A. Discussion concerning the adoption of the Statewide Alternate Method Ruling No. OSSC 08-05 for 2006 International Existing Building Code (IEBC) in lieu of Chapter 34 of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code (No action required at this meeting. For discussion only)

Structural Program Chief Richard Rogers said the division is proposing to adopt the 2006 International Existing Building Code as a Statewide Alternate Method Ruling. He noted that a work group was formed to review and discuss the IEBC with a goal to have this in place by October 1, 2008. The division is bringing the alternate method before the board at this time for discussion only. The board will make its recommendation at the teleconference meeting scheduled for Thursday, September 4, 2008. Mr. Rogers noted that the division distributed an additional document, supplemental to the late submission for this agenda item. It addresses several structural modifications that the division believes should be made to the 2006 International Existing Building Code.

Mr. Rogers said that the alternate method creates for an additional tool for designers. Currently Chapter 34 of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code addresses existing buildings and provides 2 choices for the designer; the prescriptive method, and the performance compliance method. Mr. Rogers noted that the IEBC expands the current methods and provides an additional method, the work area method (based on the level of work performed). This method allows for 3 choices for alterations to an existing building. Mr. Rogers noted that most of the amendments are based on the work area compliance method.

The division believes it is important to have the alternate method available by October and intends on adopting the 2009 IEBC as part of the 2010 adoption of the Oregon Structural Specialty Code in lieu of Chapter 34.

Terry Dieter noted that he looks forward to the IEBC moving forward.

B. Statewide statutory interpretation related to equine facility exemption

C. Statewide statutory interpretation related to agricultural exemption

Structural Program Chief Rogers noted that Agenda Items B and C are informational items and they are posted to the division's Web site.

D. Electrical licensing exemption from engineer requirements

Policy and Technical Services Interim Manager Chris Huntington discussed the licensing exemption from engineering requirements. He noted that in May 2008, the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying issued a statement that attempted to clarify that "unless an exception to the engineering laws apply, the design of fire protection systems must be performed under the supervision and control of a registered professional engineer or licensed architect."

At the July 24 Electrical and Elevator Board meeting, the board adopted a temporary rule that creates an exemption for a General Journeyman Electrician or a Class A Limited Energy Technician, who is employed by an electrical contractor and acting as the contractor's signing supervisor, to design, plan and lay out the electrical portions of a fire protection system.

V. Appeals - None

VI. Unfinished business - None

VII. New Business

A. Board review and approve Statewide Alternate Method Ruling No. OSSC 08-04 for continued use of adhesive anchors

At the board's last meeting, a Statewide Alternate Method Ruling was approved as to the technical and scientific facts to allow the use of screw anchors. A request was made at that meeting to extend the provision for adhesive anchors. Structural Program Chief Rogers noted that the International Building Code references ACI 318, Appendix D is the appropriate standard for these anchors. The division is asking the board to approve the technical and scientific facts of the proposed alternate method to allow the continued use of adhesive anchors in concrete without current reports, subject to certain considerations, for an interim period.

Keith Bohren, Simpson Strong-tie Company, made himself available to answer any questions the board may have on this issue.

Bob Sinclair, Powers Fasteners, field engineer, submitted a letter in support of the recommendation.

James Bela, president and founder of Oregon Earthquake Awareness, said that the proposal is incomplete. Mr. Bela noted that there is no technical information to support the proposal. He said that the alternate is not equivalent in strength to the existing code requirement. He noted that anchorage is the most important structural part of a structure in earthquake performance. Mr. Bela asked the board to ask for more detailed data before making a motion.

Acting Chairman Brown reminded the board of the two similar anchors previously approved by the board after hearing the engineering requirements and the process of the alternate methods. He added that the division is following the same pattern with the adhesive anchor.

Motion by Terry Dieter to approve the technical and scientific facts of the Statewide Alternate Method Ruling No. OSSC 08-04 for continued use of adhesive anchors.

Motion carried unanimously

B. Board review and make recommendations on mid-cycle code amendment for fire alarms in SR Occupancies

Shane Sumption, fire, life safety/ADA specialist, explained that the proposal is a mid-cycle code amendment to the 2007 Oregon Structural Specialty Code and added that if the board does approve the proposal the code change would become effective October 1, 2008. The proposed amendment is intended to clarify the general fire alarm requirements and the SR occupancies that are designed with controlled means of egress.

There were 2 amendments made by board members to the proposed amendment SR 107.3 Fire Alarm Systems:

- Missing word in the first sentence after automatic and before fire “supervised”
- Delete the last 1 in 903.3.1.1. This would capture all 3 Sections; SR 107.3.1 Smoke Detectors; SR 107.3.1.1 Smoke Detectors in Sleeping Rooms and Living Units; and SR 108.3.2 Controlled Egress Fire Alarm Requirements

Bob Eugene, Underwriters Laboratories Inc., was concerned with the SR 108.3.2 Controlled Egress Fire Alarm Requirements. He suggested keeping the exception to prevent false alarms from occurring. Acting Chairman Brown added that deleting the word “supply” in the Exception for number 3 would cover all registers.

James Bela, president and founder of Oregon Earthquake Awareness, agreed with Bob Eugene’s comments.

Shane Sumption, fire, life safety/ADA specialist, said that the division is fine with the proposed changes.

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, to include the additional amendments by adding “supervised” in the first sentence after the word automatic and by deleting the last 1 in 903.3.1.1 in SR 107.3 Fire Alarm Systems, and adding the exception back in and deleting the word “supply” in number 3.

Motion carried unanimously

C. Board review and approve OSSC minimum base shear equation rule

Structural Program Chief Richard Rogers said the division is concerned that the base shear equation referenced in the 2006 Internal Building Code does not provide adequate seismic safety for taller buildings. The division issued a temporary rule adopting a higher standard in ASCE 7-02 Supplement 2.

The proposed permanent rule would amend the Oregon Structural Specialty Code to reference the new minimum base shear equation in ASCE 7-05 Supplement 2.

Motion by Chris Davis to approve the proposed permanent rule amending OAR 918-460-0015 for rulemaking and subsequent adoption effective October 1, 2008 unless substantially changed 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

VII. Announcements – None

VIII. Adjournment

Acting Chair Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully transcribed and submitted by,

Debi Barnes-Woods
Division Boards Coordinator