

DRAFT
State of Oregon

**Agenda
Item
I.D.**

Mechanical Board

Regular meeting minutes

June 4, 2008

Members present: Terry Hurst, Chairman
Guy Sperb, Vice-chairman
James Culbertson
David Duncan
Bill Hansen
James Klopfenstein
Mike Thrapp
Bradley Wright

Members absent: None

Staff present: Mark Long, administrator
Chris Huntington, policy and technical services interim manager
Mike Ewert, mechanical/ residential code programs
Celina Patterson, policy analyst
Kristy Nielsen, policy analyst
Matthew Barber, policy analyst
Shauna Parker, rules coordinator
Debi Barnes-Woods, division boards coordinator

Guests present: Alan Seymour, Oregon Department of Energy
Bob Jones, RS Jones & Associates
Samantha Hess, RS Jones & Associates

I. Board business

A. Call to order

Chairman Terry Hurst called the Mechanical Board meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held at the Building Codes Division, Conference Room A, 1535 Edgewater Street NW, Salem, Oregon.

B. Roll call

All members were present.

C. Approval of agenda and order of business

Chairman Hurst **RULED** the agenda approved.

D. Approval of the March 5, 2008 regular board meeting minutes

Chairman Hurst **RULED** the minutes of March 5, 2008 approved.

E. Date of the next regularly scheduled meeting

September 10, 2008

II. Public comment - None

III. Reports

A. Building Codes Division's report

Administrator of Building Codes Division Mark Long delivered the division's report using the [BCD Update](#) pamphlet.

Administrator Long reminded the board of the [future meetings](#). He briefly discussed the boiler and pressure vessel code with an anticipated effective date of October 2008.

[Sustainability and Green Building](#): Alternative construction using sustainability is the discussion within industry. Forty-eight percent of energy consumption is spent on buildings. One of the target dates set for reductions is 2030. The division has created a new section called Green Building Services with [Andrea Simmons](#), green building services and legislative affairs manager, and her assistant [Gabrielle Schiffer](#) who are getting this section moving forward. This section is part of the governor's energy efficiency workgroup and other committees developing climate change-related legislation for action by the 2009 Legislature. Administrator Long noted that there are four different workgroups the division is involved in discussing energy efficiency and sustainability. The groups are focusing on new products and the possibility of a "green" code separate from the Existing Building Code.

Administrator Long noted that the division is working in concert with the City of Portland for modification on 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>)

Statewide Alternate Method Rulings: Administrator Long explained the process of alternate methods. He noted that alternates are approved by the division administrator in consultation with the appropriate advisory board. The advisory board's review is limited to the technical and scientific facts of the proposal. Administrator Long noted that this process will be widely used in all program areas.

On-line services: Contract terms for [eBuildingPermits](#) are not complete. The division is focusing on the [Quick Permits](#), which provides limited on-line services. The division is expanding this program to allow access to more types of permits on-line.

Residential sprinklers: Administrator Long noted that the division is currently in the process of annualizing the request from local government to allow a mandate of residential sprinklers in homes on a local basis.

Training and education: The division will be providing Web based training for state inspectors through video-streaming equipment and other technologies. A training platform is expected to be in-place by the first part of 2009.

Building department accreditation: A workgroup was established to evaluate standards of local building department operations. The division is expecting the group to have a list of standards by the end of 2008.

Bonding requirements: Interim Manager of Policy and Technical Services Chris Huntington discussed the bonding requirements for corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST). The division's intent is to publish a Statewide Code Interpretation. Several manufacturers of CSST have issued technical bulletins and installation instructions that require their products to be bonded to the electrical grounding system through the use of a bonding clamp and #6 copper wire in addition to the requirements found in the NEC. The Oregon Electrical Specialty Code requires that the gas piping system be bonded. There has been some inconsistency at the national level on the need for this additional bond. An additional bond requirement for CSST was considered by CMP-5 for inclusion in the National Electrical Code and was rejected. Mr. Huntington noted that a code-making panel of the National Fuel Gas Code has approved an additional CSST bonding requirement for inclusion in the 2009 National Fuel Gas Code. Because of the conflicts between the two code organizations, the division will publish the code interpretation to clarify the conflicts in Oregon.

Bob Jones, RS Jones & Associates, and Samantha Hess, RS Jones & Associates, spoke in opposition of the Statewide Code Interpretation. They said that the interpretation includes all CSST, which is why they are in objection.

Mr. Huntington noted that the interpretation is limited to where the manufacturer instructions require an additional bond, it does not include all CSST.

Vice-chair Guy Sperb was concerned with the separate electrical permit needed for bonding of the corrugated stainless steel tubing in an installation such as a gas fireplace. He said it is an unnecessary cost and process of having an electrical contractor purchase a permit and complete the installation. He suggested that the process be allowed under the minor label program.

B. Program update

This item was discussed under the Building Codes Division update.

IV. Communications

New ventilation requirements for kitchens and bathrooms

Mike Ewert, mechanical/ residential code programs, explained that at the March 5 board meeting, the Chairman recommended to the division to put the changes of the new code relating to kitchen and bath ventilation/exhaust on the homeowners

Web site: (<https://buildingpermits.oregon.gov/>). The division has posted the requirement [online](#).

V. Appeals – None

VI. Unfinished business

Board review mid-cycle amendment proposals to the 2007 Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code

Mr. Ewert explained the division recently adopted the 2006 International Mechanical Code and the 2006 International Fuel-Gas Code with amendments as the 2007 Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code. He noted that under [OAR 918-008-0028](#), the division, with the appropriate advisory board, may propose and adopt supplemental code amendments as circumstances merit. Two proposals were received, 1) concerning testing of grease ducts, and 2) concerning hazardous exhaust duct system motors and fans.

David Duncan recommended amending the proposed code language for grease duct testing in the first sentence of 506.3.3.1 by changing the “shall” to “may.” He noted that the change in the language would allow the inspector to make the decision of whether testing was required.

Vice-chairman Guy Sperb noted that he has been involved in the code change process at the National level and this code proposal is a low-cost way of testing leaks in grease ducts.

Motion by Mike Thapp to recommend approval of the mid-cycle code change proposal 506.3.3 as written 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.

Roll call vote was taken:

Aye: Thrapp, Sperb

Nay: Culbertson, Duncan, Hansen, Klopfenstein, Wright, Hurst

Motion failed

Motion by David Duncan to recommend approval of the mid-cycle code change proposal 506.3.3 with the modification of changing all the “shall” that is listed to “may” 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.

Roll call vote taken:

Yea: Culbertson, Duncan, Hansen, Klopfenstein, Thrapp, Wright, Sperb, Hurst

Nay: None

Motion carried unanimously

Motion by Vice-chairman Sperb to deny the mid-cycle code change proposal that would amend the 2007 Oregon Mechanical Specialty Code Section 510.3
Motion carried unanimously

Motion by Vice-chairman Sperb to recommend approval of the mid-cycle code change proposal submitted by the division as alternative code language to Section 510 with the added language to 510.5.8 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

VII. New business – None

VIII. Announcements - None

IX. Adjournment

Chairman Hurst adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Debi Barnes-Woods
Division Boards Coordinator