

State of Oregon  
Final

Agenda  
Item  
I.D.2

**Residential Structures Board**

**Teleconferenced board meeting minutes**

**February 7, 2008**

**Members present:** David DeHarpport, Vice-chair  
Darryl Bishop - teleconference  
Scott Caufield - teleconference  
Phil Damiano - teleconference  
Kathryn Gray  
Douglas Lethin

**Members absent:** Ray Miller, Chairman  
Mike Goodrich

**Staff present:** Mark Long, administrator  
Twyla Knowles, policy and technical services assistant manager  
David Galati, regional services manager  
Chris Huntington, policy analyst  
Richard Rogers, structural program chief  
Terry Swisher, plumbing chief  
Mike Ewert, code specialist  
Celina Patterson, policy analyst  
Kaylan McAllaster, boards coordinator  
Debi Barnes-Woods, boards coordinator

**Guests present:** Eric McMullen, Oregon Fire Marshal's Association  
Alan Seymour, Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE)

**I. Board business**

**A. Call to order**

Vice-chairman David DeHarpport called the Residential Structures Board meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Building Codes Division, Conference Room A, 1535 Edgewater Street NW, Salem, Oregon.

**B. Roll call**

Chairman Ray Miller and Mike Goodrich were absent, excused.

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

Vice-chairman DeHarpport **RULED** the agenda and order of business approved.

**D. Date of the next meetings**

April 2, 2008

## **II. Unfinished business**

Administrator Long provided background to the board regarding the five changes that went forth in the Plumbing Code through the Plumbing Board and Residential Structures Board that the division is asking to be reconsidered.

**Item 1** - Plumbing board approved waterless urinals with the exception that installers must install the water piping to the urinal in case the urinal is converted in the future. The concern is that this will be an unnecessary cost to the building owner

The second concern with the waterless urinals is that the Plumbing board also added maintenance requirements. The division regulates new construction; it does not go into existing buildings to check for maintenance standards.

Lastly, if the board agrees to allow the waterless urinals, the language related to flushing devices needs to be clarified.

**Item 2** - The division determined that the appropriate authority for determining frequency of backflow testing was the "authority having jurisdiction" as defined in the code. The plumbing code is primarily enforced by a plumbing inspector and introducing the local water purveyor adds unnecessary confusion and fails to improve the code, as amendments should.

**Item 3** - The language that was added to and removed from this section could not be justified by any evidence that the code language, in place since 2005, has been inadequate to protect health and safety. Installations have been made under the existing standard and no failures have been reported.

**Item 4** - The product standards in ASSE Series 5000 and NFPA 13D are not standards created for plumbing products and are therefore inappropriate for the plumbing code. NSF 14 is a plumbing product standard, many plumbing products are listed and installed in Oregon meeting this standard and it should be retained.

**Item 5**- Concerns backflow annual testing versus initial testing and certification requirements for installers. The industry is concerned because the code has included maintenance and on-going testing. The division has no oversight once the installation has been completed.

Scott Caufield asked if it was the intention to keep the water piping in place to save time and money in the future if the waterless urinals were ever to be replaced.

Administrator Long confirmed that was possibly the intention, there are many individuals who still believe the waterless urinals will fail; however to install unused piping is not cost effective.

Caufield asked for clarification; even if it is removed from code, is it still possible for the water piping to be installed at the time of construction.

Administrator Long, confirmed that if it is not in the code the building owner and the designer can work that out through their contractor if they choose to install water piping.

**Terry Swisher**, plumbing chief, distributed [handouts](#)

**A. Division recommendations for the plumbing provisions of the 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code**

**Motion by Kathryn Gray to concur** with the division's four recommended changes to the plumbing provisions of the proposed 2008 Oregon Low-rise Residential Dwelling Code as contained in the Agenda Item II.A, board memo, 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**, with the exception of Darryl Bishop, who abstained from voting, due to being unable to hear all discussion about the issues through the teleconference.

**B. Board review and concur with division's recommendations to remove scope of practice requirements from the plumbing provisions of the proposed 2008 Oregon Residential Specialty Code**

**Motion by Kathryn Gray to Concur** with the division's recommended change to the plumbing provisions of the proposed 2008 Oregon Low-rise Residential Dwelling Code as contained in the Agenda Item II.B, board memo, 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**, with the exception of Darryl Bishop, who abstained from voting, due to being unable to hear all discussion about the issues through the teleconference.

### **III. Announcements**

Administrator Long let the board members know the division has restarted the Board Chair/Vice Chair (BC/VC) meetings. At the BC/VC meeting the Board Responsibilities [Matrix](#) – General Overview and SB 10 was distributed.

The matrix gives the board members an overview of the respective responsibilities of the division and the boards.

[Senate Bill 10](#) is effective on January 1, 2008. This is important to board members because the scope of “public officials” includes board members, not just elected officials. There are new limits on how much a public official can receive in gifts.

Scott Caufield asked who is the appointing authority, which was a question raised at the BC/VC meeting.

Administrator Long related that, the Oregon Ethics Commission has not responded to that question yet. If you have questions, you can contact the Building Codes Division or the Ethics Commission. The division is compiling a list of questions to give to the Ethics Committee to develop a FAQ sheet. As the division receives more information, they will pass it on to the boards.

Doug Lethin asked if it was too late to change the air admittance valves (AAVs) limit from three to five.

Administrator Long confirmed the alternate method ruling has already been passed and it is too late to be changed. However, you can petition to do another alternate method ruling. In addition, any board member can submit a request to include it into the next code adoption.

### **IV. Adjournment**

Vice-chairman David DeHarpport adjourned the board meeting at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kaylan McAllaster  
Division Boards Coordinator