

**VBCOA Board Meeting
June 7, 2019
Glen Allen, Virginia**

President Pete Mensinger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Sergeant at Arms Mike Eutsey lead the pledge of allegiance.

A roll call of voting members present was conducted by Executive Director Sandra Harrington

Roll call

Pete Mensinger, President
Matt Westheimer, 2nd Vice President
Mike Eutsey, Sergeant at Arms
Terry Atwell, Region I
John Broughton, Region II
Ron Schuett, Region III
Bob Orr, Region IV
Jason Laws, Region VI
Paul Messplay, Region VII
Mike Williams, Awards and Resolutions
Richard Moore, Education
Ellen Eggerton, Energy Conservation
Florin Moldovan, Building Code
Jason Laws, Residential Code
Ron Clements, Legislative
Julie Chevalier Walton, Leg.
Michelle Coward, Membership
Paula Fristoe, Permit Technicians
Earl Weaver, Prop. Maintenance
Tom Coghill, Public Information

Ad hoc Ex Officio and others

David Beahm, MFCC/VCEC
Kris Bridges, ICC
Sean Farrell, Regulatory Compliance
Sandy Harrington, Executive Director
Thomas King, DHCD
Richard Potts, DHCD
Eri Rice-Johnston, BCAAC
Gregory Revels, Henrico County
George Sandridge, VML Intern
Rick Witt, Fire Code, TRB, VPMIA
Morgan Yates, Roanoke County

President Mensinger referred to the agenda provided in the Board packet. Rick Witt asked that the School Safety Committee Report be added as an agenda item.

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2019 Board of Directors meeting, included as part of the Board package, by David Beahm and seconded by Mike Williams, the motion was unanimously approved.

Presidents Report

President Mensinger distributed the Presidents report and provided a verbal report from the distributed report.

Region Chairs

First Vice President James Moss reported that the Region Chairs met prior to the Board meeting and will be looking at creating a travel policy, a policy related to appropriate use of scholarship funds, and the possibly changes to the language defining the retiree membership category. Additionally, the Region Chairs agreed to recommend to the Board supporting the Governors Housing Conference as a Bronze Sponsor. Mr. Moss also provided an update on the coins sales, over \$13,224 in sales, leaving \$7,728.38 available for donation to the charities (*after deducting the cost to purchase the coins*).

Region Chairs

Region 1-Terry Atwell submitted a report

Region 2-John Broughton submitted a report

Region 3-Ron Schuett submitted a report

Region 4-Bob Orr submitted a report

Region 5-Debra McMahon submitted a report (not present)

Region 6-Jason Laws submitted a report. Laws said they conducted code update training for 25 people and will be presenting VBCOA with a check

Region 7- Paul Messplay submitted a report, Mike Eutsey provided a verbal report based on the submitted report.

Region 8- Kimberly Wingate-Harrell submitted a report and Matt Westheimer provided a verbal report.

Pete Mensinger said he wanted to applaud the Region Chairs for their work, particularly documenting all the activities going on at the Regional Level and getting the VBCOA exposure out in the community, continued demonstration of how important these their activities are.

Time & Place

Matt Westheimer submitted a report

Past Presidents and Nominations

Immediate Past President Gregg Fields provided a report from the Nominations Committee (not present).

Old Business

Building Safety Month

President Mensinger congratulated the Board on a fantastic job and reported on the many activities around the state. He stated they should be getting information on the DHCD contest winners by mid-July and thanked the Region Chairs for supporting DHCD in the BSM Essay contest, by donating \$1000 towards that event.

Accessibility Certification

President Mensinger stated he will be working with DHCD to see what a training module will look like in the future and forward to the BCAAC. Florin Moldovan asked if this will be a mandatory certification. Mensinger indicated that as part of DHCD matrix, this certification is intended to be voluntary. Eric Rice-Johnston stated the BCAAC endorsed the proposal at their March meeting, also looking at other states to see what they have as part of the process, with a long term plan to gradually have certification on a voluntary basis and then become part of elements (long term) incorporated in code change training.

Rick Witt said he would hesitate with the certification process, this has come up before, and not make it mandatory or tie it to other training. David Beahm indicated agreement with Rick Witt's comments.

New Business

ICC Board of Directors Request for Support

President Mensinger indicated VBCOA has received several requests from ICC Candidates over the past few months for support. As in the past, VBCOA will not offer any endorsement until further discussion at future meetings with the Board. David Beahm asked which meeting and if Mensinger had reached out to prior presidents for their guidance on this. Rick Witt thought that the September meeting should be sufficient time for the Board to review candidate endorsements and make a decision.

Annual Conference Virginia Beach

Matt Westheimer provided an update on the planned training for the annual conference

ICC Annual Business Meeting and Code Hearings

President Mensinger indicated the ICC Annual meeting registration is open and that the Awards and Resolutions Committee would be getting something out soon regarding scholarships.

High School Technical Training Program (HSTTP) Change in ICC Leadership

President Mensinger indicated that Jim Ellwood had resigned from his position with the ICC and that Mensinger has reached out to ICC requesting a smooth transition during this process

Virginia Governors Housing Conference

President Mensinger indicated the VBCOA would again be a Bronze sponsor for the GHC and that Tom Coghill and Michelle Coward will attend on behalf of VBCOA. Sandy Harrington will sign VBCOA up as a Bronze Sponsor after July 1.

School Security Committee

Rick Witt indicated that the School Security Committee was convened to discuss security devices in schools. Comprised of Public Safety entities and other stakeholders. VBCOA perspective – looking at what needs to be put in the code to allow for appropriate locking devices to be used and what are the perimeters. Trying to come up with a code change to submit to the Board of Housing. Witt said he is open to some kind of device on the doors. Sean Farrell asked if the draft has been provided to committee members (Witt said yes). Tom Coghill asked if the hardware industry is represented (Witt said yes). There was discussion about the door locking devices versus allowing teachers to use whatever they need to barricade the doors (such as file cabinets, desks, etc.) he indicated there are so many different situations with schools designed differently, its problematic. Witt said the committee is not yet in agreement on anything; law enforcement and code officials are aligned, fire officials have reservations and concerns.

Witt discussed proposed fire code changes, he talked about the process in trying to get consensus on Fire Services proposed code changes and to thank Andrew Milliken, for reaching out and gathering input. David Beahm asked if they were feeling good about the process? Sean Farrell stated that it is imperative that VBCOA have their voice heard. He stated the Board of housing did their job taking the construction language out, however, now we are in a situation where some entities are trying to have things brought back in. Sean stated VBCOA has to be at the table when these things are being developed and the more building and code officials we can get into the room the better. Witt said currently working on certain chapters. The sub-workgroup method, he feels, is really effective.

July 22 is a public hearing for the Board of Housing which will provide an opportunity to speak about issues we want to bring to their attention. Farrell said we need to be sharing this information with everyone.

President Mensinger reported that Brian McGraw has resigned his position to go to Florida.

Committees and Other Reports

Ad hoc Administrative

Gregg Fields submitted a report (not present). President Mensinger read from the submitted report.

Ad hoc High School Technical Training Program

No report submitted, not present.

Ad hoc Fire Code

Rick Witt reported the fire code committee has been recently active reviewing proposed changes to the Virginia Fire Prevention Code developed by the Fire services Board code Committee. He also indicated he and 1st Vice President Moss attended and participated in the first DHCD workgroup meeting addressing the changes, discussing approximately 70 changes and more meetings will be held in the future to discuss hundreds more.

Ad hoc Military Families Career

David Beahm stated he had nothing to report

Ad hoc VCEC

David Beahm stated he had nothing to report

Awards and Resolutions

Patrick Hughes and Mike Williams submitted a report. There was a question about the language that was used in the scholarship award notification letter and there was also discussion about the application form, and if a supervisor and/or the Building Official signature should be required

James Moss stated that members should have a level of professionalism and shouldn't need to be so specific about everything. Michelle Coward indicated that she has had to take leave to attend VBCOA events in which her agency did not financially or otherwise endorse. Ellen Eggerton stated that she often must rely on scholarships due to events not supported by the Department where she works. John Broughton indicated this came up in the Region Chairs meeting, we should not micromanage, the Scholarships are invaluable, a supervisor may or may not support your attendance. Broughton stated we need to let people be people. Moldovan stated ICC does not require a Supervisor signature and he doesn't think the Building Official or Supervisor signature should be required. Sean Farrell stated he felt the supervisor validation is useful.

Mike Williams talked about the challenges of this from the A&R perspective. Historical perspective has been an honor system. The discussion ended with an agreement to defer this to James Moss and the Region chairs to consider if there is a need for a training and travel policy for VBCOA.

Education

Richard Moore submitted a report. There was discussion about code update training. President Mensinger thanked Moore for stepping in and said he was doing a great job.

Energy Conservation

Ellen Eggerton did not submit a report. She stated that she attended the ICC Code hearings in the Spring and the committee is preparing a list of code changes for VBCOA Board to review prior to the Fall ICC voting. She indicated she is also working with the Existing Building Code Committee on proposed code changes. She indicated people from industry are looking for training on the energy codes (contractors) and will be following up with the Education committee to see if we can host a training for contractors.

David Beahm said the Energy Workgroup was held this past week and asked by the **2018 Virginia Code Development Cycle Work Group** to table until proposed changes, if you have a stake in the Energy CCDPVA, the next work group is in August. Rick Witt stated the Energy consultant is trying to adopt the energy code without amendments. Witt said trying to get some kind of sticker on the COO. Eggerton stated the stickers have been successfully deployed in the rest of the country since 2009. There are people who don't like it and there is some resistance. She supports it because it helps homeowners understand what is in their existing buildings. The committee, workgroup working on this. Richard Grace did submit a proposal to the work group, saying it was administrative and didn't belong in the code. Witt said NC is backing out now.

International Building Code

Florin Moldovan submitted a report

International Residential Code

Jason Laws submitted a report

Legislation

Ron Clements final report on the web page.

Membership

Michelle Coward submitted a report

Permit Technicians

Debra McMahon submitted a report, Paula Fristoe provided a verbal report

Plumbing/Mechanical Code

Richard Grace (not present) submitted a report

Property Maintenance

Earl Weaver submitted a report. President Mensinger asked what kind of support they need for printing the quick reference guides. It was discussed that Jada Black should put the guide on the webpage and also distribute for comments. Moldovan asked if the electronic version is available why can't jurisdictions print their own and distribute? Weaver to send to Tom Coghill who will work with Jada Black to make it available on the website and send out a message to all the Building Officials. Richard Moore also said it would be good information to provide to the NRS for the class, additionally, DHCH may want to put with the Code Academy.

Public Information

Tom Coghill announced ICC will be awarding the 2019 Merit Chapter of the Year Award in Las Vegas to VBCOA. Kris Bridges stated that at some point there was an agreement that VBCOA would limit when a Chapter of the Year application was filed and that we should be reaching out and assisting our other organizations. He stated he feels we should be reaching out to our partners: VFPA, Virginia WICED, and other organizations and assisting them, instead of competing against them. David Beahm stated during his presidency he reached out to VPMIA, who indicated they were taking care of it themselves, but agreed we need to reach out to other organizations to promote them as well.

There was a motion to limit the VBCOA Chapter of the Year submission to every 5 years, and in the off years assist the other 3 state chapters WICED, VPMIA and VFPA. Motion failed (16N/3Y). David Beahm provided an amended motion, seconded by James Moss, to insert, "if no other organization submits" and to ensure we solicit and assist the other organizations. This motion was unanimously approved.

Rehabilitation Code Committee

Allison Cook (not present) submitted a report. Allison also wanted to ensure the Board was aware of the proposed by-laws change which was forwarded to the Executive Director, to change the name of the Rehabilitation Code Committee to the Existing Building Code Committee,

which will be distributed to the general membership and voted on at the general membership meeting in September 23, 2019.

Web Master

Jada Black (not present, no report submitted)

BCAAC

Eric Rice-Johnston submitted a report. There were some questions related to the requirement that each jurisdiction have at least one staff person who holds an Energy Certification (Eric to check on this) and clarification about the certification listed in Eric's report (Erik to follow up with DHCD). VBCOA opted not to support any of the items presented in the BCAAC report.

Ron Clements asked about the Accessibility training and certification. Eric said the BCAAC wants to put together a work group with DHCD and create a training module

Director of Regulatory Compliance

Sean Farrell submitted a report

DPOR

Mike Redifer submitted a report (not present)

TRB

Rick Witt reported the Technical Review Board (TRB) has met once since his last report. He indicated they heard a property maintenance code appeal involving a hoarding case. Most important take away is the TRB has issued a code interpretation concerning the permitting requirements (or lack thereof) for the installation of solar farms.

The next TRB meeting is scheduled July 19, 2019

ICC Region 7

James Moss submitted a report

ICC

Cindy Davis submitted a report and Kris Bridges pointed out some highlites. He stated he hoped someone from Virginia is applying for the First ICC Emory Rodgers Scholarship- June 30 is the deadline. He stated there is a deadline for the PDC, Virginia has always had someone on there (made up of training and certification committees) and finally that the ICC conference registration is open

DHCD

Cindy Davis submitted a report. Richard Potts introduced Thomas King who will be working with Richard and code development. Charlotte Carter retired, just held interviews for another person to help with training side. Webpage has improvements – provided overview of the report

David Beahm asked Richard Potts to over the Code Change process. He indicated they are having meetings in workgroups and will send them to the Board for consideration. Base document has already been prepared (2018 and then any changes that need to be incorporated)

Moldovan asked for the deadline to submit code change proposals, Potts said a week and a day before the last work group meeting, which is in August 21 less 8 days.

Fire Marshal

Not present

VPMIA

Rick Witt reported that VPMIA will be holding their summer membership meeting at Graves Mountain Lodge on July 26, 2019. Good food and education will be provided.

WICED

Michelle Coward reported WICED leadership did participate with the BSM proclamation with Governor and the next meeting will be in August.

Matt Westheimer said they had been contacted from *Habitat for Humanity* Building in Hampton Roads sometime in August, walls will be pre-framed and installed and have asked if VBCOA will participate. Everyone agreed this was a great opportunity, more information will be shared when available.

Bob Orr said that Wes Smith is sick and if anyone can help out with their jurisdiction to please reach out. The mutual aid legislation that Past President Beahm was able to get passed was designed for things like this.

President Mensinger adjourned the meeting 1:48 pm