

**VBCOA Board Meeting
January 31, 2020
Lynchburg, Virginia**

President James Moss called the meeting to order at 9:23 a.m.

Mike Eutsey lead the pledge of allegiance.

President Moss talked about the first VBCOA President Hough came from Lynchburg in 1929.

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

Roll call

James Moss, President
Matt Westheimer, 1st Vice President
Mike Eutsey, 2nd Vice President
Pete Mensinger, Immediate Past President
Terry Atwell, Region I
Morgan Yates, Region II
David Beahm, Region III
Bob Orr, Region IV
Kyle Kratzer, Region V
Jason Laws, Region VI
Richard Gordon, Region VII
Mike Williams, Awards and Resolutions
Rick Statzer, Energy
Corian Carney, Energy
Florin Moldovan, Building Code
Richard Moore, Residential Code
Ron Clements, Legislative
Julie Chevalier Walton, Legislative
Michelle Coward, Membership
Deb McMahan, Permit Techs
Richard Grace, PMG
Earl Weaver, Prop. Maintenance
Tom Coghill, Public Information
Allison Cook, Existing Build
Sandy Harrington, Exec Director

Ad hoc Ex Officio and others

Lisa Berger, ICC
Jada Black, Webmaster
Kris Bridges, ICC
Jeff Brown, DHCD
Sean Farrell, DRC
Ernie Little, VFPA
Lynn Underwood, York County
Rick Witt, Fire Code, TRB, VPMIA

President Moss made an addition to the agenda, adding a discussion of supporting the DHCD request to partner with them in support of the Building Safety Month Essay contest.

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2019 Board of Directors meeting by Tom Coghill and seconded by Terry Atwell the motion was unanimously approved.

President Moss asked for new board members to introduce themselves.

Presidents Report

President Moss submitted a written report.

Region Chairs

First Vice President Matt Westheimer reported that the Region Chairs met January 30, 2020 and will have a budget meeting in prior to the March board meeting in order to have a the FY21 budget to present to the Board.

Region Chairs

Region 1-Terry Atwell submitted a written report and provided a check to for code update training

Region 2-Morgan Yates submitted a written report

Region 3-David Beahm provided a written report as a supplement to the Board packet

Region 4-Bob Orr submitted a written report

Region 5-Kyle Kratzer provided a verbal report

Region 6-Jason Laws submitted a written report has a check for \$975

Region 7-Richard Gordon submitted a written report and as an addition to the report indicated they had a meeting January 15, 2020; discussed the legislative report as well as BSM plans and training plans for the coming year.

Region 8- Kimberly Wingate-Harrell submitted a written report

Time & Place

Mike Eutsey and John Broughton submitted a written report- Mike discussed the Mid-Year meeting highlighting the Veridiant training and the Tour of the Historic Shakespeare Theatre.

Past Presidents

Immediate Past President Pete Mensinger submitted a written report-main top of discussion is job duties for the past presidents.

Old Business

Sister Chapter Program

Lynn Underwood provided an updated on the Sister Chapter Program. He discussed several options: Australian Institute of Building Surveyors (Geoff Mitchell), Building Official Association of British Columbia (Manjit Sohi), Building Officials Institute of New Zealand (Kerry Walsh), CASEDI Quality and Sustainability in Building Construction-Mexico (Eleazar Acuna), Cayman Islands Code Association (Michael Pratt).

Pete Mensinger made a motion, seconded by Matt Westheimer to go with the Cayman Islands Code Association, the Building Officials of New Zealand, or Australian Institute of Building

Surveyors (in that order). The motion was unanimously approved.

Virginia Governor's Conference

Michelle Coward stated the VBCOA exhibit has over 500 visitors. They were able to talk to housing professionals about the connection of codes across the state and localities to keep safe structures. Many visitors committed to becoming members, collected about 100 business cards and will be following up with those contacts.

Tom Coghill indicated it was good exposure for the association, get to put the word out to a lot of folks who we wouldn't normally cross paths with. They were able to sit next to VPMIA DHCD and ICC

Energy Training

President Moss indicated he wrote a letter on behalf of the VBCOA supporting the DHCD partnership with Veridiant in December. Sean Farrell stated that Board of Housing, the letter was very well received, there are some energy specialists on the Board of Housing. This training is required for many professionals. Mike Eutsey indicated this training will be at the spring conference. Sean Farrell stated the training will be offered around the state, additionally, DHCD will have the training online, once online individuals will have 6 months to complete the course. Ron Clements asked when will official notice be sent so Building Officials can get their staff. Jeff Brown stated that in December the Board decided it was mandatory for certain certificate holders. Rick Witt asked for clarification and if this will count towards CEUs. Jeff Brown indicated he had to check.

New Business

President Moss stated that ICC has revealed Building Safety Month themes and tool kit and asked that the board support the \$1,500 request from DHCD to partner in the BSM Essay contest. Motion by Richard Gordon, seconded by Tom Coghill, unanimously approved.

Status of Ad hoc Committees

President Moss asked for input on the status of continuing ad hoc committees.

MFCC- David Beahm indicated continued challenges and he doesn't ICC is really pursuing this; he stated the program is not dead but still trying to get in the door. Pete Mensinger suggested if we are to continue with the committee, we need to devote some resources from the Regions and come up with a game plan about how we are going to do this in Virginia. Kris Bridges stated this program started about 5 years ago and has been discouraging. One alternative would be to go to all localities and ask for their Veteran hiring preference policies, utilize the web site to do hyperlinks to military links. Morgan Yates asked about going to the family support centers or reserve places- David Beahm indicated he has pursued both and they do not want to partner unless there are actual jobs to offer.

HSTTP-Kyle Kratzer has some ideas he would like some input on. He stated he does not feel the program is supported at the Region level. Kyle stated we are neglecting a huge part of the HSTTP, talking to schools but then doing nothing to keep the schools involved once they sign up. He indicated since Jim Ellwood left ICC, it has fallen on the regions to develop local relationships and this is not happening. He would like to build up a fund to provide more scholarships, attend awards ceremonies, recognize the students more. Sean Farrell stressed the need for the Regions to

have active representation. Kyle indicated one problem also is that all the schools are unique in their needs.

Other Ad Hoc Committees – Administrative, Fire Code, VCEC – President Moss asked for a consensus vote that the ad hoc committees continue. Unanimously agreed.

New Business

Kris Bridges stated the NAHB is filling challenges to the online voting for the ICC Code Development process. Bridges wants to task VBCOA to go thru all the cost savings items built into the codes and ask the local builders which ones they are using (how you navigate constructing town houses and saving money) a lot will come down to builder education. Basically, suggested this as a task for VBCOA to consider because the codes are getting more complicated: help identify for builders, and help educate the builders which would show how they can make new home construction more affordable. There was no action on this item.

Website

Discussed having training for Region Chairs how to update their pages. Kratzer suggested we have a uniform process for standardizing how the RC present content. Sean Farrell states this should be for all committee chairs, not just the Region Chairs.

There was discussion about archiving dated materials and cleaning up the website and ways to use the website to deliver training we might be able to charge for, as well as, web advertising. Jada Black will provide training at the Mid-Year meeting for committee chairs.

Committees and Other Reports

Ad hoc Administrative

Sean Farrell stated there are 7 code change proposals, he is waiting on committee assignments from the Region Chairs and will hold a conference call once those assignments are made, but before the DHCD work session in April. He also provided the DRC report and stated that the Governor had recently congratulated Rick Witt on his long tenure service the industry and the board recognized Ricks contributions.

Sean Farrell is requesting the VBCOA board take a vote regarding the VBCOA Board position on carryover VRS arc fault protection proposals (requiring AFCI protection in all residential rooms and requiring arc-fault protection with GFCI exception) coming to the work group on April 15, 2020 and Farrell indicated VBCOA needs to have a position for that meeting. Farrell also indicated should a decision not to support and implement this increased safety protection be made by VBCOA BODs, the BOD provide sufficient justification arguments to the DRC so that he may properly relay the BOD's rationale. Sean stated June 26 is when the Board of Housing will take up all actions (both consensus and non-consensus items).

Richard Moore said the IRC will be looking at this issue if anyone is interested. Florin Moldovan stated that VBCOA historically has tried to support the positions of other organizations such as if IEAI has already vetted this issue, why would VBCOA still be questioning it. Farrell stated it is critical in his role to partner with other stakeholders and everyone needs to come together to achieve consensus, but this is currently a non-consensus item. Mike Eutsey asked if there were

still 2 proposals and if there is a preference one way or another to which code change. Further discussion was tabled until the March Board meeting at which time Farrell indicated he would like the VBCOA to provide a position.

Ad hoc High School Technical Training Program

Kyle Kratzer working on a strategic plan for the HSTTP and will provide at the next meeting

Ad hoc Fire Code

Rick Witt submitted a written report

Ad hoc Military Families Career

David Beahm submitted a written report

Ad hoc VCEC

David Beahm stated they are going to start talking about several venues, thinking about pulling together an East Coast EDU CODE type thing. Feb 14, 2020 next meeting to discuss the future of the VCEC.

Awards and Resolutions

Patrick Hughes and Mike Williams submitted a written report

Education

No report submitted and no one was present

Energy Conservation

Rick Statzer submitted a report

International Building Code

Florin Moldovan submitted a report

International Residential Code

Richard Moore submitted a report. Congratulated Jason Laws on his promotion to Assistant Director in Chesterfield County.

Legislation

No report was submitted, on one was present

Membership

Michelle Coward submitted a report, still updating membership with reminders

Permit Technicians

Debra McMahan submitted a report

Plumbing/Mechanical Code

Richard Grace submitted a report

Property Maintenance

Earl Weaver submitted a report and announced the next meeting March 20, Charlottesville

Public Information

Tom Coghill indicated he would be submitting the ICC Awards application.

Existing Building Code Committee

Allison Cook provided a verbal report. The Existing Building Code Committee is working with the Energy Code Committee to come together on code change proposals with the goal to move the existing building code provisions out of the Energy Code and into the Existing Building Code. She thanked Rick Statzer, Ron Clements and Kenney Payne for their work on this effort. There will be an Existing Building Code Committee meeting to review these proposals prior to the March 30 DHCD work group meeting.

Aside from the efforts in Virginia, the Existing Building Code Committee had significant success with the ICC 2021 code change proposals. Of the eleven proposals submitted, six were approved as submitted or with public comment modification. Of the five that were disapproved, we have support from several different jurisdictions to work on two proposals for the next code cycle: the reformatting and the definition of work area.

Web Master

Jada Black submitted a written report and stressed the importance of everyone updating content. There was a lengthy discussion about cleaning up the website, who has access, who has rights. Sean Farrell suggested the webmaster establish protocol for website content.

BCAAC

President Moss provided a verbal report on behalf of Eric Rice-Johnston indicating that the BCAAC has called for a special meeting to be held February 10, 2020. President Moss indicated a letter of support has been provided supporting the mandatory energy code training. Mr. Rice-Johnston has communicated to President Moss the need to resign his position due to personal reasons. There was discussion about the process to fill vacant positions and a reminder that DHCD must approve the recommended BCAAC seat.

Nominations

Pete Mensinger stated there are three positions coming available: DRC, he will strongly recommend Sean Farrell continuing; the ADTAC vacancy and the BCAAC position. There was discussion regarding the process, which is defined in the VBCOA by-laws, for nominations and appointing vacant positions until a term is up.

DPOR

No report no one present

TRB

Rick Witt discussed a few cases that have been before the TRB

ICC Region 7

President Moss submitted a written report. He indicated ICC is creating a Code Development

Committee and if interested to contact him. Upcoming meetings will be during the New Jersey Building Safety Event in New Jersey and August 27/28 Ramada Inn, Hagerstown.

ICC

Kris Bridges stated ICC will host a Building Safety Event in New Jersey to make up for no code changes. Having Region meetings. Chapter reports are due by March 15. March 15 deadline for Emory Rodgers Scholarship application. No one from Virginia applied last year \$20,000 and encouraged Board members to apply, indicating the scholarship will go a very long way and completely cover the Harvard Executive Leadership Program. Chapter Leadership Academy in Denver June 9 and 10. President can go if already registered to go to the conference. ICC had a meeting in the Caribbean. Met with the Cross Q public private partnership developing codes because they have had so many emergencies. One of the speakers was from the World Bank, he was very complimentary of the ICC and Code Development process.

Lisa Berger talked about Building Safety Month, Grants and other ICC updates

DHCD

Jeff Brown submitted a written report. Thanked VBCOA for partnering on the BSM Essay Contest. Excited about the new office in VHDA Southwest Housing Center, Brian Hilderbrand joined end of December. Just hired Paul Messplay, Manufactured Housing Construction and Code Development. Skip Harper is retiring in the end of March and the position has been advertised. As soon as the General Assembly is over (around March 8) will re-convene workgroups and sub-work groups to consider all changes- April 15 workgroup and May 12, last meeting for the cycle; fire code work group will meet at least 2 more times to finish their work.

Fire Marshal

No one present

VFPA

Ernie Little announced the VFPA Annual Conference will be May 18-20. They have been busy with legislation such as barricade devices and have been the lead regarding Binary Devices-Virginia Stakeholders group. Monday and Tuesday will be in Winchester for team building, strategic planning and conference planning.

VPMIA

Rick Witt Annual school and conference is in Virginia Beach in April at the Holiday Inn. Next Board meeting September 27, 2020

WICED

Michelle Coward reported WICED was able to send 4 members to the ICC on scholarships. They offered ICC certified training to members for free and invited other groups to participate, they had 25 attendees. Next meeting Feb 28, 2020 in Williamsburg, at that time will also be electing new officers. Sean Farrell said Feb 14 is the due date for nominations

President Moss adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.