

**VBCOA Board Meeting
January 15, 2021
Electronic Meeting**

President James Moss called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

John Broughton led the pledge of allegiance.

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
John Broughton, Sergeant at arms
Terry Atwell, Region I
Morgan Yates, Region II
M. Williams, Region III
Gary Fisher, Region IV
Jason Laws, Region VI
Richard Gordon, Region VII
Kimberly Wingate-Harrell,
Region VIII
Patrick Hughes, Awards and Resolutions
Rick Statzer, Energy
Dan Willham, IBC
Ron Clements, Legislative
Michelle Coward, Membership
Richard Grace, PMG
Earl Weaver, PM Committee
Tom Coghill, PIO
Allison Cook, Existing Building
Sandy Harrington, Exec Director

Ad hoc Ex Officio and others

Lisa Berger, ICC
Kris Bridges, ICC
Jeff Brown, DHCD
Cindy Davis, ICC
Gregg Fields, Admin, VCEC
Sean Farrell, Admin, DRC
Ernie Little, VFPA
Sandi Morris, DHCD
Julie Walton, Legislative
Rick Witt, Fire Code, TRB, VPMIA
Skip Harper, Retired member

President Moss asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

There as a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2020 Board meeting provided as part of the Board packet by Alison Cook, seconded by Mike Williams. The motion was unanimously approved.

Presidents Report

President Moss stated that since the October Board meeting, a lot of VBCOA activity has continued to occur despite the need to continue to not meet in person. There was a Membership Meeting held virtually December 15, 2020 which was very well attended. President Moss indicated he has asked the Region Chairs to work on updating the Strategic Plan in the coming year and to make sure that Region Chairs have appointed committee members for the each of the Committees at the Region level that need to be represented. President Moss also reminded the Region Chairs, if there is no Committee Chair appointed for a specific Committee in their Region, the Region Chair serves as the Chair for that Committee.

Region Chairs

First Vice President Matt Westheimer invited the Region Chairs to share their activities.

Region Chairs

Region 1-Terry Atwell no report

Region 2-Morgan Yates submitted a written report

Region 3-Mike Williams indicated he was present for Region 3

Region 4-Gary Fisher no report

Region 5-not present

Region 6-Jason Laws no report

Region 7-Richard Gordon no report

Region 8- Kimberly Wingate-Harrell submitted a written report

Time & Place

Mike Eutsey and John Broughton indicated there was no change from their last report.

Past Presidents

Immediate Past President Pete Mensinger not present, submitted a written report.

Past President Gregg Fields indicated Past President Mensinger has reached out to Past Presidents and they stand on the submitted report.

Nominations

Immediate Past President Pete Mensinger was not present, submitted a report

Association Business

Mid-Year Conference

A demonstration of the Virtual Exhibit Hall and the Virtual EventMobi APP was shown to the board. Michelle Coward has been working with the Virtual Exhibitors and Mike Eutsey and John Broughton have been finalizing the training agenda.

Updating Committee pages on VBCOA Website

John Broughton also encouraged the Regions to utilize zoom or similar virtual technology to engage with their members. He also reminded committee members to update their Committee pages on the VBCOA website and if anyone needed help to please reach out to him for assistance.

Committees and Other Reports

Awards and Resolutions

Patrick Hughes and Mike Williams indicated scholarships for the Mid-Year have been announced.

Education

Christina Jackson submitted a written report and a flyer for an upcoming training event.

Energy Conservation

Rick Statzer, no report submitted.

International Building Code

Dan Willham was present and indicated there was nothing new to report.

International Residential Code

No report submitted, no one present

Legislation

Ron Clements submitted a written report

Membership

Michelle Coward submitted a written report

Permit Technicians

No report submitted, no one present

Plumbing/Mechanical Code

Richard Grace submitted a written report

Property Maintenance

Earl Weaver stated there was no change from the last report

Public Information

Tom Coghill thanked everyone for sending in information for the newsletter. He stated he plans to convene a PIO committee soon so that they can take some of the burden off President Moss and 2ndVP Eutsey in assembling the newsletter. President Moss stated he has really enjoyed working on the newsletter and thanked Mr. Coghill for making sure it continues to be developed.

Tom Coghill asked about the status of the ICC Chapter of the year. President Moss indicated this need to be submitted.

Tom Coghill stated the deadline for the VBCOA Region of the Year is February 15, 2021.

Existing Building Code Committee

Allison Cook stated the ICC's Group B code change proposals for 2021/2022 code cycle will be able to be submitted soon, this group includes the International Existing Building Code (IEBC). The committee will start working together to develop code change proposals for IEBC, which are due January 10, 2022. This code cycle, the committee will try to work closely with those who opposed defeated proposals from the last code cycle.

Ad Hoc Administrative

Gregg Fields indicated they have not meet recently. ICC proposals were due last Monday. Group B code change cycle next, they will be developing any positions in preparation for the next set of hearings. Ron Clements indicated he had some things to refer to the Committee.

Ad hoc High School Technical Training Program

No one present, no report

Ad hoc Fire Code

Rick Witt reported the Fire Code committee does not have anything new.

Ad hoc Military Families Career

No one present, no report.

Ad hoc VCEC

Gregg Fields stated there was no change since the last meeting but will be scheduling a meeting soon to determine how they will proceed.

Web Master

No one present, no report

BCAAC

Matt Westheimer deferred to Sandi Morris who indicated the BCAAC will be meeting soon

Regulatory Compliance

Sean Farrell indicated he had nothing to report

DPOR

Mike Redifer was not present, submitted a written report

TRB

Rick Witt indicated the TRB will be meeting January 22, 2021 and have several appeals

ICC Region 7

Rick Witt indicated there is a change in leadership from New Jersey to PA and there will be a new chair.

ICC

Cindy Davis provided an overview of appeals cases from last summer. She indicated appeals of numerous proposals were grouped into three main categories:

(1) Federal Preemption-Code Changes, (2), Scope and Intent, (3) Impact of Online Voting, Cost Impact, Voting Guides, Voter Eligibility and Validation Process

Based on testimony, the Appeals Committee recommended many of the issues be sent to the Long-Term Code Development Committee for study. One of the issues was a recommendation from the Appeals Committee that the Board consider developing the IECC as a standard vs the Code process. The Long-Term Code Development Committee recommended to the Board that the IECC be developed as a Standard. Based on that recommendation, staff developed an outline of how that would work to obtain input. The Board will review all written comments and hear additional testimony at their meeting scheduled for January 21, 2021. Information on the Standards Process is attached to these minutes.

Additionally, it was reported that the Code Hearings will be held virtually from April 11-May 5, 2021. The schedule is being finalized and will be shared when available. Information and FAQ's on the virtual hearings are attached to these minutes.

Cindy Davis reminded everyone to mark their calendars for the planned in person ICC Conference, September 19-22, 2021, with the Code hearings scheduled for September 22-29, 2021, in Pittsburgh, PA. Additionally, a reminder that it is never too early to plan for the Group B Spring hearings set for March 27-April 6, 2022, in Rochester NY.

Kris Bridges reported on issues reported by NAHB related to problems with trusses due to the temperature differential between top and bottom chord of trusses caused by providing increased attic insulation. They are conducting research and more information will be provided as it becomes available.

Lisa Berger stated in late December ICC published a second survey report, which was included in the monthly report, indicating it is jammed packed with as many resources as possible.

DHCD

Jeff Brown submitted a written report. Sandi Morris provided a verbal report with highlights from the submitted report.

VFPA

Michael Reilly notified Sandy Harrington that he would be leaving VDFP and effective January 15, 2021, Garrett Dyer would be the Acting Executive Director of VDFP. Ernie Little also indicated that Chief Anthony Barrero was leaving the Training Academy. Chief Dyer will still be the State Fire Marshall.

Ernie Little indicated VFPA is planning their Spring meeting, not sure if it will be in-person or hybrid but current plans are to have it at the Virginia Beach Holiday Inn, will be determined by the Governors order.

VPMIA

Richard Grace submitted a written report.

WICED

Christina Jackson had nothing new to report.

Additional Agenda Item

Alison Cook stated she signed up for the Energy Code hearings to speak and was not sure if VBCOA has a position or if anyone else has signed up. President Moss said VBCOA has yet to come to an official position, but he is open if the board wanted to have a discussion and come to some sort of decision for Alison or to continue to remain neutral. *(Information from President Moss was sent to the board in the chat box and is included as an attachment to these minutes)*

Rick Witt suggested the Board support the recommendation of the ICC Long Term Code Development Committee to develop the Energy Conservation Code through the standard development process rather than the current code development process. The Long-Term Code Development Committee is comprised of code development experts with vast experience that represent many users of the codes. A standard approach would allow each individual code such as the IPC, IMC, IBC etc. to adopt energy provisions of the standard that directly affect their codes such as we do for the NFPA codes.

Dan Willham stated he was interested in being part of a group to establish a position, he has signed up to speak at the hearing, Fairfax County leadership is opposed.

Cindy Davis stated the Long Term Code Development Committee has Virginia representatives, including Bill Dupler and that both sides of industry have indicated that the Energy Code Development process does not work. If the VBCOA Board is determined to take a position, to let her know if there is any information she can provide.

Kris Bridges said this is going to be like the NEC, just changing the process that we go about updating the standard. For a long time, both sides have indicated something is broken. Both sides have been screaming for changes. Encouraged everyone to watch or listen to testimony as available, which is January 21, 2021 starting at noon eastern time.

Ron Clements asked if there have been any discussions of the final online vote and whether there is any value or turned over to the Long-Term Code Development Committee, so they can study it. Cindy Davis indicated yes there is a value as we continue to operate in a virtual world, the likelihood of in person travel as time goes on is unlikely.

Rick Witt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Richard Gordon and unanimously approved. President Moss adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.