

**MINUTES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODE COUNCIL
MARCH 11, 2003
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA**

All Council members were present with the exception of Chairman Barry Gardner and Gary York.

THESE ARE SUMMARY MINUTES AND THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THIS MEETING ARE RECORDED ON TAPE. ANYONE DESIRING VERBATIM OR EXCERPTS FROM THESE TAPES SHOULD CONTACT THE ENGINEERING DIVISION, NC DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE FOR INFORMATION ON REPRODUCTION COSTS.

Vice-Chairman John Hitch called the meeting to order. Mr. Hitch announced there would be a work session at 9:00am on June 9, 2003, followed by the public hearing at 1:00 pm. The Council meeting will be at 9:00am on June 10, 2003. All meetings and hearings will be held at the Wake County Commons located at 4011 Cary Drive, Raleigh, NC 27610.

The following items were considered.

ITEM 1 - APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 11, 2002, BUILDING CODE COUNCIL MEETING.

Richard Strickland made a motion to approve the minutes. Aubrey Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEM 2 - REQUEST BY THE TOWN OF APEX FOR AUTHORITY TO REVIEW PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR BUILDINGS AS LISTED IN TABLE 502 OF THE NORTH CAROLINA ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT REQUIREMENTS CODE.

Aubrey Smith made a motion to approve the Town of Apex's request to review plans and specifications as listed in Table 502 of the North Carolina Administration and Enforcement Requirements Code. Jack Neel seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEM 3 - EVALUATION OF STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST FILED BY BARRY J. MANESS.

Wanda Edwards read the statement of Economic Interest filed by Barry Maness. The letter stated Mr. Maness did not have any actual conflicts of interest, but the potential for conflict exists. Mr. Maness is a mechanical contractor and therefore has the potential for a conflict of interest.

ITEM 4 - APPEAL BY HELMS, MULLIS & WICKER, PLLC OF THE INTERPRETATION ISSUED BY GROVER SAWYER FOR THE REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES.

This item was withdrawn.

ITEM 5 – APPEAL BY GARY FITTS, ASSISTANT FIRE MARSHAL, WINSTON SALEM FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERPRETATION ISSUED BY GROVER SAWYER THAT A SPRAY BOOTH IS NOT REQUIRED FOR SPRAYING OF URETHANE BODY LINING MATERIAL

Diane Miller with the Attorney General's office addressed the Council and provided background material about the appeal. Ms. Kelly Hauser of Line-X Company submitted the first appeal. Ms. Hauser's business specializes in spraying on truck bed liners. Ms. Hauser appealed the requirement by the City of Winston-Salem Fire Department to suspend operations until an adequate spray booth was provided. Mr. Rick Dipert, Chief Fire Protection Engineer, NCDOT, concurred with Ms. Hauser in a letter dated November 27, 2002. Mr. Dipert's letter stated Ms. Hauser's spraying operation is exempt for the requirements for a spray booth. Subsequent to Mr. Dipert's letter Gary Fitts, the Assistant Fire Marshal for the City of Winston-Salem, submitted an appeal of Mr. Dipert's decision and stated additional concerns about adequate ventilation and a possible sources of from a gas heater suspended from a roof bar joist within 20 feet of the spraying operation. Mr. Dipert responded to Mr. Fitt's appeal, stating the roll up door of the garage provides adequate ventilation and the location of the gas fuel fired heater did not pose a threat of ignition.

Aubrey Smith asked to be excused from this motion, since he is with the City of Winston-Salem Inspection Dept.

Marshall Knight made a motion to uphold the Department of Insurance interpretation. Al Bass seconded the motion. The motion carried.

PETITIONS FOR RULEMAKING

The Secretary has received the following petitions for rulemaking. The Council will vote to grant or deny the petitions. Petitions that are granted may proceed through the rulemaking process. The Council will give no further consideration to petitions that are denied. The Council may send any petition to the appropriate committee for review. Committee meetings are scheduled for June 9, 2003, if needed. The public hearing for petitions granted at the March meeting will be held on September 8, 2003.

ITEM 6 – REQUEST BY REED JARVIS TO REVISE SECTION 106 TO THE 2002 NORTH CAROLINA FIRE PREVENTION CODE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 106: Modify the Inspection Schedule only. All other portions remain unchanged.

Once every year	Hazardous, Institutional, HighRise, Assembly <u>except those noted below</u> and Residential except one and two family dwellings and only interior common areas of dwelling units of multi-family occupancies
Once every two years	Industrial and Educational (Except public schools)
Once every three years	Business, Mercantile, Storage, Churches and , Synagogues <u>and Assembly with an occupant load less than 100.</u>

Reed Jarvis with the Fire Marshal's Association stated the current code occupancy classifications require every fast food restaurant to be inspected every year. The 1999 versions of the code required fast food restaurants to be inspected every three years. The change in occupancy classification has created a burden for inspection departments. The proposed change would keep the inspections for fast food restaurants at once every three years.

John Hitch suggested the following change to the proposal:

Once every three years	<u>Assembly occupancies with an occupant load less than 100, Business, Mercantile, Storage, Churches and Synagogues</u>
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Dan Tingen made a motion to the revised proposal. Terry Greene seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEM 6A REQUEST BY DAN TINGEN, NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODE COUNCIL TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT FOR WALL BRACING FOR GARAGES FROM THE NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENTIAL CODE.

John Hitch stated, at the request of Mr. Tingen, this item is referred to the Residential Committee.

PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION

Items 7 and 8 are on the agenda for final approval by the Council. A public hearing was held March 10, 2003, for the public to provide comments concerning the proposals. Items approved by the Council will go to the Rules Review Commission for approval. The Council will give no further consideration to items that are denied. Upon approval by the Rules Review Commission, the rules will await possible action by the NC Legislature.

ITEM 7 - REQUEST BY F. REED JARVIS OF NC FIRE SERVICE CODE REVISION COMMITTEE TO REVISE SECTION 907.2.3 OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FIRE PREVENTION CODE AND NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODE AS FOLLOWS:

Exceptions:

1. ~~Deleted.~~ Group E occupancies with an occupant load of less than 50.

Reed Jarvis with the North Carolina Fire Marshal's Association stated this exception appeared in the 1999 version of the North Carolina Building Code and was deleted in the 2002 Edition of the North Carolina Building Code. Deleting the exception required that all modular classrooms provide fire alarm systems connected to the main building fire alarm system.

Marshall Knight made a motion to approve. Aubrey Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEM 8 REQUEST BY TIM LAUGHLIN OF NC PETROLEUM MARKETERS ASSOCIATION TO REPLACE SECTION 2206.2.3, # 2 OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FIRE PREVENTION CODE AS FOLLOWS:

2. Fleet Vehicle Service Stations:

When approved by the code official, aboveground storage tanks, 1,100 gallons or less in capacity, may be used to store Class I liquids at fleet vehicle service stations in accordance with NFPA 30A.

Renumber the remaining numbers.

Staff requested that Fleet Vehicle Service Stations be added as number 5, rather than renumbering the section.

Dan Tingen made a motion accept this proposal, but delete the words “When approved by the code official.” Al Bass seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ITEM 9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUILDING CODE COUNCIL COMMITTEE

1. ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Tom Turner stated that he has items he would like discussed at the next scheduled Administration Committee meeting.

2. MECHANICAL COMMITTEE

Al Bass stated the committee reviewed the plumbing fixture table in the NC code and compared it to the International Code. The committee has converted the table into the same format as International Code.

John Hitch stated he would like the Mechanical Committee to review the fixture table and see if further changes can be made to coincide with the International Plumbing Code. Al Bass stated the Mechanical Committee would review the table. Wanda Edwards will schedule a meeting for the Mechanical Committee to review the fixture table. The date will be posted on the internet on the Building Code Council's calendar.

COMMENTARY COMMITTEES

1. PLUMBING CODE COMMENTARY

Al Bass stated the committee met several times and is making good process.

2. MECHANICAL CODE COMMENTARY

Al Bass stated the committee is meeting and is continuing to work on the commentary.

3. RESIDENTIAL CODE COMMENTARY

Dan stated that the committee has met several times and is working to incorporate written interpretations into the commentary documents.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REVIEWING THE INTERNATIONAL SUPPLEMENTS

1. BUILDING CODE

No report.

2. FIRE PREVENTION CODE

Richard Strickland stated the committee is working on the supplement and will continue to meet.

ITEM 10- OTHER ITEMS

a. Letter from ISO.

John Hitch stated the Council has received a letter from Insurance Services Office, Inc., stating that Robeson County Effectiveness Grading has be down graded from a 7 to a 5. The letter stated "the principal reason contributing to this regression is the State of North Carolina eliminated the wind-borne debris and seismic provision from the 2000 International Code.

b. FAQ about third party testing agencies approved testing fire materials.

John Hitch stated that information about third party testing agencies is on the Department of Insurance website. Wanda Edwards stated that the information on the website is for 3rd party agencies approved from electrical and mechanical equipment. Approved testing agencies for construction materials can be found on the ICC web page and the SBCCI web page. Information about approved testing agencies will be included on the DOI web page.

c. Update on status of items approved by the Building Code Council.

Wanda Edwards stated items that have been approved by the Rules Review Commission and have passed the 31 Legislative days are included in the minutes of each Council meeting. Items that have been approved by the Rules Review Commission and have passed the 31 Legislative days with no amendments or changes, may be used at the Owner's request in accordance with the North Carolina Administrative and Enforcement Requirements Code.

d. Endorsement from UL to have May is as Electrical Safety Month.

John Wiggins with Underwriters Laboratory stated UL is preparing a proclamation for the Governor's signature that would proclaim May as Electrical Safety month. Mr. Wiggins is requesting that the North Carolina Building Code Council support the proposal.

The Chair made a motion that we support the month of May as Electrical Safety month. Al Bass seconded the motion. The motion carried.

f. Public Comments.

Several architects addressed the Council about the need for blue pages to the International Codes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Sincerely,

Wanda D. Edwards, PE
Secretary

The following items have been approved by the Building Code Council and the Rules Review Commission. These items have had no Legislative action within the first 31 days of the Legislative Session. In accordance with Section 407 of the North Carolina Administration and Enforcement Requirements Code, the provisions of any amendment approved by both the Building Code Council and the Rules Review Commission, and have had no legislative action within the first 31 days of the Legislative session, shall be accepted by the Code Enforcement Official as an alternate method of construction prior to the effective date if requested by the owner or his agent.

NORTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODE

Revise Section 302.3.3 of the NC Building Code as follows:

302.3.3 Separated uses. Each portion of the building shall be individually classified as to use and shall be completely separated from adjacent areas by fire barrier walls or horizontal assemblies or both having a fire-resistance rating determined in accordance with Table 302.3.3 for the uses being separated. Each fire area shall comply with the code based on the use of that space. Each fire area shall comply with the height limitations based on the use of the space and the type of construction classification. In each story, the building area shall be such that the sum of the ratios of the floor area of each use divided by the allowable area for each use shall not exceed 1.

Exceptions:

1. Except for Group H and I-2 areas, where the building is equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system, the fire-resistance ratings in Table 302.3.3 shall be reduced by 1 hour but to not less than 1 hour and to not less than that required for floor construction according to the type of construction
2. The private garages in R-3 occupancies shall be separated from the residence and its attic area by means of minimum ½-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board applied to the garage side. Door openings between the garage and the residence shall be equipped with either solid wood doors not less than 1-3/8 inches (35 mm) thick, solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 1-3/8 inches (35 mm) thick or doors in compliance with Section 714.2.3. Openings from a private garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted.
3. Ducts in the garage and ducts penetrating the walls or ceilings separating the dwelling from the garage shall be constructed of a minimum No. 26 gage (0.48 mm) sheet steel and shall have not openings into the garage.
4. A separation is not required between a Group R-3 and Group U carport provided the carport is entirely open on two or more sides and there are not enclosed uses above.

**Revise Section 903.2.1.3 of the NC Building Code and
NC Fire Prevention Code as follows:**

903.2.1.3 Group A-3. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided for Group A-3 occupancies where one of the following conditions exists:

1. The fire area exceeds 12,000 square feet (1115 m²).
2. The fire area has an occupant load of 300 or more.

Exceptions:

1. This requirement shall not apply to assembly occupancies used primarily for worship with fixed seating and part of a separated use.
2. This requirement shall not apply to assembly occupancies used primarily for worship consisting of a single multipurpose room that are not used for exhibition or display and are part of a separated use.
3. The fire area is located on a floor other than the level of exit discharge.

Add Section 1609.1.4 to the NC Building Code as follows:

1609.1.4 Protection of openings. In wind-borne debris regions, glazing in the lower 60 feet (18 288 mm) in buildings shall be assumed to be openings unless such glazing is impact resistant or protected with an impact-resistant covering meeting the requirements of an approved impact-resisting standard or ASTM E 1996 and of ASTM E 1886 referenced therein as follows:

1. Glazed openings located within 30 feet (9144 mm) of grade shall meet the requirements of the Large Missile Test of ASTM E 1996.
2. Glazed openings located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) above grade shall meet the provisions of the Small Missile Test of ASTM E 1996.

Exception: Wood structural panels with a minimum thickness of 7/16 inch (11.1 mm) and maximum panel span of 8 feet (2438 mm) are permitted for opening protection in one-and two-story buildings. Panels shall be precut to cover the glazed openings with attachment hardware provided. Attachments shall be designed to resist the components and cladding loads determined in accordance with the provisions of Section 1609.6.5. Attachment in accordance with Table 1609.1.4 is permitted for buildings with a mean roof height 33 feet (10 058 mm) or less where wind speeds (3-second gust) do not exceed 130 miles per hour.

Add definition of wind-borne debris region to Section 1609.2 as follows:

WIND-BORNE DEBRIS REGION. Areas within hurricane-prone regions within 1500 feet (0.4572 km) of the mean high water line of the Atlantic Ocean.

Add Table 1609.1.4 as follows:

TABLE 1609.1.4
WINDBORNE DEBRIS PROTECTION FASTENING SCHEDULE
FOR WOOD STRUCTURAL PANELS^{a,b,c}

FASTENER TYPE	FASTENER SPACING (inches)			
	Panel span ≤ 2 feet	2 feet ≤ Panel span ≤ 4 feet	4 feet < Panel span ≤ 6 feet	6 feet < Panel span ≤ 8 feet
2-1/2" #6 Wood Screws	16	16	12	9
2-1/2" #8 Wood Screws	16	16	16	12

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8mm, 1 pound = 0.454 kg
1 mile per hour = 0.44 m/s

- a. This table is based on a maximum wind speed (3 second gust) of 130 mph and mean roof height of 33 feet or less.
- b. Fasteners shall be installed at opposing ends of the wood structural panel.
- c. Where screws are attached to masonry or masonry/stucco, they shall be attached utilizing vibration-resistant anchors having a minimum withdrawal capacity of 490 pounds.

NORTH CAROLINA PLUMBING CODE

Revise Section 419.1 and Section 425 as follows:

419.1 Approval. Urinals shall conform to ASME 112.19.2, CSA B45.1 or CSA B45.5. Urinals shall conform to the water consumption requirements of Section 604.4. Urinals shall conform to the hydraulic performance requirements of ASME 112.19.6, CSA B45.1 or CSA B45.5.

Urinals that do not use water shall be permitted provided the urinals

1. provide a barrier liquid sealant contained in a removable trap to maintain the trap seal;
2. permit the uninhibited flow of water through the trap to the sanitary drainage system;
3. comply with ANSI Z124.9 and ASME 112.19.2, as applicable.

425. Flushing devices required. Each water closet, urinal, clinical sink, and any plumbing fixture that depends on trap siphonage to discharge the fixture contents to the drainage system shall be provided with a flushometer valve, flushometer tank or a flush tank designed and installed to supply water in quantity and rate of flow to flush the contents of the fixture, cleanse the fixture, and refill the fixture trap.

A flushometer valve, flush tank, or similar device shall not be required for urinal fixtures that comply with the waterless test requirements of ANSI Z124.9 and which:

1. provide a barrier liquid sealant contained in a removable trap to maintain the trap seal;
2. permit the uninhibited flow of water through the trap to the sanitary drainage system;
3. comply with ANSI Z124.9 and ASME 112.19.2 as applicable.

NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENTIAL CODE

Add definition of wind-borne debris region to Section 202 of the NC Residential Code as follows:

R202 Definitions. WINDBORNE DEBRIS REGION. Areas within hurricane-prone regions within 1500 feet (0.4572 km) of the mean high water line of the Atlantic Ocean.

Add Section R301.2.1.2 of the NC Residential Code as follows:

R 301.2.1.2 Internal pressure. Windows in building located in windborne debris regions shall have glazed openings protected from windborne debris or the building shall be designed as a partially enclosed building in accordance with the North Carolina Building Code. Glazed opening protection for windborne debris shall meet the requirements of the Large Missile Test of ASTM E 1996 and of ASTM E

1886 reference therein.

Exception: Wood structural panels with a minimum thickness of 7/16 inch (11.1 mm) and a maximum span of 8 feet (2438 mm) shall be permitted for opening protection in one- and two-family buildings. Panels shall be precut to cover the glazed openings with attachment hardware provided. Attachments shall be provided in accordance with Table R301.2.1.2 or shall be designed to resist the components and cladding loads determined in accordance with the provisions of the North Carolina Building Code.