

CENTRAL IOWA CODE CONSORTIUM
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Johnston City Hall, Council Chambers
6221 Merle Hay Road
December 6, 2017

TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by committee chair Lund.

2. Roll call

Members present: Bernholtz, Junker, Lund, Pardekooper, Rash, Sanders, Schemmel, Whitsell

3. Agenda approval

Moved by Rash, seconded by Whitsell to approve the agenda; ayes - unanimous

4. Approve the minutes for the October 18, 2017 meeting

Moved by Whitsell, seconded by Schemmel to approve the minutes; ayes – unanimous

5. Discuss strategy, process and timelines for reviewing the 2018 building and fire codes (see lessons learned and proposed timeline below)

Lund is going to send an email to all the 2015 code review committee participants to see if they are interested in serving on a committee for the 2018 review. They will be asked if they want to serve on a committee and what committees(s) they are interested in serving on. At the same time, we will solicit for new applicants for committees. It was noted that there are some fire protection contractors that may be interested in serving.

It was discussed that the state has reviewed the 2017 electrical and energy codes. They have adopted two amendments to the electrical code and the codes go into effect on January 1, 2018.

Even with the state electrical and energy codes in place, it was decided to continue to have an Electrical-Energy Code Committee, they may have less code review issues than the other committees.

Cities cannot be less restrictive than the state code, but they can be more restrictive.

It was suggested that we have someone from the Wastewater Reclamation Authority serve on the Mechanical/Plumbing/Fuel Gas Committee as a stakeholder. Sanders will reach out to the WRA to identify a representative.

Sanders reported that Hamner, Rogers, Gassman and Schemmel are willing to continue serving on the Mechanical, Plumbing and Fuel Gas Committee, Minnick is still considering.

Pardekooper reported most of the members if the Residential Code Committee want to continue to serve. Since Creighton Cox no longer serves as the executive director of the Homebuilders Association, it was suggested reaching out to the current director, Dan Knoup, to serve on the committee.

It was reported that an employee from Ankeny went to Polk County and it would be good to reach out to them, so we can have a representative from Polk County active in the CICC.

Ryan Meyer from Clive serves as a stakeholder on the state Energy Board and has expressed interest in serving on the Executive Committee

Erin Wiggins has indicated an interest in serving on the residential committee.

The Executive Committee will meet in January to establish the code committees.

6. Discuss filling the Executive Committee vacancy for local government administration and filling committee representatives

Sanders reported he has reached out to Luke Nelson, City Administrator of Norwalk, to serve on the Executive Committee. The committee agreed that Nelson would be a good choice and a way to get Norwalk more involved in CICC.

It was noted that the fire code committee did not have a person with a fire marshals background. It was also noted fire marshals were represented on the joint committee.

7. Other business

- It was noted that the new Windsor Heights building official, Sheilah Lizer, has been active in MICC and involving her on a committee would be a good way to get Windsor Heights involved in CICC.
- The Pool and Spa committee needs to be filled for the 2018 code review cycle.
- Schemmel distributed a hand out that summarized the differences in some of the local amendments adopted during the 2015 code review.
- Urbandale tabled the code review while they review some of the areas of non-agreement in the 2015 codes.

- It was noted that some of successes of the 2015 review include: the governments that have adopted the code proposals represent most of the citizens in central Iowa; More communities or on the same code (2015) than in the past; everyone is now using the 8,000-square foot threshold to determine if residential sprinklers are required; business, industry and local governments are working together in reviewing and recommending codes.
- There was discussion regarding how we measure the success of the code review process in terms of enforcement of the adopted codes. This is an issue that needs further review.

8. Upcoming meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 23rd at 10:00 am at Johnston City Hall. Items on the agenda include: filling the committee appointments and process and schedule to submit code proposals for consideration by the committees.

9. Adjournment

Moved by Whitsell, seconded by Rash to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am.

Lessons learned from the 2015 code review process:

- Get more communities involved in the code review process, it would be great to have someone from each Participating Community involved
- Consider local amendments in the code review process, if there are local amendments, they should be reviewed
- Increase the amount of time in which code proposals can be submitted by the public
- We need something to truly differentiate how cities use the International Residential Code (IRC) verse other codes. The construction community understands what the state law applies to. If the state code is not applicable, what are architects designing to? Clearly identify the consortium's approach to state adopted codes
- Do we need to have a sub-committee review the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) with other code books; IRC verse other codes; NFPA 54 and 58, what is applicable; We should obtain legal advice on this issue; Is it the role of the Executive Committee to set the bar?
- Look at IRC and state mandated codes
- Create more established deadlines; complete the review of the 2018 codes (draft comes out during the summer of 2017) by January 1, 2019
- State Board is industry driven with no jurisdictional representation.
- Des Moines hosted a class led by CICC members, in cooperation with the Iowa Fire Chief's Association, that was open to all Participating Communities. The purpose was to solidify how the newly adopted fire codes are enforced. They felt

the session was well received and should be created for all codes. There was interest from other communities throughout the state.

- Hot button issues that need to be addressed directly include: day cares, storm shelters at schools, floor joist protection (most cities have opted out and used 2012 IRC code language), sprinkler thresholds
- It was suggested that elected officials be appointed to CICC committees. It was noted that although no elected officials applied to serve on a committee for the 2015 code review, they always can participate since the committee meetings are open to the public.
- Issues to be worked out with the State if Iowa: Scope of IRC, energy code (is there a funding source for changes that may be mandated?). It was noted cities can be more restrictive than state codes, but not less restrictive.

The committee would like the 2018 codes to be adopted by January 2019. A tentative schedule:

September 2017; 2018 code comes out

September 2017 – April 1, 2018; review 2018 code changes

January 1, 2018 – April 1, 2018; CICC receives code proposals

April 1, 2018; Committees begin review of proposed code changes and code proposals

January 1, 2019; CICC adoption and recommendation completed

Early 2019; cities consider adoption of the codes