

MINUTES
BUILDING CODE ADVISORY BOARD
November 16, 2011

- I. The Chairman, Jacek Tomasik, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Vista Center 1st Floor Conference Room 1E-60, Palm Beach County Planning, Zoning & Building Department, 2300 North Jog Road, West Palm Beach, Florida.

A. **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jacek Tomasik, Chair
William Higgins, Vice Chair
Steven Kennedy
Doug Wise
Bette Lowe
Michael Fichera
Rebecca Caldwell
Greg Miller
Joe Byrne
Maury Jacobson
Howarth Lewis

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gary Kozan
Scott Worley

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ashley Salvati, Recording Secretary
Michael Fox, PBC, CPT Supervisor

Gentry Benjamin, Asst. County Attorney

- B. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2011 meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

II. **ADDITIONS & DELETIONS – NONE**

III. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. **Code Interpretation – NONE**

B. **Code Amendments – Rebecca Caldwell**

1. **Chapter 1 Amendments to the FBC**

- Ms. Caldwell told the board that the sub-committee has met twice since being formed, going over general concerns and then Sections 101 and 102, and has distributed the working model of the amendments. Proposals have included to line up with the Florida Building Code or the BOAF Model Code. She mentioned Section 102.2.5 to bring to the board's attention.
- Mr. Tomasik mentioned concern with Section 102.2.
- Mr. Wise suggested that 102.2's language may be interpreted to say that chikees are not allowed at all, rather than first building the chikee, get it finalled, then add electric.
- Ms. Caldwell said that writing it this way would prevent unpermitted electrical or structural installations "after the fact".
- Mr. Wise continued to ask the board members to please forward any sections that there are concerns about and would like to see modified.
- Ms. Caldwell suggested having an extra meeting of the full board in December so that there is sufficient time to go forward to the respective government bodies.

C. **Product Evaluation – NONE**

D. Regulatory Climate Oversight Committee – Doug Wise

- Mr. Wise said that there is a meeting scheduled Friday morning at 9:00am at the Economic Council of Palm Beaches, where there will be a press conference that will discuss the Universal Permit Application.
- Ms. Caldwell suggested referring customers online to the BCAB website to get the permit application and the list of accepting municipalities.
- Mr. Wise said that we still have a goal of a centralized contractor licensing process that we are working toward.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Solar Assisted Air Conditioning System – Staff

- Mr. Fox explained the three handouts included in the packet: FSEC's response that the system does not work, AHRI's response that the equipment has not been certified by AHRI, and another letter to AHRI asking if there will be any action taken in response to permit applications.
- Ms. Caldwell proposed that the board makes a statement that nationally recognized certification needs to be supplied for building departments to give permits on these systems.
- Mr. Wise suggested an advisory attaching the AHRI letter.
- Mr. Jacobson wanted to add to the advisory that the warranty is void.

Ms. Caldwell made a motion for staff to write a technical advisory to state that we have thoroughly investigated the system and there is no evidence that backs their claims and that a nationally recognized laboratory or standard agency should approve. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. Ridge Vent Failure – Board Member Follow-Up

- Mr. Byrne looked back at the nail in question, and it was a coated nail and they do indeed meet the code. The discussion was going through both state and local boards, and both organizations were reluctant to endorse.
- Mr. Wise suggested writing a letter to the ICC or Building Commission to say there may be a problem and there may be a need for codes to change to stainless steel or galvanized.
- Mr. Byrne agreed, because the reluctance to change in the roofing community comes from the fact that they are using code compliant nails, but the liability goes to the manufacturer, not the installer.

Mr. Wise made a motion to write a letter to the Florida Building Commission, to let them know that we have received claims on premature failure on ridge vents and not all have necessarily been related to ocean air and we want to look for appropriate action in the next coding cycle. Discussion. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

- Mr. Fichera suggested specifying the application, that the nail is sitting exposed and not in the way it is intended. The nail may be fine when used in other instances.
- Ms. Caldwell, Mr. Wise, and Mr. Byrne are to compose a letter for January's regularly scheduled meeting.

3. Self-Adhered Shingles – Joe Byrne

- Mr. Byrne referred to the handout response from David Prevatt at the University of Florida, who had been conducting testing. According to testing, the self-adhered roofing worked as well as or better than membrane systems.

V. NEW BUSINESS – NONE

VI. FUTURE BOARD MATTERS FOR DECEMBER

1. ASCE 7-10 Mapping – Rebecca Caldwell & Doug Wise

- Mr. Wise said that new map data is being provided in vector format if requested.
- Ms. Caldwell suggested discussing this at the December meeting.

2. Global Disaster Housing – Temporary Containerized Housing

- Ms. Caldwell said the presentation will likely wait until the March meeting.

3. NFIP Changes

- Ms. Caldwell stated that there is new flood information in the Florida building code and local flood damage prevention ordinances, that we should discuss at next month's meeting in order to get in line with the new codes.

VII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

1. Bob Boyer's ICC Election

- Mr. Tomasik congratulated Bob Boyer on behalf of the board on his election to the ICC.

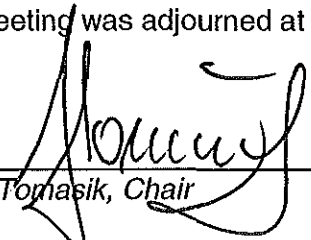
2. Roof Coating

- Mr. Byrne said that the roof coating technical advisory has been very useful to refer customers to.

3. Next meeting – December 14, 2011

VIII. STAFF COMMENTS

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.



Jacek Tomasik, Chair

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Salvati, Recording Secretary