

MINUTES

The meeting convened at the MBA Office called to order by Michael Coello, of Coello & Associates, at 1:02 p.m.

TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Coello, Pattie Stone, Bob Flanagan, Alan Quick, Jim Rugg, Neal Solheim, Chad Wuebben, Mark Benkowski, Bryan Tom, Jim Wozniak, Jason Hannen, Brett Wittig, Robert Franklin, Susan Scifo, Brain Balthozar, Scott Satula, Tom Johnson, Richard Paur, Dave Wheaton, Brian Walter, and Dave Phillipps



After introductions, the first order of business was to elect a chairperson for all upcoming Task Force meetings. After a brief discussion, a nomination was made, seconded and approved to elect Michael Coello as the chairperson for the Task Force. A motion was also made, seconded and approved to elect Richard Paur as the vice-chairperson of the Task Force.

Next, the Task Force accepted that Ms. Stone would draft and disseminate the minutes for all subsequent meetings.

Mr. Paur then gave a detailed overview of the efforts from the BIASEW (Building Inspectors Association of Southeastern Wisconsin) to create this Task Force, as well as the steps that yet need to be taken to ensure that the state building inspector association is supportive of this initiative. Mr. Paur also gave an overview of the issues that stemmed from the complaints from municipalities that their ISO rating had declined. This, according to the ISO, was because Wisconsin did not subscribe to a national code. Should Wisconsin adopt a national code in the future, according to the ISO, then these ratings would rebound.

Then, the Task Force took time to briefly look at the 2009 version of the International Residential Code (IRC). As was noted, many states use the base IRC documents as a starting point, and then add/delete items to make it more regionally-applicable. It was also noted that this review would only encompass Chapters 2-24 of the IRC, since those are the only chapters that are consistent with the topics covered in the current Uniform Dwelling Code.

Next, the positions of the representative organizations regarding this Task Force were clarified. Both the MBA (Metropolitan Builders Association) and the WBA (Wisconsin Builders Association) indicated that their position indicated that they would participate in this review Task Force, but gave no guarantee of an endorsement of a modified IRC version upon completion of the review. The BIASEW and the state association of inspectors indicated, however, that they sought to see an IRC version passed in Wisconsin, and that this review Task Force was but one step in that process. The NWBIA (Northwest Building Inspectors Association) indicated that they would like more assurances that the efforts of the Task Force were not wasted and that the endorsement of the Department of Commerce in this process would be preferable to gain at the outset of the review.

After the differences of intentions were disclosed, the Task Force moved on to creating Mission Statement for the review was created. The following statement was then approved to be the Mission Statement of the Task Force:

The mission of the Task Force is to have Wisconsin code officials and builders conduct a joint review of the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC) in an effort to determine whether an altered version of the IRC could be a viable base code for the state of Wisconsin, in lieu of the current version of the Uniform Dwelling Code (UDC).

Next, the Task Force passed around a sign-up sheet with contact information on it to ensure that all communications between the people in the group could reach everyone. Additionally, Ms. Stone agreed that she would look into making a conference call option available to those Task Force members who could not attend each meeting in person due to their distance from the meeting site. It was also agreed that the Task Force would meet, going forward, from approximately 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on the last Tuesday of every month at the office of the Metropolitan Builders Association.

Then, the Task Force discussed the format of all future meetings. The group agreed that, where possible, everyone should read three chapters ahead of where we stop from the previous meeting, with the intent being to review a minimum of two

chapters of the IRC per meeting, with the hope of potentially covering three. Additionally, a spreadsheet that detailed the format of noted changes was distributed so that each Task Force member was aware of the manner in which we will potentially present our findings to the Department of Commerce.

Lastly, Ms. Stone noted that, while this review will be beneficial to all who participate, she wanted it to be clear that there is no guarantee of the MBA's support of the final product when the review is completed. She indicated that several procedural hurdles would need to be accomplished for that to be the case, and wanted to ensure that everyone's expectations were consistent. Chad Wuebben indicated that similar procedures would need to be followed at the WBA, as well.

There being no further business, Mr. Coello adjourned the meeting at 3:17 p.m.