



OREGON FIRE CODE COMMITTEE
Office of State Fire Marshal
4760 Portland Rd
Salem, OR 97305
Mt. Hood Conference Room

Meeting Minutes May 26, 2015

- I. **Call to Order:** by David Mills at 9:35 a.m.
- II. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved as written.
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** March minutes are not completed yet and will be sent out by Mistie Kohlmeyer.
- IV. **Old Business:**
 - a) Reminder of the meeting following OFCC on the rewrite of TA 11-09, Guidelines for Fairs, Trade Shows, etc. – **Jim Stewart**

The subcommittee will **not** be meeting in the Mt Bachelor Conference Room after today's meeting. If anyone else is interested in participating in future meetings contact Jim Stewart at jstewart@cityofsalem.net

- V. **New Business:**

- a) Discussions regarding 520 Hz fire alarm sounders. Questions have been asked whether we are seeing and enforcing NFPA72 criteria for 520 Hz sounders in sleeping areas within Group R occupancies. The NFPA 72 code is now applicable and should be being enforced. Should be seeing more of 520 Hz sounders in new construction. This is under Oregon Structural Specialty Code 907.2.11 as outlined in NFPA 72, 18.4.5.3.

Review of proposed BCD statewide interpretation on the application of low frequency alarm signals. Everyone has a copy of the draft, the goal for the day is to review and get feedback and submit in an email any changes you want to the draft. Send comments to David Mills to compile and review with BCD. Primarily focusing on low frequency alarm sounders in sleeping areas. BCD, Rex Turner after reviewing draft realized it didn't address CO detectors.

They became effective in NFPA 720 in January 1, 2015. The question is "Are low frequency 520 Hz smoke alarms required?" the answer is YES, in residential buildings, not necessarily in single family dwellings at this time. Comments regarding low and high frequency differences and reliability of that, low frequency takes more power than high frequency sounders and will drain batteries quicker.

Next is the analysis section- Can we identify if it's sleeping areas or sleeping rooms i.e., bedrooms that these devices are intended to be placed? There is a somewhat grey area when it comes to a den or bonus rooms in apartments. Also, in Groups R-4 and I-2, these can be suite type environments, what's considered sleeping areas and where would the device be placed?

NFPA Commentary is good, it provides guidance and intent from the author, but it's not code. Industry needs to comment more...opinion from the NW Automatic Fire Alarm Association is there should be a signal in bedrooms and living rooms.

Consideration must be given to audibility in bedroom and bathrooms and solid core doors, etc... may have to install more devices in certain circumstances. Please submit by the end of the week if possible so David Mills can review with BCD and create a final draft for review by OFCC.

- b) Updates regarding code requirements for distilleries. What are the group's thoughts statewide about requirements for distilleries? Discussion ensued about marijuana production and how to regulate them, barrel storage, exempt amounts, etc. Concern is "at what point do we reach that hazard level?" fire separations, unsprinklered buildings, new construction versus existing in a business/buildings.

BCD has collected all sorts of data regarding this topic and would like to know what the struggles are? There are groups with observations and specific questions regarding interpretations and barriers. Start with new construction as a baseline and go from there. Please email any questions or concerns and solutions to David Mills to review with BCD.

- c) The subcommittee on Emergency Responder and Radio Coverage will be meeting today following the OFCC meeting.
If you are interested in participating in future meetings contact David Mills at david.mills@state.or.us.

VI. Good of the Order:

***Robert Mottice and David Mills-** were discussing about seeing more and more carbon dioxide systems in existing buildings. Lots of small tanks are being replaced by one large tank. Under Operational Permits, the Boiler Board is saying permits aren't required, but they use to require them. Need to know when and if they are required and who does the permits?

Starting to see these systems ahead of the code cycle, NFPA 55 is used as the standard in the 2015 IFC. David Mills asked for BCD, Rex Turner's input on how it's being viewed. Huge push back from industry saying BCD says "Don't worry about it". The specific fire code section is 5307 and there is nothing specific in building or mechanical code. There is a new section in 2015 code regarding carbon dioxide systems.

Not able to use the new code reference until adopted. Comments were expressed that the piping is definitely not being looked at and is a concern. Please email questions or concerns to David Mills to review with BCD. It will be discussed at a future meeting.

***Steve Forrester and Mike Trabue**-Follow up on Rural Access and Water Supply Meeting, would like to put together a small group to start working on the language. Half of recommendations were code changes and the other was industry, awareness and education changes. The subcommittee would like to start on the code changes, please contact Steve and Mike via email if you are interested in being in the group. Focus is on non-hydranted areas. This group will be reaching out to BCD and OBOA to get representation from them as well.

***Jay Hardwick**-Would like to put on agenda for discussion, **The Code Development Cycle**.

VII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

***Our next regular meeting will be: Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at Office of State Fire Marshal, 4760 Portland Rd NE Salem-Mt Hood Conference Rm.**