

State Codes and Standards Committee
Codes Amendment Subcommittee
Minutes

May 23, 2012

1. **Call to Order:** The Chairman called to order the regular meeting of the Codes Amendment Subcommittee ("CAS") of the State Codes and Standards Committee ("SC&SC"). The meeting was held in the third floor conference room (room 348) at 1111 Country Club Road, Middletown, Connecticut.

In Attendance: Louis Free, Chair
Thomas DiBlasi
Robert Hanbury
Henry Miga
Andrew Rizzo, Jr.
Michael Sinsigalli
Frederick Wajcs

Also present: Jenna Padula, Department of Construction Services
Joanne Rees, AIA Connecticut
Bruce Spiewak, AIA Connecticut
Daniel Tierney, Office of the State Building Inspector
Dan Veronick, Office of State Building Inspector
Amanda Winn, West Hartford Fire Department (Intern)

2. **Minutes:**

Minutes of the June 8, 2011 CAS meeting, the May 9, 2012 CAS meeting and the May 9, 2012 Special Meeting were approved.

3. **Communications:**

No new correspondence was received since the last CAS meeting.

4. **Old Business**

No action was taken with regard to old business.

5. New Business

1. Dan Tierney introduced Jenna Pedula, DCS Staff Attorney. Ms. Pedula recently transferred from the LOB to work with the DCS and the Codes and Standards Committee. She has experience in processing regulations and has also work previously for NFPA in publications.

The CAS and OSBI reviewed and took action on the following code change proposals to the 2012 International Building Code (IBC).

2. **1-IBC (and 2-FSC) – 2012 IBC Section 903.2.7 Group M.** The proposed amendment to require an automatic sprinkler system to stories below the level of exit discharge in Group M under specific conditions is a 2005 Connecticut Supplement carry-over. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
3. **2-IBC (and 3-FSC) – 2012 IBC Section 903.3.5.1.1 Limited area sprinkler systems.** The proposed amendment is to change the number of sprinkler heads from 20 in the IBC to 6 which is an NFPA requirement for existing buildings (CFSC Part IV). The CAS requested information on the reason for the large difference between the two model codes. Mike Sinsigalli will investigate and report back to the CAS at the next meeting. Action on the code change proposal is on hold pending additional information.
4. **3-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 3109.5 Entrapment avoidance.** Code change proposal submitted supports maintaining the model code language as written without deletion, substitution or amendment. No action required.
5. **4-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1704.2.5.2 Fabricator approval.** The proposed amendment is an expansion of the list of approved fabricator certification and accreditations that currently exists in the 2005 Connecticut Supplement and amends when special inspections are not required when approved by the registered design professional in responsible charge. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
6. **5-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1704.1.2 Report requirement.** The proposed amendment replaces confusing code language related to submitting the final special inspection reports and adds language to address the frequency for the submission of interim reports. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.

7. **6-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1809.4 Depth and width of footings.** The proposed amendment references Section 1809.5 which states that the minimum frost depth in Connecticut is 42 inches below finished grade. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
8. **7-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1809.5 Frost protection.** The proposed amendment incorporates the minimum frost depth of 42 inches below finished grade that historically has existed in Connecticut amendments and exists in the 2005 Connecticut Supplement. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
9. **8-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1609.2 Definitions, HURRICANE-PRONE REGIONS and WIND-BORNE DEBRIS REGION.** The proposed amendment is a clarification of the requirements specific to Connecticut. The CAS and OSBI addressed this issue in the new Connecticut Amendments to the 2009 IRC. Tom DiBlasi was requested to review this proposal with the Connecticut Amendments to the 2009 IRC and make a recommendation to the CAS at the next meeting. Action on the code change proposal is on hold pending review and recommendation.
10. **9-IBC – 2012 IBC Sections 2303.4.1.4 Truss designer, 2303.4.1.4.1 Truss design drawings and 2303.4.2 Truss placement diagram.** The code proposal to amend the term “designer” to “design engineer” with definition is not supported by the CAS. Motion made and second to reject the code change proposal. The proposed amendment is rejected.
11. **10-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1603.1.3 Roof Snow Load Data.** The proposed amendment to add snow drift surcharge load and width of snow drift to the list required on drawings is information that will be beneficial in evaluating the roof capacity of structures in the future, especially in light of the massive snowfall totals encountered in the winter of 2011 and number of roof failures. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
12. **11-IBC – 2012 IBC Sections 1803.5.7 Excavation near foundations, 1804.1 Underpinning, 1804.7.1 Underpinning and bracing installation and 1808.3.2 Surcharge loads.** The code change proposal addresses execution of foundations not specifically addressed by the code in relation to adjacent structures. Bob Hanbury asked how this proposal relates to the requirements in the 2012 IEBC? Tom DiBlasi was requested to review this proposal and make a recommendation to the CAS at the next meeting. Action on the code change proposal is on hold pending review and recommendation.

13. **12-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1608.4 Flat roof snow loads.** The code change proposal adds a new code section to address utilizing the minimum 30 pounds per square foot for flat roof snow loads and introduces other loading conditions. This proposal currently exists in the 2005 Connecticut Supplement. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
14. **13-IBC – 2012 IBC Section. [A] 107.3.4.1 Deferred submittals.** The code change proposal amends this requirement to include deferred submittals related to statutory threshold limits and requiring deferred submittals to the independent structural engineering peer reviewer. Deferred submittals can apply to pre-engineered metal building systems, prestressed/precast concrete parking garages, specialty designer for metal stair on buildings, etc. The 2005 Connecticut Supplement deletes the entire 2003 IBC Section 106.3.3 Design professional in responsible charge and subsequent subsections without substitution. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
15. **14-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1608.5 Sloped roof snow loads.** The code change proposal adds a new code section to address utilizing the minimum 30 pounds per square foot for roof slopes greater than 30 degrees and eliminates the values for “unobstructed slippery roofs” unless approved by the building official. Part of this proposal currently exists in the 2005 Connecticut Supplement. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
16. **15-IBC – 2012 IBC Table 1806.2 Presumptive load-bearing values.** The code change proposal amends the presumptive load-bearing values of the vertical foundation pressure at different classes of materials based on what has been used historically in Connecticut. Members of the CAS questioned the reason for the disparity in the values between the CT amendment and 2012 IBC (i.e. 1. Crystalline bedrock: CT amendment of 200,000 psf versus 2012 IBC’s 12,000 psf; 2. Sedimentary and foliated rock: CT amendment of 50,000 psf versus 2012 IBC’s 4,000psf, etc.). Tom DiBlasi was requested to investigate this and report back to the CAS. Motion made and second to accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.
17. Proponents of code change proposals that have been rejected by the CAS will be offered the opportunity to present their code proposal for reconsideration by the CAS and OSBI at a future meeting of the CAS.

18. Fred Wajcs reported on an environmental advocate's conference call that was a follow-up to the March 23 meeting with DEEP Commissioner Esty and Acting Deputy Commissioner Dykes. Issues discussed included code compliance studies required by the receipt of the stimulus (ARRA) funds, an energy rating system (legislative bill requiring a rating system died in the last session), NEEP performing a commercial benchmarking study in Boston (Philadelphia is working on a building energy rating system and New York City has a benchmarking policy) and establishing training sessions for the trades (working with the local organizations rather than at the state or national level would have a greater impact).
19. Lou Free stated that the OSFM vision and approach for reviewing and creating the Connecticut Amendments to the 2013 Connecticut Fire Safety Code will remain on the agenda as a topic for future discussion. Robert Ross, State Fire Marshal, is currently unavailable to meet with the CAS on Wednesdays due to fire marshal certification training.

6. Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on June 13, 2012 at 1:30 PM for the regular CAS meeting.

Louis J. Free, Chair
Codes Amendment Subcommittee

KEY:	ICC	International Code Council	IRC	International Residential Code
	IBC	International Building Code	NEC	National Electrical Code
	IEBC	International Existing Building Code	NFPA	National Fire Protection Association

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