

State Codes and Standards Committee
Codes Amendment Subcommittee
Minutes

July 11, 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
John Butkus
Thomas DiBlasi
Robert Hanbury
Henry Miga
Andrew Rizzo, Jr.
Michael Sinsigalli
Frederick Wajcs

Also present: Bruce Spiewak, AIA Connecticut
Daniel Tierney, Office of the State Building Inspector

2. **Minutes:**

Minutes of the June 13, 2012 CAS meeting was approved.

3. **Communications:**

The following correspondence was received since the last CAS meeting.

1. Email correspondence received from Nic Cuoco on July 9, 2012 notifying CAS that he is cancelling his presentation associated code change proposal **9-IBC** related to the 2012 International Building Code Section 2303.4.1.4 Truss designer and Section 2303.4.1.4.1 Truss design drawings, and will not be pursuing it further at this time.

4. **Old Business**

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

1. **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 a NFPA requirement for existing buildings (CFSC Part IV). The CAS previously requested

information on the reason for the large difference between the two model codes. Mike Sinsigalli reported that there was a code change proposal during the 2006 NFPA 101 code cycle to change the number of sprinkler heads from 6 to 20, which were voted down. ICC's 20 sprinkler heads requirement date back to 1974 and currently the ICC has a task group looking into this requirement. Mike Sinsigalli distributed information on an IFC Code Change Proposal related to limited area sprinkler systems that was referred to the CAC Work Group. The proposal is to change the IFC 20 sprinkler head on any single connection to 6 sprinkler heads in any single fire area. A motion was made and second to maintain the current Connecticut Supplement for 6 sprinkler heads in any single fire area requirement and accept the code change proposal as written. The proposed amendment as written approved.

2. **8-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1609.2 Definitions, HURRICANE-PRONE REGIONS and WIND-BORNE DEBRIS REGION.** Tom DiBlasi distributed a matrix titled *State of Connecticut –ASCE 7-2012 Wind Speeds – Municipality Listing* that lists each Connecticut municipality, the latitude and longitude coordinates, multiple ultimate wind speeds by risk categories, hurricane prone regions by risk categories and the 2012 IRC wind speed. Tom DiBlasi reported that the supplement will ultimately contain eight (8) columns per municipality which provide three (3) Ultimate Wind Speeds by Risk Category (I, II, III-IV) and three (3) Allowable Stress Design (ASD) Wind Speeds by Risk Category plus two (2) Hurricane Probe Regions also by Risk Category. Action on the code change proposal remains on **hold** pending final review of hurricane prone region determination line and recommendation.
3. **10-IBC – 2012 IBC Section 1603.1.3 Roof Snow Load Data.** The CAS requested additional information at the 5/23/2012 meeting that did not appear in the meeting minutes related to understanding the changes to the snow drift surcharge requirements. Tom DiBlasi has not been able to obtain a copy of the ICC published information related to the code changes that were approved. Final report to CAS by Tom DiBlasi is pending.
4. **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 excavation of foundations not specifically addressed by the code in relation to adjacent structures. Tom DiBlasi reported that Section 1804.7.1 Underpinning and bracing installation had previously been rejected by ICC during the last code change cycle and he now understands the primary reason for that rejection. Tom DiBlasi plans to prepare a code change proposal for CAS consideration. Action on the

code change proposal remains on **hold** pending review and recommendation.

5. **15-IBC – 2012 IBC Table 1806.2 Presumptive load-bearing values.**
The proposed code change amendment as written was approved on 5/23/2012 and 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 continues to research question.

5. **New Business**

1. Daniel Tierney reported that the Connecticut Amendments to the 2009 International Residential Code regulation is with the Department of Construction Services staff attorney for preparing a cover letter for Commissioner DeFronzo's submission to the Governor's Office and OPM.
2. Lou Free reported that Robert Ross, Connecticut State Fire Marshal, was unable to attend today's CAS meeting due to a conflict with a National Association of State Fire Marshals meeting he is attending in New Hampshire. Lou Free will extend an invitation to attend the August 8, 2012 CAS meeting to discuss OSFM's vision and approach for the Connecticut Amendments to the 2013 Connecticut Fire Safety Code (2012 IFC - International Fire Code and 2012 NFPA 101 - Life Safety Code).
3. Fred Wajcs reported on an environmental advocate's conference call that was held on July 9 with NEEP, Sierra Club, and the CEEF (Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund) administrators participating. Issues discussed included Code Compliance Study update by NEEP, Code Outreach by the Sierra Club, Energy Code Training by the CEEF administrators and Building Energy Rating Systems by NEEP. The last topic is of special interest for Deputy Commissioner Dykes, who has federal experience on this topic, and Commissioner Esty.

