

FIRE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING FROM TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
WEB URL <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/195842341>
AUDIO: DIAL-IN NUMBER 1 866-899-4679
CONFERENCE CODE: 195-842-341
June 7, 2019
10:00 A.M.

Minutes

FIRE TAC PRESENT:

Hamid Bahadori, Chairman
Joe Belcher
Peter Schwab
Joe Holland

Robert Hamberger
Jim Schock
Brad Schiffer

FIRE TAC NOT PRESENT:

Jeff Gross

STAFF PRESENT:

Mo Madani
Justin Vogel
Robert Benbow
Marlita Peters

Thomas Campbell
Chris Howell
Jim Hammers

Welcome:

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Peters welcomed everyone to the teleconference call of the Fire TAC. She provided information for the callers on how to mute systems to avoid background noise.

Roll Call:

Ms. Peters performed roll call for the Fire TAC. A quorum was determined with 7 members present.

Agenda Approval:

Mr. Belcher entered a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting as posted. Commissioner Hamberger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 7 to 0.

Review and Approval of April 4, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Belcher entered a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the April 4, 2019 as posted. Mr. Schwab seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 7 to 0.

Declaratory Statements:

DS 2019-014 by Allen Finfrock of Finfrock DMC:

Mike Phegley, representing the petitioner, explained the request for the declaratory statement.

Mr. Madani provided the background of the declaratory statement with the following petitioner and staff recommendation:

Question: Does the code classify an access panel as a "smoke and draft control door" which would require it to be rated per UL 1784?

Answer:

Option #1

Petitioner: Petitioner respectfully believes the answer to the question is "NO". Since fire rated access panels are not tested to UL 1784, we do not believe that the codes' intent is to classify these panels as "control doors"; otherwise, we feel that they would have been tested to the standard years ago.

Option #2

Staff: The answer to question is “Yes.” As per section 716.5.3.1, Smoke and draft control, the access panel in question must meet the requirements for a smoke and draft control door assembly tested in accordance with UL 1784.

TAC Comments:

There were concerns and comments offered among TAC members and Mr. Phegley regarding the plans and set up of the area in question.

Public Comments: None

Motion:

Commissioner Schock entered a motion stating that provided the unit itself is sealed and the space does not communicate with a habitable area, the fire door without a smoke seal as submitted by the petitioner is appropriate and could be approved. Mr. Belcher seconded the motion.

Chairman Bahadori addressed the Committee and stated that he felt this would be attempting to change the code via declaratory statement. He provided detail on why he did not feel this would be appropriate for the Committee to determine with the information provided, and recommended that the Committee not accept this motion.

Mr. Belcher withdrew his second and the motion died due to lack of second.

Motion:

Mr. Holland entered a motion stating that this would need to be identified as an access panel and not a door, and therefore is not subject to section 716.5.3.1. Mr. Schock seconded the motion.

Discussion followed among the Committee and Commissioner Schock withdrew his second to the motion and subsequently Mr. Holland withdrew his motion entirely.

Motion:

Mr. Belcher entered a motion to accept staff analysis option #2. Commissioner Schiffer seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 6 to 0 with Mr. Schwab recusing himself due to a potential conflict of interest, as he identified the petitioner as one of his largest clients.

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TAC Comments: There were no further comments from the TAC members.

Public Comments: Mr. Phegley thanked the Committee for their time and attention to the request.

Final Roll Call:

There being no further business before the TAC, Ms. Peters performed a closing roll call and there were 7 members still present on the line.

Adjourn:

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.