

FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION
Mechanical Technical Advisory Committee
Orlando, Florida
February 24, 2003

Voting Members Present:

Peggy Patterson, Steve Bassett, Mike McCombs, Leonard Lipka, Pete Quintela, Phillip Simmons, Donny Pittmann, Jim Cummings, Bob Andrews.

Meeting Objectives:

1. Approve minutes and agenda.
2. Review staff comparison of Florida Building Code, Mechanical to the International Mechanical Code Commentary to recommend to Commission which sections are adequately covered by the Commentary.

Agenda Issues:

Chairman Peggy Patterson opened the meeting at 3:10 p.m. A quorum of 9 voting members was achieved.

The minutes and agenda were approved unanimously.

Chair Patterson and Commissioner McCombs reported to the TAC on the reaction of other TACs on the Commentaries. Apparently, Counsel Jim Richmond had stated that referencing the Commentaries by rule as required by the Legislature would give their provisions the weight of code. Numerous TAC members pointed out that the Commentary is a reference document and contains opinions that are not enforceable as code. Suggestions (in many cases failed Motions) on how to resolve the quandry included letting BOAF write the commentary for the Florida code, setting up subcommittees to adequately review the Commentary, utilizing the DEC statements in lieu of a commentary, and developing a list of references that the Commission could approve for use as commentaries.

MOTION: McCombs moved to table discussion of the Commentary until the Commission acts on it. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

MOTION: Lipka moved to discard the previous motion. It was seconded and approved unanimously.

MOTION: McCombs moved ask the Commission for clarification on the impact of adopting a commentary before further action is taken. Approved 7-1.

Other Business:

Chair Patterson brought up the matter of membership. Because Elery Borton has missed so many meetings, she asked for names of people who had been attending who could be recommended to Chairman Rodriguez to replace Borton. The open slot is for a "Consumer", which should be filled by an architect, engineer or building owner's representative. The TAC recommended Larry Banks, who manages an air conditioning company.

The TAC also requested copies of the 2003 International Mechanical Code to begin reviewing it for provisions that might need work before adoption in Florida. Madani said he would provide electronic copies as soon as he was able to obtain them, but that much of the work could happen after the change to the 2003 code was proposed officially. The TAC objected that apparently the Commission had chosen a base document for them without input from the TAC.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.