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BOARD OF BUILDING REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS
NOTICE OF VIRTUAL MEETING

Fire Prevention and Fire Protection Subcommittee

In accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 30A § 20, notice is hereby given that the Fire Prevention and Fire Protection Subcommittee of the Board of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS) will convene a meeting in accordance with G.L. c143 § 97 on:

Meeting called to order on Wednesday, September 10th, 2025, at 10:03AM
Meeting Minutes

Roll Call

| | |
|--|---|
| Luke McKneally, BBRS Member | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Jake Nunnemacher, BBRS Member | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Marc LaPointe, DOL Appointee | <input type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Tom Farland, Municipal Fire Official | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Carissa Lisee, Municipal Building Official | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Michael Yanovitch, Building Contractor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| David LeBlanc, Fire Protection Engineer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Eric Svahn, Architect | <input type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |
| Matthew Bourque, Developer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present <input type="checkbox"/> absent |

1) Review/Vote Meeting minutes for 8/7/25 and 8/27/25

Executive Director Tammy Gropman noted that minutes were not included in packet for administrative reasons and would be tabled until the next meeting.

2) Discuss Meeting time and frequency

Chair LeBlanc noted the results of the scheduling survey distributed by E.D. Gropman, which showed the current meeting time and frequency were optimal for most members.

LeBlanc raised the matter of the October 22, 2025, meeting and the possibility of moving it to October 29, 2025.



Carissa Lisee raised the matter of her subcommittee appointment due to a position change. E.D. Gropman and Board Counsel Kilb addressed that member appointments were made by the chair of the BBRS.

Discussion returned to the October meeting date, and members reached consensus to move the meeting to October 29, 2025.

3) Commence Review of assigned code sections – Chapters 4, 7, 9, 33, A2L

Chair LeBlanc questioned members to ensure access to pertinent code sections and discussed materials to review. Chair LeBlanc then raised matter of code change proposals and spoke on topic of A2L refrigerants. Luke McKneally spoke to ASHRAE Schedule 15 adoption and potential emergency amendments. Jake Nunnemacher raised question of tracking code change proposals. Luke McKneally clarified motion in BBRS monthly meeting.

Chair LeBlanc raised question of the front-end amendment process. Board Counsel Charles Kilb discussed amendment process. Luke McKneally discussed BBRS-directed process, with Solar Setback subcommittee as an example, relative to how front-end amendments are used with base code. McKneally also clarified code change proposal form and process.

Chair LeBlanc discussed review of code change proposals prior to meetings. Jake Nunnemacher raised topic of more complex proposals versus high-level items. Nunnemacher also discussed time management with relation to proposals and amendments.

Chair LeBlanc discussed code change proposals from Wayne Alarm Systems related to 81R issues, Wayne Alarm Systems 2 & 4, as well as Carsten Jonas 1, NFPA 720 and 72 to review for next meeting, Chapter 7 and 33 of 10th edition, and ICC 2024. Luke McKneally raised topic of redundant code change proposals and potential to send them back to proponents for clarification or updates, and consideration of 2024 language relative to amendments which include 9th edition language. Members discussed subcommittee's review and recommendation process to BBRS.

Members discussed document naming conventions, and document control. Chair LeBlanc also recommended members review A2L materials for familiarity ahead of review. Jake Nunnemacher requested PDFs of 2024 IEBC, IFC, IRC, & IMC. E.D. Gropman noted which proposals would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Jake Nunnemacher raised discussion of code change proposal Wayne Alarm Systems 5 in preparation of next meeting. Nunnemacher discussed the following:

- R314.6 relative to residential power source requirements for smoke alarms, stating the difference between smoke alarms and smoke detectors. A smoke alarm is UL 217 battery operated and hard wired 120 volt, while a smoke detector is UL 268, can be wireless or wired but are low voltage.
- Proposal intends to create an amendment for power source relative to R314.6.1. Proposal states that listed household fire warning systems including wireless systems with a plug in AC/DC power supply that provides a lock down screw shall be allowed. Lock down screws are no longer required under NFPA 72 provided there is a supervisory signal indicating power loss.

- Nunnemacher noted that the amendment should have been submitted under section R314.7 rather than R314.6 and recommended moving proposal from Power Source to Fire Alarm Systems.

Nunnemacher also discussed Wayne Alarm Systems 6, noting that it was the same concept as the previous proposal but relative to carbon monoxide alarms per R315. Nunnemacher also recommended moving proposals from Power Source to Alarm Systems.

Bob Bourke joined meeting and discussed reasons for submitting the proposals for Wayne Alarm Systems, stating that confusion over smoke alarms versus detectors, hardwired versus battery-powered, often leads to denial of permits and delays in installation process. Mr. Bourke also raised topic of potentially joining this subcommittee. E.D. Gropman and Board Counsel Kilb noted the subcommittee is has been fully appointed but if any subcommittee has open slots he is welcome to apply for them.

Luke McKneally raised question of duplicating code language relative to NFPA 72. E.D. Gropman noted the meeting was approaching the end of allotted time.

4) Discuss other matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting

No other matters discussed.

Jake Nunnemacher Motion to adjourn, Michael Yanovitch seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM

Items Relied Upon

Agenda

Code change proposals