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MEETING MINUTES

A virtual meeting of the *Fire Protection Fire Prevention Committee (FPFP) of the Board of Building Regulations and Standards* was held on:

February 17, 2021 beginning @ 9:05 am and ending @ approximately 12:00 pm.

virtual meeting (see next page)

It is anticipated that the topics shown below will be discussed at the aforementioned meeting:

Roll Call. 9:05 am

Robert Carasitti, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Dave LeBlanc	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Commissioner DPL designee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Paul Donga	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Fredrick L. Tustin	<input type="checkbox"/> present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> absent

Louise Vera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
<Architect -Vacant>	<input type="checkbox"/> present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> absent
Fire Marshal designee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Joseph Castronovo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

Agenda:

1. Review Draft Meeting Minutes from January 20, 2021 Meeting.
Tabled until March 10, 2021 Meeting
2. Review acknowledgement of Open Meeting Law requirements and the Conflict of Interest Law.
All outstanding need to be completed asap.
3. Review the use of fire testing standards not referenced in 780 CMR (FPFP Task #21-001).
The committee discussed the matter at length and took several public comments from the following: G Saiva, J Patillo, R Edwards, E Edman – All provided their comments in writing following the meeting.

The chair will develop a response to BBRS for discussion at the next meeting. The general conclusion was the foreign testing reports are not prohibited for consideration when submitted as



part of package approach to compliance alternatives, modifications or alternate materials and methods.

However, the foreign reports must be scrutinized to the extent they are usable. It is incumbent on the proponent of the approach to demonstrate to the building official the aspect to which the report is being used. It is also incumbent on the proponent to demonstrate the differences between the testing used compared to the prescriptive testing that otherwise may be required by 780 CMR. Examples were given by the public and committee members on instances when some approaches were not thoroughly vetted or improperly used. This discussion lead to the identification for a need to provide more education on the compliance alternative, modification and alternate means and methods provisions including:

- ***The use of Third Party reviews***
- ***The development of a methodology for review of each type of approach, and***
- ***“Code Academy” training modules which could be made available to enforcement and design communities (the same education to everyone for consistency.***

Emphasis is needed on the “equivalent or better” aspect in new construction as well as the “best fit” for compliance alternatives in existing construction. The chair will develop a draft response for committee review at the next meeting.

4. Review of 2021 IBC Chapter 9 for the 10th Edition of 780 CMR (FPFP Task #21-002).
The chair reviewed previous work completed under the 2018 review as it was incorporated into Sections 902 through 918. Task groups reported on their efforts to date and preliminary reviews were completed on sections 902, 904, 906, and 908.
5. Review for conflicts and recommendations on fire protection criteria in the following:
 - a. 2021 IBC Chapter 4 (FPFP Task #21-002.C4)
 - b. 2021 IBC fire protection provisions for exterior walls in Chapters 14 & 26 (FPFP Task #21-002.C14&C26).
 - c. 2021 IEBC fire protection provisions and Chapter 34 Committee review conclusions for conflicts or recommendations (FPFP Task #21-002.IEBC).***This is a placeholder until the Chapter 9 efforts are complete.***
6. Discuss other matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting.
No new matters were discussed.

Documents used in the meeting included the following:

- 200612 Foreign Tested Products June 12 2020 Letter
- 201019 Fire Rated Duct Assembly Product Alternatives
- 210118 International Firestop Council IFC letter - FPFP Task #21-001
- 210201 Jensen-Hughes_Guidance-on-Fire-Resistive-Duct-Assemblies_White-Paper
- 210216 RMC IBC 2021 Chapter 9 with 2018 efforts and 903