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**BBRS Energy Advisory Committee (EAC)**

Chairman Meskus took roll call:

Layla D'Emilia, or designee*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Patrick Woodcock, or designee**	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Zbigniew Wozny	<input type="checkbox"/> present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> absent
Tom Moberg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Emily Paparella-Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

Curtis Meskus-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
John Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Jonathan Bruce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent
Gabriel P. Stallions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> present	<input type="checkbox"/> absent

\* *State District Building Inspector Adelle Reynolds participated as the designee for DPL Commissioner, Diane Symonds.*

\*\* *Ian Finlayson participated as the designee for DOER Commissioner Patrick Woodcock.*

**May 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes**  
**General notes on format of these minutes**

- *These minutes represent general points of discussion by members and audience participants during the regular meeting session. The minutes are not intended to be a verbatim account of discussions.*
- *Votes are noted as **MOTION** by, seconded by, and whether it was a unanimous or split vote.*
- *Agenda topics as numbered may be in the same order as they appear on the meeting agenda.*
- *The meeting agenda is listed as **EXHIBIT A**; others are listed sequentially as addresses during the meeting.*

**Regular Meeting Portion**

1. **Roll Call.** Chairman Curtis Meskus opened the meeting about 10:00 am by taking roll call. Adelle Reynolds, Ian Finlayson, Tom Moberg, Emily Paparella, Curtis Meskus, John Anderson, Jonathan Bruce, Gabriel Stallions all identified themselves as present.
2. **Review/Vote** approval of the March 2, 2020 EAC meeting minutes. On a **MOTION** by Tom Moberg, seconded by John Anderson, it was a unanimous vote to approve. Roll call vote: Adelle Reynolds, Tom Moberg, Emily Paparella, Curtis Meskus, John Anderson, and Gabriel Stallions voted in the affirmative. Jonathan Bruce, and Ian Finlayson abstained (**EXHIBIT B**).
3. **Discuss/Vote** recommendation which would allow license sheet metal worker to test duct systems 2018 IECC Mass. Amendment R403.3.3. Dan Walsh, OPSI staff, explained the BBRS considered a code change proposal to amend Mass Amendment R403.3.3 that would add sheet metal workers to the professionals required to test ductwork. The current language specifies HRES Rater, HERS Rating



Field Inspector, or an applicable BPI Certified Professional. The BBRS supports the code change in concept and directed staff to work with the code change proponent, the EAC, and others, including counsel, if necessary, to refine the requirements for a workable solution. Dan explained one solution would be to remove from the Mass. Amendment language in the 2018 IECC R403.3 and R403.6.2, the text which specify the professionals to perform duct testing and verification of mechanical air systems.

Ian Finlayson explained the goal of the Mass amendment language is to have trained professionals performing duct testing, and he does not oppose having licensed sheet metal workers trained in duct testing performing this work. He explained that DOER and Mass Save performed surveys around the time the 2009 IECC was adopted, and the results revealed duct leakage problems. He also expressed sheet metal licensees can obtain HERS and BPI credentials if they want to earn these certificates.

Tom Moberg spoke about the equipment (manometers), used to test ductwork, need to be calibrated yearly. He also talked about this requirement being the only test, required in the building code, not needing to be witnessed by the building official as it is self-verified.

Don Chaisson spoke about the code change presented to the BBRS and explained he holds a sheet metal license and a refrigeration license (**EXHIBIT B**). He believes the regulations need to change to have licensed sheet metal worker testing ductwork. Don Chaisson also provided some history about the code changing over the years, and that ductwork testing is part of licensed sheet metal worker training. He also spoke about 271 CMR, and the law which empowers this regulation includes testing ductwork.

Manney Chaves explained he is a licensed sheet metal worker and spoke about doing duct testing for many years, and that the law allows licensed sheet metal workers to test ductwork.

Ian Finlayson does not oppose licensed sheet metal workers testing ductwork but thinks holding this credential does not mean that sheet metal licensees understand duct testing.

Bob deSousa spoke about working for a gutter company and obtaining a sheet metal license without knowing anything about sheet metal work. Don Chaisson spoke about sheet metal work, and that in some instances, individual licensees concentrate on certain aspects of the trade. He also explained that not every sheet metal licensee is going to do duct testing, but in the same vein, not every licensee is going to do metal roofing. He believes each licensee must be obligated to work within their competency.

Adelle Reynolds suggested adding to the 2018 IECC Mass amendments sections R403.3.3 and R403.6.2; a licensed trade person trained in duct testing. Ian Finlayson thinks adding a suitably trained, licensed sheet metal worker would be better language.

Adelle Reynolds offered a **Motion** to add to sections R403.3.3 and R403.6.2 in the 2018 IECC Mass amendments "a licensed trade person trained in duct testing". John Anderson seconded. Jonathan Bruce expressed concern that the "licensed trade" language leaves the door open to all the licensed trades. Ian Finlayson would like to change the **Motion** to " a suitably trained licensed sheet metal worker " and Jonathan Bruce 2nd.

BBRS Board Attorney, Charles Kilb clarified that the law requires sheet metal licensees to perform duct testing. We do not want anyone to misconstrue this language that would somehow be seen as

allowing the other professionals in listed in these sections to performing sheet metal work regulated by 271 CMR.

Chairman Meskus asked for a roll call vote on the language offered by Ian Finlayson and 2nd by Jonathan Bruce, “a suitably trained licensed sheet metal worker.” Adelle Reynolds, Tom Moberg, Emily Paparella, Curtis Meskus, John Anderson, Jonathan Bruce, Ian Finlayson, and Gabriel Stallions, all voted in the affirmative. Chairman Meskus note it is unanimous to move this language to a vote.

On a **MOTION** by Adelle Reynolds, seconded by Ian Finlayson, it was unanimous in recommending to the BBRs amending sections R403.3.3 and R403.6.2 in the 2018 IECC Mass amendments by adding, “a licensed sheet metal worker trained in duct testing.” Roll call vote: Adelle Reynolds, Tom Moberg, Emily Paparella, Curtis Meskus, John Anderson, Jonathan Bruce, Ian Finlayson, and Gabriel Stallions all voted in the affirmative.

4. **Discuss** Existing business: ‘Net Zero’ defining Net-zero as a code option for BBRs consideration. Chairman Meskus pointed to the three net-zero definitions offered by Tom Moberg, Darren Port and himself (**EXHIBIT C**). Darren Port expressed interest in striking the term “Net” from his definition.

Jonathan Bruce talked about the definitions and thought “a combustion-free building” would capture what all three describe. Tom Moberg believes the intent is to eliminate fossil fuels.

John Nunnari explained the net-zero code change proposal Mass AIA offered the BBRs has been taken from a proposal to the ICC Appendices. He thinks the Mass AIA proposal is appropriate for Chapter 13 or could be put in the stretch energy code or it could be put in the stretch energy code as an option.

Emily Paparella thinks the Mass AIA proposal achieves net-zero and is a net-zero definition within the compliance path. Having renewables as tradeoffs achieve objectives. John Nunnari thinks the EAC could go back to the BBRs and express the net-zero proposal offsets the need to define net-zero. On a **MOTION** by Jonathan Bruce, seconded by Emily Paparella, it was a unanimous vote to table further discussion about defining Net-Zero. Adelle Reynolds, Tom Moberg, Emily Paparella, Curtis Meskus, John Anderson, Jonathan Bruce, Ian Finlayson, and Gabriel Stallions all voted in the affirmative.

5. **Adjourn**. On a **MOTION** by Jonathan Bruce, seconded by John Anderson, it was a unanimous vote to adjourn the regular meeting at about 11:55 am. Adelle Reynolds, Tom Moberg, Emily Paparella, Curtis Meskus, John Anderson, Jonathan Bruce, Ian Finlayson, and Gabriel Stallions all voted in the affirmative.

#### **EXHIBITS:**

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- A. Meeting Agenda.
- B. Minutes for the March 2, 2020 Energy Advisory Committee (EAC) meeting.
- C. Net-Zero Definitions