

UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting, April 8, 2022

Meeting held Electronically via Microsoft Teams

Attendance

Board Members

Beth Pochtar, Chair
Doug Boydston
Mark Caputo
John Del Colle
Henry Kelly
Kathy Herity
Art Londensky
Tony Neibert
Bob Mellohusky
Greg Moten
Steve Rodzinak
Michael Seeve
Valerie Waricka
Michelle Wood

DCA staff

Edward Smith, Director, Division of Codes and Standards
Robert Austin
Scott Borsos
Marie Daniels
John Delesandro
Justin Henry
Keith Makai
Anthony Menafro
Thomas Pitcherello
Dan Tober
Chrystene Wyluda

Public Attendees

Please note that, due to the virtual meeting, public attendees joined using a conference call telephone number, and only those in attendance who announced themselves will be listed herein.

Ms. Beth Pochtar, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

A moment of silence was held to honor the memory of Paul Lamberti.

A. Approval of Minutes of the Code Advisory Board Meeting December 10, 2021

Mr. Tony Neibert made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Art Londensky, to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Subcode Committee Reports

Barrier Free Subcode Committee – Mr. John Del Colle reported that no meeting was held.

Building Subcode Committee – Ms. Michelle Wood reported that no meeting was held.

Elevator Subcode Committee – Mr. Doug Boydston reported that the Committee met twice virtually and discussed agenda items, especially the Elevator Mechanics License.

Electrical Subcode Committee – Mr. Tony Neibert reported that the Committee met twice virtually.

Fire Protection Subcode Committee – Mr. Art Londensky reported that no meeting was held.

Mechanical/Energy – Mr. Bob Mellohusky reported that no meeting was held.

Plumbing Subcode Committee – Mr. Steve Rodzinak reported that no meeting was held.

C. Old Business

There was no old business.

D. New Business

1. Certification of Technical Assistants to the Construction Official, N.J.A.C. 5:23-5 – Draft Rule

Mr. John Delesandro introduced this item and stated that this draft rule implements a language that was signed into law in 2009. There's been a voluntary certification for years that was non-renewable, so the Department felt it was time to move forward and create a formal certification for these folks, who play an incredibly important role throughout the State. This would allow for a formal application process for those who voluntarily applied, new applicants will have to take education courses, and continuing education courses. Multiple Board members expressed their support for the draft rule, and Board member Valerie Waricka stated that she has spoken to other technical assistants, all of whom are very much in favor of the certification and noted that it looks fair and consistent with the other CEU requirements.

Ms. Valerie Waricka made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Steve Rodzinak, to approve the draft rule. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Licensure, Certifications, and Registrations related to the UCC; Elevator, Escalator, and Moving Walkway (EEMW) Mechanic License, N.J.A.C. 5:23-2.15 and 2.15A – Draft Rule

Mr. Robert Austin introduced this item and explained that there are two pieces within this draft rule. The first is to incorporate the EEMW licensure into the UCC. The Licensing Board for this has been up and running since 2015, and there was a communicator article about this published in 2020. Now that the Licensing Board is enforcing the requirements, the Department is proposing that the license number of the mechanic appear on the permit application. Mr. Austin noted that the draft rule states “contractor,” but the Department will be revising to the appropriate term, “mechanic.”

Mr. Doug Boydston made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Art Londensky, to approve the elevator portion of the draft rule as amended by discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

CAB MINUTES

April 8, 2022

Mr. Robert Austin stated that in addition to the EEMW mechanic license, this draft rule also restructures the entire licensing section. Currently, it is an extensive list of licensures, registrations, and certifications. The Department would like to streamline this section and not have any information from the other Departments within the UCC, since anything outside of our jurisdiction is not generally supposed to go into the enforceable requirements of our code. Instead, the draft rule would cross reference the necessary laws and move the exceptions into the appropriate Bulletin.

Mr. Steve Rodzinak made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Tony Neibert, to approve the draft rule. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Information

1. CAB Tentative Meeting Dates 2022 – Jun 10; Aug 12; Oct 14; Dec 9

Multiple Board members expressed that they would like to meet in person or begin hybrid meetings. Mr. Robert Austin stated that the Department has not yet been notified it can hold in person meetings, and the Board will be kept apprised as that discussion moves forward.

2. The Code Advisory Board Log was provided electronically.
3. The List of Pending Legislation was provided electronically.

Mr. Art Londensky brought one bill, A731, to the attention of the Department. Mr. Robert Austin indicated that we would review and provide any comments to the Legislative Liaison.

4. Plumbing Subcode.

The Board was informed that the Commissioner's final decision regarding the plumbing subcode was to move forward with the proposal of the 2021 National Standard Plumbing Code (NSPC).

F. Public Comments

Multiple attendees indicated their support for incorporating the Elevator, Escalator, and Moving Walkway Mechanic License into the UCC.

Steve Jones, ICC, stated that he was terribly disappointed with the decision made by the Commissioner to move forward with the NSPC but thanked Beth Pochtar, Chair, and the Department for their professionalism throughout this process.

G. Adjourn

Mr. Art Londensky made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Michelle Wood, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.