

1309 Residential Code Committee Meeting

November 16, 2011

Call to Order

Richard Lockrem, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:11 A.M. He opened the meeting by reminding all committee members to maintain professional etiquette when discussing code proposals. Mr. Lockrem addressed the committee by commenting that when an individual is speaking, please allow them the opportunity to complete their thoughts without interruption, and that anyone wanting to make a comment will be given the opportunity to address the committee.

Richard Lockrem also had a brief discussion on the amount of time allowed for each of the committee meetings. He was concerned that the committee may not have allotted a sufficient amount of time, based on the number of code changes he had received. He proposed changing the duration of the meeting from 3 hours to 4 hours. Some committee members suggested that the committee meetings start an hour earlier since BATC's office would be open and the Board Room would be available. The committee chair reminded the committee that there are several individuals who travel a significant distance in order to attend these meetings. He suggested that the committee maintain the start time of 9:00 A.M., in consideration of those members, and extend the meeting time out to 1:00 P.M. The committee agreed to these changes.

The committee chair also took some time to address code change proposals. He reminded committee members that each proposal must only identify a single proposed code change. The proposal must address the code language for discussion. It must also include the language as it appears in the IRC or MN Rule. Mr. Lockrem was not overly concerned about providing detailed SONAR at the time the proposal is submitted for consideration of the committee. He did not believe that an individual should spend a considerable amount of time on a SONAR, that may or may not obtain committee support of the proposal as presented. Rather, once the committee has reached a consensus to support the change, then the author will be required to complete the proposal and the detailed SONAR.

Mr. Lockrem asked committee members if they had received the electronic notes from the November 2, 2011 meeting and if anybody had any questions, comments or corrections. Kathi Osmonson identified that one correction should be made. Her name was miss-spelled. Mr. Lockrem stated that this issue would be corrected.

Introductions of Attendees

Since some of the committee members were not yet familiar with one other, each committee member present was asked to introduce themselves to the committee and identified who they were representing. There were a total of 12 committee members in attendance at this meeting.

Committee Members in Attendance

Richard Lockrem, Committee Chair – Representing the Department of Labor and industry
Herman Hauglid, Co-Chair – Representing the Department of Labor and Industry
Jack Rossbach, Air Tamarack
Kevin Lee, Minnesota Concrete and Masonry Association

Scott Dornfeld, Association of Minnesota Building Officials (AMBO)
Rick Davidson, Association of Minnesota Building Officials (AMBO)
Karen Linner, Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM)
Joe Ranweiler, Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM)
Mike Paradise, Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM)
Mike Swanson, Builders Association of the Twin Cities (BATC)
Dave Neisen, League of Minnesota Cities
Kathi Osmonson, Association of Minnesota Building Officials (AMBO)
Luke Stemmer, Minnesota State Fire Chief Association (MSFCA)

Alternates in Attendance

John Nesse, Minnesota Lath & Plaster Bureau
Marlene Bach, Association of Minnesota Building Officials (AMBO)
Jeremiah Anderson, Association of Minnesota Building Officials (AMBO)

Committee Members not in Attendance

Steve Pedracine, Minnesota Lath and Plaster Bureau

Guests in Attendance

Patrick Hynes, League of Minnesota Cities

Introduction of Code Changes, Committee Discussion and Consensus Results

Richard Lockrem introduced each of the code change proposals submitted to the committee. After the introduction, the author of the proposal provided a little more detail for the reason they felt the change needed to be considered, and the floor was opened for questions, comments and discussion. The topics covered in this meeting are as follows;

IRC-1, R304 Proposal to delete Sections R304.1 thru R304.4 in its entirety. (Provisions dealing with Minimum Room Size) Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

After considerable discussion, the committee reached the consensus **not** in favor of supporting this change.

IRC-2, R302 Proposal to delete Minnesota Rule 1309.0302 in its entirety. (Provisions dealing with exterior wall locations) Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

After considerable discussion within the committee, they reached the consensus in favor of supporting this change. The author of this proposal will be required to complete the SONAR for this change and submit it to the committee chair.

IRC-3, R302.5.1 Proposal to delete the requirements of R302.5 (Provisions dealing with the door between the dwelling and the garage being “equipped with a self-closing device”) Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

After the committee's discussion, they reached the consensus in favor of supporting this change. The author of this proposal will be required to complete the SONAR for this change and submit it to the committee chair.

IRC-4, MR 1309.0010 Proposal to delete all the seismic and high wind provisions from the IRC and Minnesota Rule 1309.0010. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

Committee reached the consensus that this matter would be more appropriate for the members of the Structural Advisory Committee. This proposal will be deferred to them. No further action needed at this time.

IRC-5, Table R302.1(2) Proposal to delete from Table R302.1(2), footnote "a" the term "subdivision" from the IRC table. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

After the committee's discussion, they reached the consensus in favor of supporting this change. The author of this proposal will be required to complete the SONAR for this change and submit it to the committee chair.

IRC-6, R303.7 Proposal to add two additional exceptions (2 & 3) to the current language dealing with the exterior stairway illumination in section R303.7. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

The committee reached the consensus that the proposal was confusing and requested that the author redraft and resubmit the proposal and SONAR at the next meeting on November 30, 2011.

IRC-7, MR 1309.0301 Proposal to delete Minnesota Rule 1309.0301 (sprinkler amendment provisions) from the 2007 Minnesota State Building Code. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

The committee reached the consensus that this proposal should be tabled until the December 14, 2011 meeting, when the topic of residential fire sprinkling systems will be addressed by the committee.

IRC-8, R302.2.2 – R302.2.4 Proposal to delete all the provisions of R302.2.2 thru R302.2.4 dealing with parapets. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

The committee reached the consensus that this proposal should be tabled until a later date, preferably sometime after the December 14, 2011 meeting when the committee will be addressing the sprinkler issues.

IRC-9, R307.1 Proposal to delete the provisions of R307.1 (toilet, shower and bath spaces) in their entirety. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

This subject was tabled for review at future committee meeting.

IRC-10, R302.2.2 Proposal to amend the language of the exception for R302.2.2, removing the language which prevents openings or penetrations within 4 feet of the exterior or common walls. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

The committee reached the consensus to support the change as long as there were no conflicts with the provisions of the IBC. Author must complete the proposal and submit the SONAR to the committee chair.

IRC-11, R323 Proposal to delete the requirements of R323 (Storm Shelters) in their entirety. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO).

After committee discussion, they reached the consensus in favor of supporting this change. Author must complete the proposal and submit the SONAR to the committee chair.

IRC-12, MR 1309.0310.1.5 Proposal to amend the language of the Minnesota State Building Code section 1309.0310.1.5 for replacement windows. Submitted by Rick Davidson (AMBO)

After lengthy discussion within the committee, they reached the consensus **not** in favor of supporting this change.

Closing Comments

Richard Lockrem thanked everyone for their attendance and great discussion participation. He also reminded everyone that the next scheduled meeting will start at 9:00 AM and extend to 1:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M.

Helpful Information

Karen Linner had forwarded to the department, a link to an electronic copy of the 2012 IRC. This will be a valuable tool for committee members who are writing code change proposals. Rather than having to type the entire code section into a proposal, the committee member can copy, cut, and paste the information into their document, then make the edits they would be proposing. This will help save committee members a considerable amount of time. Richard Lockrem provided the link to the site in his e-mail message carrying this attachment.

Thanks Karen.