

FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION
Energy Technical Advisory Committee
Tampa, Florida
December 5, 2005

Minutes

The meeting was convened by acting Chair Steve Bassett at 1:05 p.m. A quorum was achieved with nine voting members present.

Voting Members Present:

Steve Bassett, Ron Bailey, Bob Cochell, Philip Fairey, Jan Geyselaers, Don Kitner, Richard Reynolds and Roger Sanders.

Others Present: Ann Stanton, Jeff Householder, Robert Trumbower, Kevin Lodober, Geoff Hartman, Jack Glenn, Larry Nelson, Henry Stobaugh, Garry Porter, Arlene Stewart, M. Swami, Dennis Chappel, Ken del Corral, Bill Lippy.

Meeting Objective:

Review DEC request DCA05-DEC-217 concerning who can sign the “Prepared By” and the “Mechanical System Designer” lines on commercial energy code compliance forms, and provide a recommendation to the Florida Building Commission on its disposition.

Actions Taken:

The agenda was amended by acting chair Bassett, adding a discussion of the date of the code change meeting and a report by Philip Fairey on national energy initiatives and was approved unanimously as amended. The minutes of the October 9, 2005, meeting were approved. Because the DEC petitioner was late, the other business was discussed first.

The TAC discussed the possibility of moving the date the Energy TAC would meet in January, 2005, due to a conflict with the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) annual meeting in Chicago. Because the TAC is scheduled to review proposed code changes at that meeting, the TAC recommended the meeting be moved to January 30 or 31. Bassett indicated he would ask to move the Mechanical TAC meeting date as well. A meeting room at the FRACCA building was offered for those dates by Cochell. **The TAC voted unanimously to recommend this change to the Florida Building Commission.**

Philip Fairey provided a report on national energy code activities and other national initiatives, including the 2004 Supplement and 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), the 2005 Energy Policy Act, new standards for the Home Energy Rating System (HERS), and modifications to the EPA guidelines for energy efficient home qualifications.

Ms. Tina Neece addressed the TAC regarding DEC request DCA05-DEC-217. She requested input from the TAC on who may sign the “Prepared By” and “Mechanical Designer” lines on the

energy code commercial building compliance forms in the case of an existing building with a new 6 ton mechanical system and less than 50 occupants. On a motion from Fairey and second by Reynolds, the TAC unanimously approved the following recommendations as to disposition of DCA05-DEC-217:

To the question, Who is considered a design professional?, the answer is anyone licensed to design buildings or systems by Chapters 481, 471.003 or 489, *Florida Statutes*.

To the question, If the codes' intent is to allow the other entities besides an Architect or Engineer by the exemptions, can I, as a Florida certified commercial energy rater, sign the "Prepared by" signature on the energy calculations and the "Mechanical System Designer" signature since we are also designing the mechanical system?, the answer is

- 1) YES, as a Florida certified commercial energy rater, you can sign the "Prepared by" line on commercial energy code compliance forms for buildings falling within the exception to 471.003, *F.S.*, and
- 2) NO, you cannot sign as the "Mechanical System Designer" because you have to be the installing mechanical designer to sign it. The authority of the design professional includes a contractor licensed under Chapter 489, *F.S.* to design buildings with systems of 15 tons or less as per exception (h) 1 and 2 of Chapter 471.003, *F.S.*.

Adjourn:

The TAC meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.