

FLORIDA BUILDING COMMISSION
Mechanical Technical Advisory Committee
Orlando, Florida
December 8, 2002

Voting Members Present:

Peggy Patterson, Steve Bassett, Pete Quintela, Phillip Simmons, Donny Pittmann, Jim Cummings, Bob Andrews, Betsy Goll, Leonard Lipka.

Meeting Objectives:

1. Approved minutes and agenda.
2. Review provisions added to mechanical code by mod 162.
3. Review provisions of sec. 419.3.11.8 revised by the Dept. of Health
4. Provide input to Energy TAC on provisions of ASHRAE 90.1 on commercial kitchen exhaust hoods.
5. Consider ways to resolve the balanced return air issue (601.4)

Agenda Issues:

Steve Bassett opened the meeting at 2:08 p.m. A quorum of 8, then 9 voting members was achieved. Chair Peggy Patterson took over at 2:15 p.m.

1. The minutes and agenda were approved unanimously.
4. Bassett asked the TAC for input on the ASHRAE 90.1 provisions for commercial kitchen exhaust hoods. The TAC felt the provisions would conflict with those in the mechanical code and cause possible moisture control problems.
2. Chairman Patterson expressed her strong concern that the Commission had passed mod 162, which the TAC had not had time to review, when she was not present, after it had not been passed once. Glenn pointed out to the TAC that what was passed was not the entire mod but provisions of 162 identified by DCA staff and proposed in a comment made by Glenn that narrowed the scope of the mod to mechanical provisions of the IRC more common to residential that had been left out of the FBC, mechanical code.

Comments were made on other issues. Andrews noted that the exception made of a 3 sq.ft. window for bathroom fans did not equal the 4% requirement for natural ventilation; it was pointed out that the window was an exception, which did not have to meet the 4% criteria. Bassett pointed out that the electronic version of section 507.13.3 has another apparent numerical discrepancy corrected: the Q value for 4 exposed sides should be 100A, not 150A. **The TAC asked the Chair to report the discrepancy in 507.13.3 to the Commission and see if it could be fixed.**

3. Joe Belcher described an oversight in the provisions of sections 419.3.11.8 and 420 that prohibits certain products from being used in an application on cooking exhaust ductwork where they were needed. He explained that he had tracked this issue through the Dept. of Health at the request of 3M and that the DOH now agrees with his solution. Two letters were submitted into the record.

ACTION: On a motion from Quintela, the TAC voted 9 - 0 that the provisions of sections 419.3.11.8 and 420.3.15.3 be deleted from (code text included by passage of) proposed mods 115 and 116.

Patterson made the strong suggestion that in future provisions from state agency rules that contain requirements relevant to the subcodes be referred to the relevant TAC for review before going before the Commission for action.

5. Patterson raised the unresolved issue of section 601.4, balanced return air, from proposed mod 149 and requested that the TAC try one more time to resolve it before the Commission takes action on the issue without their input. The TAC expressed that although they felt strongly that balanced return air was important, the 70 sq.in./100 cfm of supply air figure provided by Cummings was unrealistic and that without a prescriptive alternative 601.4 was unenforceable. The TAC worked to achieve language acceptable to the 75% of voting members needed to pass a code modification.

ACTION: On a motion from Cummings, the TAC voted 7-2 to approve proposed mod 149 with the following changes: Change Exception 1 to read "Transfer ducts may achieve this by increasing the return transfer 1 1/2 times the cross sectional area (square inches) ~~volume~~ of the supply duct entering the room or space it's serving and the door having at least an unrestricted 1 inch undercut of door to achieve proper return air balance." Exception 2 is revised to read: "Transfer grilles shall use 50 square inches (of grille area) to 100 cfm (of supply air) for sizing through-the-wall transfer grilles and using an unrestricted 1 inch undercutting of doors to achieve proper return air balance." Exception 3 is revised to read: "Habitable rooms only shall be required to meet these requirements for proper balanced return air excluding bathrooms, closets, storage rooms and laundry rooms, except that all supply air into the master suite shall be included." Exception 4 is deleted.

Other Business:

Stanton reported that ASHRAE had responded to the letter sent requesting a clarification of the provisions of ASHRAE 62 regarding the ventilation of garages had been returned for more specific criteria. She asked TAC members to provide input to the process by email.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.