

State Codes and Standards Committee  
Codes Amendment Subcommittee  
Minutes

March 11, 2015

1. **Call to Order:** The Chairman called to order the regular meeting of the Codes Amendment Subcommittee of the State Codes and Standards Committee. The meeting was held in Room G8 at 165 Capital Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

2. **In Attendance:** Louis Free, Chair  
Paul Costello  
Thomas DiBlasi  
Robert Hanbury  
Donald Harwood  
Henry Miga  
Michael Musco  
Eric Shutt  
Michael Sinsigalli  
Fredrick Wajcs, Jr.  
William Zoeller

**Also present:** William Abbott, State Fire Marshal  
Joseph Cassidy, State Building Inspector  
Daniel Veronick, Office of State Building Inspector

Dianne Harp Jones, AIA Connecticut  
William Nash, International Code Council  
Joanne Rees, AIA Connecticut  
Jeff Sargent, National Fire Protection Association  
Bruce Spiewak, Self & AIA Connecticut

3. **Minutes:**

No action on previous meeting minutes taken.

4. **Communications:**

The following correspondence has been acknowledged by the CAS as being received since the last CAS meeting.

- a. Correspondence from Karen Facey, New Milford Fire Marshal, to William Abbott, State Fire Marshal, dated January 13, 2015. Fire Marshal Facey is requesting clarification of Section 3406.1. Correspondence was forwarded to the CAS by Keith Flood, Chair, Codes and Standards Committee. This is for CAS information only at this time.
- b. Proposed Code Change Form marked **FM 15-06** received on March 3, 2015 from Craig Voelkert, Fire Equipment Manufacturer's Association, related to a proposed amendment to the 2012 IFC

Section 906.1 and Section 906.2 regarding portable fire extinguishers. The CAS will extend a letter invitation to the proponent offering him the opportunity to present his proposal at the April 14, 2014 CAS meeting.

## 5. Old Business

- a. The following is a status update of the OSBI/OSFM and CAS reviews for the 2012 Family of Codes:

1. 2012 International Building Code: State Building Inspector Cassidy reported that there has been no change in status from the January 7, 2015 CAS meeting related to OSBI and the Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (OPA) coordination of 2012 IBC Chapter 11, Chapter 34 and ICC/ANSI A117.1-2009. OSBI will contact OPA for an update.

OSBI has completed the second DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT incorporating previous actions for 2012 IBC Chapter 1 and Chapter 2, and is addressing a few open issues in 2012 IBC Chapter 3 such as Day Care being grouped under Section 305 Educational Group E. OSBI and OSFM coordination of the 2012 IBC and 2012 IFC Chapter 3 and 4 currently in progress.

The second DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT incorporating previous actions for the 2012 IMC and 2012 IPC is complete.

2. ICC/ANSI A117.1-2009 Standard on Accessible & Usable Buildings and Facilities: See item 5.a.1. above.
  3. 2012 International Fire Code and Connecticut State Fire Safety Code: State Fire Marshal Abbott reported that OSFM has made significant progress on the CSFSC DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT for Part IV – Existing Buildings / Occupancies and will have a pdf sent to CAS members by the end of March. OSFM staff continues to work on the CSFSC DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT for Part I – Administration, Part II – General and Part III – New Construction, Renovation, or Change of Use.
- b. Proposed Code Change **FM 15-01** - Code proposal re 2012 IFC. An oral presentation was made by the proponent on 2/11/2015 related to a proposed amendment to the 2012 IFC to include 2012 IBC Chapter 3 - Use and Occupancy Classification in its entirety in the Connecticut Fire Safety Code. In the current 2012 IFC, the use and occupancy classifications are found only within the definitions sections and do not include the threshold tables for Hazardous uses. Access to the threshold tables for Hazardous uses is necessary for inspections following the issuance of a certificate of

occupancy where hazards could be increased. OSFM reported that this request will be addressed in the CSFSC DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT.

- c. Proposed Code Change **FM 15-02** - Code proposal re 2012 IFC. An oral presentation was made by the proponent on 2/11/2015 related to a proposed amendment to the 2012 IFC to include 2012 IBC Chapter 4 – Special Detailed Requirements Based on Use and Occupancy in its entirety in the Connecticut Fire Safety Code. This chapter contains many requirements that are continually monitored by the Fire Marshal throughout the course of occupancy of the building and that can be directly referenced during an abatement process and potential court action. Michael Sinsigalli reported he had a meeting with State Building Inspector Cassidy and State Fire Marshal Abbott to discuss the justification for this request. CAS action on **HOLD** pending OSFM review and comment.
- d. Proposed Code Change **FM 15-03** - Code proposal re 2012 IBC and 2012 IFC Section 903.2.7. An oral presentation was made by the proponent on 2/11/2015 related to a proposed amendment to the 2012 IBC and 2012 IFC to add Condition 5 to Section 903.2.7 Group M for automatic sprinkler system requirements to maintain consistency with the current state codes and for correlation with Part IV of the CFSC. OSFM reported that this requirement is already in the building code DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT and in the CSFSC DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT under Part III – New Construction, Renovation, or Change of Use. No additional CAS action required at this time.
- e. Proposed Code Change **FM 15-04** - Code proposal re 2012 IBC and 2012 IFC Section 903.3.5.1.1 Limited Area Sprinkler Systems. An oral presentation was made by the proponent on 2/11/2015 related to amend 2012 IBC and 2012 IFC Section 903.2.5.1.1 to reduce the number of sprinkler heads from 20 to 6 based on the hydraulic design area for 20 sprinkler heads being greater than the largest required design area for a full NFPA 13 system and maintains consistency with the current state codes and for correlation with Part IV of the CFSC. OSFM reported that this requirement is already in the building code DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT and in the CSFSC DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT under Part III – New Construction, Renovation, or Change of Use. No additional CAS action required at this time.
- f. Proposed Code Change **FM 15-05** - Code proposal re 2012 IFC. An oral presentation was made by the proponent on 2/11/2015 related to a proposed amendment to the 2012 IFC to include 2012 IBC Chapter 7 – Fire and Smoke Protection Features in its entirety in the Connecticut Fire Safety Code. This chapter contains many

requirements that are continually monitored by the Fire Marshal throughout the course of occupancy of the building and that can be directly referenced during an abatement process and potential court action. Michael Sinsigalli reported he had a meeting with State Building Inspector Cassidy and State Fire Marshal Abbott to discuss the justification for this request. CAS action on **HOLD** pending OSFM review and comment.

- g. Michael Sinsigalli had a meeting with OSBI and OSFM to discuss the concerns of the Local Fire Marshals regarding their ability to reach into and take or modify sections of IBC Chapter 3, 4 and 7 as part of their enforcement duties once the building is issued a Certificate of Occupancy since by state statute only the State Building Inspector has the statutory authority to modify the building code. This is an issue for Fire Marshal enforcement. OSBI and OSFM stated they understand the concerns and will work to address this administratively in the CSFSC DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT. See item 5.c. related to Proposed Code Change FM 15-02 and item 5.f. related to Proposed Code Change FM 15-05 above.

## **6. New Business**

- a. CAS discussed in general terms the NFPA and IFC provisions that address when a building or structure is considered an “existing” building as it relates to the code enforcement for the State and Local Fire Marshals. The chief concept of the IFC is that a building maintains full compliance with the code under which it was designed and built. This concept has been prevalent in the IFC and IBC since development and is an extension of the legacy codes. For existing buildings, the key features of passive fire protection, active fire protection and, the means of egress are well addressed within the respective chapters and in Chapter 11 for existing buildings. There are sufficient provisions within the IFC to address the issue when a building transitions from new to existing upon the adoption of a new code. Unless modified by Connecticut, these provisions can be retained regardless of the changes that are made to the prescriptive requirements. More study is required to understand how this gets applied. Possible inclusion in the CSFSC DRAFT CT SUPPLEMENT is to establish a base timeline such as the following:

- Constructed on or after December 31, 2005: CSFSC Part III – New Construction, Renovation, or Change of Use
- Constructed before December 31, 2005: CSFSC Part IV – Existing Buildings / Occupancies

**7. Adjournment**

The next meeting of the CAS will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 in Room G38, 165 Capital Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut starting at 1:30 PM.

  
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Louis Free, Chair  
Codes Amendment Subcommittee

**KEY:**    **CSFSC**    Connecticut State Fire Safety Code  
          **ICC**        International Code Council  
          **IBC**        International Building Code  
          **IEBC**      International Existing Building Code  
          **IECC**      International Energy Conservation Code  
          **IRC**        International Residential Code  
          **NEC**        National Electrical Code  
          **NFPA**      National Fire Protection Association

CAS draft meeting minutes 03-11-15 LJJ draft