



**FIRE SERVICE
MEMBERSHIP
COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Fire Service Membership Council Governing Committee**

**International Code Council Annual Conference
Sunday, October 16, 2016
Kansas City Convention Center
Kansas City, Missouri**

“Many Voices for One Purpose”

FSMC Members	Representing	Present
Scott Adams – Chair -- Park City Fire District, UT	ICC	X
Gary West- Vice Chair -- Tennessee State Fire Marshal	NASFM	X
Fulton Cochran -- Clark County Building and Fire Prevention, NV	ICC	X
Sean DeCrane -- Cleveland Fire Department, OH	ICC ¹	
Timothy Diehl -- Rockville Fire Marshal’s Office, MD	ICC	X
Michael Desrochers – Vermont Fire Marshal’s Office	NASFM	X
Jackie Gibbs -- Marietta Fire Department, GA	IAFC:SE	X
Rick McCullough -- Regina Fire Department, SK (Retired)	IAFC:C	X
George Michehl -- Buffalo Grove Fire Department, IL (Retired)	IAFC:GL	X
Ernie Misewicz -- Fairbanks Fire Department, AK	IAFC:W	
Kelly Nicoletto -- Underwriters Laboratories, TX	NASFM	
Coy Porter – Utah Fire Marshal’s Office	NASFM	
Marc Sampson-- Longmont Fire Department, CO	IAFC:MV	X
Michael Sinsigalli -- West Hartford Fire Department, CT	IAFC:NE	X by phone
Adolf Zubia -- Clark County Building and Fire Prevention, NV	ICC	X
(Vacant)	ICC	
(Vacant)	IAFC:SW	
(Vacant)	IAFC:E	

¹ Previous minutes refer to Mr. DeCrane as representing the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) on the Fire Service Membership Council Governing Committee. Mr. DeCrane is an appointee of the International Code Council (ICC).

ICC Staff	
Rob Neale – Staff Liaison to the FSMC	X
Dr. Tracy Lendi –Vice President of Training and Education, ICC	X
Michael Gardner -- Executive Vice President for Compliance Programs, ICC	X
Misty Guard -- Vice President for Plumbing, Mechanical and Gas Programs, ICC	X
Michelle Porter—Director of Testing and Certification, ICC	X

Registered Guests/Visitors	
Dwayne Garriss—ICC incoming President and Georgia State Fire Marshal	
Jim Brown, CBO -- ICC Board Liaison, Gillette, WY	
Stuart Tom – ICC Board of Directors, Glendale, CA	
Robert Drexler – ICC Board of Directors, Greece, NY	
Randy Metz – Carlsbad Fire Department, CA	
Jeff Shapiro – International Code Consultants, Austin, TX	
Amber Anderson – Cosumnes Consolidated Services District, CA	
Eirene Knott – BRR Architecture, Merriam, KS	
Bruce Johnson -- Underwriters Laboratories, NY	
Preet Bassi—Center for Public Service Excellence, VA	
Sandie Hastings – Riverside County Fire Department, CA	
Byron Matthew – Cheyenne Fire Department, WY	
Justin Smith – Casper Fire Department, WY	
Roger Herin – Monarch Fire Protection District, MO	
Gary Lampella – National Association of Home Builders, DC	
Michael O'Brian – Brighton Area Fire Authority, MI	

1) Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 a.m. CDT by Chairman Scott Adams. Mr. Neale called the roll. Chairman Adams declared a quorum at 11:42 a.m. CDT.

2) Opening Remarks from the Chair

Chairman Adams welcomed the newly elected and appointed Governing Committee members: Coy Porter from Utah, Michael Desrochers from Vermont, Adolf Zubia and Fulton Cochran from Nevada and Tonya Hoover from Maryland*. Chairman Adams also acknowledged public attendees in the room.

3) Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

* As a matter of ICC practice, new members may begin serving their terms immediately upon election/appointment, but must be ratified officially by the ICC Board of Directors at its next meeting.

Mr. Neale reported there were one correction and one addition to the agenda. Item 9c should be corrected to "Mobile fueling and corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST) discussion" and Mr. Cochran has requested the addition of discussion on the ICC code development cycle.

Director Brown requested a few minutes for a presentation at the end of the meeting. Chairman Adams approved the additions and correction.

4) Approval of Minutes

Action: Mr. Michehl moved approval, and Mr. Sinsigalli seconded, approval of the September 15, 2016 teleconference minutes as corrected. The vote carried without objections.

5) Reports from Officers or Permanent Committees

cdpACCESS Initiative. Mr. Zubia stated he had no report. Although the work group had not officially met, Mr. Zubia credited others who took the lead on promoting cdpACCESS.

Training and Education. Mr. Cochran expressed his continued frustration with the ICC Professional Development Council (PDC) deadlines for submitting training ideas for the Annual Business Meeting. He said he is concerned that the FSMC goal to have timely custom classes cannot be met with the PDC requirements that course plans must be submitted in September for the PDC to decide in January or February which courses will be offered. Mr. Cochran asked if the FSMC wanted to continue to push for "cutting edge" classes or default to ICC "canned" classes to comply with ICC procedures.

Action: Mr. Neale was asked to contact the Professional Development Council to obtain more information on its deadlines.

Building Safety Month/Fire Prevention Week. Mr. Michehl reported the work group had achieved its goals in 2015-2016 with three articles published in *Building Safety Journal*. He said he is hoping to obtain permission from the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NAFSM) to publish its position paper on CSST (corrugated stainless steel [gas] tubing) as another *Building Safety Journal* article.

Membership Council Outreach. Mr. Sinsigalli reported the work group had met by teleconference September 20, 2016. In its discussions, the work group identified issues of streamlining the ICC membership and voter validation process as a way to increase membership. The work group also suggested trying to recruit new FSMC members at the time they join ICC.

Mr. Sinsigalli read into the record a draft letter to Dr. Tracy Lendi, ICC vice president of Training and Education, recommending a national training and education needs assessment. Mr. Cochran said it was timely to conduct another training needs assessment and he hoped ICC would dedicate the staff and resources to accomplish it.

Action: Mr. Gibbs moved approval, Mr. Cochran seconded, send the letter to Dr. Lendi with the date of FSMC action included. The motion passed without objection.

ICC Evaluation Service. Mr. DeCrane previously submitted his report by email:

- a. ICC has been granted court permission to pursue its copyright lawsuit against the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO).
- b. ICC-Evaluation Service has partnered with the Centre Scientifique et Technique du Batiment (CSTB - France), Deutsches Institut für Bautechnik (DIBt – Germany) to form the Alliance of Product Evaluation Experts.
- c. The work group reviewed October 4th ICC-ES meeting agenda and it did not appear to have issues related to the fire service.

6) Reports from Special Committees

Nominating Committee. Chairman Adams expressed his thanks to the Nominating Committee for its work. Mr. West, who led the work group, likewise expressed his appreciation to them.

Bylaw Change Committee. Mr. Nicoletto being absent for a family matter, the bylaw change recommendation matter for FSMC-GC absences was tabled until the next meeting.

Action: The item was tabled until the November 17 FSMC Governing Committee meeting.

7) Unfinished Business

Fire Service Membership Council membership survey. Mr. Neale recapped the April FSMC membership survey effort and the results matrix created by Ms. Hoover.

Action: Chairman Adams will assign this project to the new Membership Outreach work group as a 2016-2017 project.

Amazon.com Inc. “Thank You” letter. Mr. Neale summarized the events surrounding the draft thank you letter to Amazon Chief Executive Officer Jeff Bezos for its efforts to remove non-listed fire protection products – specifically home smoke alarms – from its retail website.

Action: Mr. Gibbs moved approval, Mr. McCullough seconded, to send the letter. Discussion followed on the letter’s exact language.

Mr. McCullough offered an amendment that the letter not be sent until it was verified the non-listed items had been removed. Mr. Michehl offered to verify. Mr. Cochran recommended holding the letter until this was accomplished.

Mr. Shapiro, from the audience, shared his experience with the vast amount and ever-changing online inventory and suggested it would be almost impossible to verify that all of the non-listed devices have been removed. Mr. Sampson recommended language that “it is our understanding is you are addressing it.”

Mr. West report that Amazon had responded to NASFM’s efforts to remove the devices by developing a new internal policy on non-listed devices. He suggested the letter be amended to recognize Amazon has addressed the matter through policy.

Final Action: Chairman Adams tabled the item until a revised letter could be provided at the November 17 FSMC teleconference. Mr. Neale will provided a revised version.

8) New Business

ICC Board of Directors FSMC Annual Report. Chairman Adams reported the ICC Board of Directors had accepted the FSMC’s 2015-2016 Annual Report.

Election of a Governing Committee chair and vice chair. Chairman Adams opened the nominations for the election of a vice chair for the FSMC Governing Committee. Mr. Gary West was nominated for a second one-year term and there were no other nominations from the floor.

Action: Mr. Zubia moved, Mr. Gibbs seconded, Mr. West be approved by acclamation. There were no objections.

Vice Chairman West opening the nominations for the election of a chair for the FSMC Governing Committee. Chairman Adams was nominated for a second one-year term and there were no other nominations from the floor.

Action: Mr. Cochran moved, Mr. Gibbs seconded, Mr. Adams be approved by acclamation. There were no objections.

Three-year Code Development Cycle. Mr. Neale summarized efforts by the Coalition for Current Safety Codes (www.coalition4safety.org) to support the traditional three-year development cycle for building construction and safety codes. He provided model proclamation that had been sent to all ICC fire service chapters, and encouraged the FSMC to support the proclamation.

Mr. Gibbs stated that some of the resistance to sustaining the three-year code cycle comes from code officials who are challenged to keep up with the changes. He encouraged marketing the proclamation to ICC members. He said he’s seen resistance to the three-year cycle come from both the legislatures and code officials. He said this type of resolution could help the fire service at the state level and would be something of value to take to the state legislature.

Mr. Michehl asked if the Building Official Membership Council was reviewing this as well because in his geographic area it is the building officials who usually drive code adoptions.

Action: Mr. Michehl moved approval, Mr. Zubia seconded, to take the draft resolution to the other ICC membership councils and make them aware of it. Mr. Neale will share with the other membership councils.

During discussion on the motion, Mr. West commented that in his area the bigger cities did not want the state to get ahead of them in sequence of adopting the codes.

Final Action: Mr. Michehl moved approval, Mr. Zubia seconded, to take the draft resolution to the other ICC membership councils and make them aware of it. The motion carried with Mr. West abstaining.

Kerry Rose Fire Sprinkler Notification Act. Mr. Neale explained a project proposal to develop a partnership among the Fire Service Membership Council, the Center for Campus Fire Safety, Campus Fire Safety and Campus Firewatch to support the Kerry Rose Fire Sprinkler Notification Act (<https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4405>)

This bill amends title IV (Student Assistance) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to modify fire safety reporting requirements for an institution of higher education (IHE) that participates in federal student aid programs.

Specifically, it requires an IHE that maintains on-campus student housing facilities to notify students about whether a housing facility is equipped with a fire safety system, including an automatic fire sprinkler system in each bedroom.

Action: Mr. Michehl moved approval, Mr. Gibbs seconded, to try to establish a coalition to support the Act. The motion carried without objection. Mr. Neale will pursue the project with the partner organizations.

“Innovation in Code Administration Award” status report. Mr. Neale reported that the proposal to develop a joint NASFM, Building Official Membership Council, International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)-Fire and Life Safety Section and ICC Government Relations “Innovation in Code Enforcement” award has been reviewed and supported by the principle partners.

Mr. Zubia commented the proposal had been reviewed by the IAFC Board of Directors without opposition. Mr. Shapiro recommended that one of the values of the award would be collecting and sharing best practices, not simply recognizing a single award winner. He suggested the results be shared at the ICC Emerging Leaders symposia.

Mr. Cochran supported the suggestion of a best practices approach, and recommended the information be shared with the ICC Major Jurisdictions Council that already is studying ways to make service improvements. The best practices should be posted on the ICC website.

Action: Mr. Diehl moved approval, Mr. Michehl seconded, to move the award outline to the FSMC and Building Official Membership Council work groups to develop the award's administrative procedures. The motion was approved without objection. Mr. Neale will coordinate the effort with the two councils.

FSMC-GC Working Group assignments. Chairman Adams stated he is creating new FSMC Governing Committee work groups for 2016-2017. The chair and vice chair of each group will be named later.

The new work groups and their missions are:

- a. Training and Education: To reach out to the Fire Service Membership Council to see what they want in regards to year-round training and education opportunities.
- b. Fire Prevention Week/Building Safety Month/FSMC webpage: To create articles and solicit content/articles from the members.
- c. Member Recruitment: to find and develop ways to grow the FSMC.
- d. Emerging Issues and Trends: to identify and report on policy and technical issues that affect ICC and the FSMC.

Mr. Michehl commented that he likes incoming ICC President Dwayne Garris' motto of "Many voices for one purpose." Chairman Adams reported he already directed that phrase to be included on all FSMC correspondence and reports. Mr. Michehl recommended FSMC members add it to their email signatures.

9) **Good of the Order, Presentations and Emerging Issues**

Report from Ms. Michelle Porter, ICC director of certification and testing. Ms. Porter reported on the following items related to ICC certification and testing:

- a. ICC expects to transition soon to internet-based testing (IBT) for certification exams. ICC has retained a Canadian company, Yardstick Training and Testing to manage the program, including sophisticated remote proctoring. PearsonVue testing sites will remain an option, but it is expected paper-and-pencil testing will disappear (except for special needs applicants) by 2022 since it currently accounts for less than 5% of volume.
- b. Effective January 1, 2015, changes have been made to Certified Building Official (CBO) and Certified Fire Marshal (CFM) combination designations. Candidates who begin the CBO or CFM process after January 1, 2015, will be required to take the new exams that are designated (CBO) NEW and (CFM) NEW (e.g. Management Module [MM], Legal Module [MG] and Fire Codes and Standards Module [FC] or Building Codes and Standards Module [BC]. Candidates who began the CBO or CFM exam process prior to January 1, 2015, by taking and passing the 01, 02, or FM exams, will be allowed to finish the remaining modules and will not be required to take the additional exams. (For more information: https://www.iccsafe.org/wp-content/uploads/National_Certification_EIB-CBT.pdf)

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- c. The commercial fire alarm and sprinkler plan reviewer and inspector exams have not been as successful as hoped. Since their inception, the exams have been administered only 107 times. If ICC does not see a demand in 2016-2017 it may consider “sunsetting” the exams. There has been confusion that these certifications may be competing with National Institute for Certification and Testing (NICET) professional development certifications, and that is not accurate. These exams primarily are for code official certification, not installers or designers.

Mr. Zubia asked if perhaps ICC could partner with the National Fire Academy (NFA) course cycles. Mr. Neale explained there had been prior efforts for the Fire Inspector I and II certification exams, but were not successful.

Ms. Porter said ICC is looking at recognizing other certification programs as applying toward ICC certifications. Furthermore, ICC is working to align training course delivery with certification exams immediately following.

Director Brown explained the ICC Board of Directors is engaged in the certification and testing program, and is looking at test security and ANSI (American National Standards Institute) accreditation.

Comments from Mr. Michel on mobile fueling and corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST). Mr. Michehl stated these two items struck him as emerging issues that need to be addressed. He encouraged people to review International Fire Code proposal F386 (mobile fueling) before voting. He said that the Fire Code Action Committee supports the proposal to allow mobile fueling, he still has concerns that it faces an uphill battle in vapor recovery and product transfer safety.

On the matter of corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST), Mr. Michehl said he intends to write an article for *Building Safety Journal* to advise members of the situation with potential gas leaks due to nearby lightning strikes. Mr. West explained NASFM has been working on the problem to develop a stricter product testing standard to address the problem but existing installations create a significant issue. Mr. Michehl said he will try to get permission from NASFM to reprint its CSST position paper.

Mr. Desrochers said he has been dealing with this issue in Vermont more than 10 years. Although the manufacturers have produced new piping, there are still thousands of homes piped with CSST. He said some research suggests CSST may still have problems regardless of bonding and grounding efforts. He reported there have been some complaints regarding the ease of puncturing the tubing and we have also received complaints of corrosion after tubing is exposed to flooding.

Incoming ICC President Dwayne Garriss stated NASFM has asked all state insurance commissioners to notify property insurance companies to get the materials installed correctly. Put info out through insurance companies.

ICC code development cycle. Mr. Cochran reported that with the Group C International Green Construction Code being removed from the ICC code development cycle, ICC Technical Services is soliciting ideas for how to modify the existing “three-cycle” process.

Report from Dr. Tracy Lendi, ICC vice president of training and education. Dr. Lendi reported that ICC will be launching a new training initiative, ICC University, in January. The new learning management system will combine all training opportunities and products into a single location. Existing transcripts will be memorialized in Phase 2. ICC is looking to have job-focused training curricula based on individual professional goals. She said she hopes to link certification testing and curriculum planning to simplify the processes.

Report from Mr. Michael Gardner, ICC executive vice president of compliance operations. Mr. Gardner addressed the FSMC to confirm there is no issue between FSMC and ICC-Evaluation Services (ICC-ES). He reported that two years ago the ES board added a fire service representative, and there is fire service representation on the International Accreditation Service committee.

Mr. Cochran said he had new technology and new testing method questions ICC-ES environment that are fire service related. He said there is a pervasive feeling that the fire service as a whole may not be aware of the entire process or products, and the knowledge transfer between ES and fire service results in a breakdown. Mr. Gardner acknowledged that ES has to work constantly to accomplish that; it is not one committee-person's responsibility to share the information.

In response to a question from Mr. Zubia, Mr. Gardner said ES is doing well financially and the list of clients and listing services are growing. He reported that ICC recently signed a cooperative agreement with Innovation Research Laboratories predicated on a complete testing and evaluation program for new products. The expected result is that new products will be able to move to market faster. Mr. Gardner also reported:

- a. ICC has obtained a grant work with the Department of Energy to work on fire fighter safety around photovoltaic (PV) systems, and,
- b. The lawsuit with IAPMO is under court order to have IAPMO and ICC effect a settlement.

Mr. Gardner requested that FSMC agendas be sent to him for sharing with ICC ES and IAS.

Other business:

- a. Incoming ICC President Dwayne Garriss expressed his appreciation to the membership for its support and willingness to put his name forward as an ICC presidential candidate. He said he hopes to do as well as members expect
- b. Mr. Michael O'Brian, chair of the IAFC-Fire and Life Safety Section, expressed thanks on behalf of the Section and offered "if anything we can do to work together let us know".

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- c. Director Brown expressed that he has enjoyed being the FSMC liaison from the ICC Board of Directors. He does not know if he will be reappointed by President Garriss.

10) Adjournment.

Action: Having no more business to come before the Governing Committee, Mr. Gibbs moved approval, Mr. Sampson seconded, a motion to adjourn. There was no objection and the meeting adjourned at 1:46 CDT.

*Approved November 17, 2016 by the Fire Service
Membership Council Governing Committee
at its bi-monthly teleconference.*