

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
BUILDING CODES COMMITTEE

May 19, 2010

Maricopa Association of Governments Office
Cholla Room
Phoenix, Arizona

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Steven Hether, Mesa, Chair
Ken Sowers, Avondale, Acting Chair
Phil Marcotte, Buckeye
*Mike Tibbett, Carefree
Mike Baxley, Cave Creek
A-Alex Banachowski, Chandler
*Mary Dickson, El Mirage
*Peter Johnson, Fountain Hills
*John Smith, Gila Bend
*Jo Rene DeVeau, Gila River Indian
Community
A-Ben Cox for Ray Patten, Gilbert
Stephen Dudley for Bryan Woodcox, Glendale
Bill King for Ed Kulik, Goodyear

*Chuck Ransom, Litchfield Park
Tom Ewers, Maricopa County
Bob Lee, Paradise Valley
A- Dennis Chase for Dennis Marks, Peoria
Tom Wandrie, Phoenix
A-Dean Wise, Queen Creek
Michael Clack, Scottsdale
A-Michael Williams, Tempe
A-Mario Rochin, Tolleson
John Stigsell, Youngtown
Rick DeStefano, Wickenburg
Bridget Jones for Rus Brock, Home
Builders Association

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Tom Paradise, City of Glendale
Jami Garrison, MAG
Denise McClafferty, MAG
Marc Sobelman, ECOTality North America
Mark Hubbard, ECOTality North America
Alana Chavez, ECOTality

*Those members neither present nor
represented by proxy.

A-Those members participating via
audioconference

V-Those members participating via
videoconference

1. Call to Order

Steve Hether, Chair, called to order the May 19, 2010 meeting of the MAG Building Codes Committee (BCC) at 2:00 p.m.

2. Introductions

Voting members Alex Banachowski, Ben Cox, Dennis Chase, Dean Wise, Michael Williams, and Mario Rochin attended via telephone conference call. All members introduced themselves.

3. March 17, 2010 Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Tom Ewers, seconded by Ken Sowers and unanimously recommended to approve the March 17, 2010 meeting minutes.

4. Call to the Audience

There were no comments from the audience.

5. Comments From the Committee

Steve Hether, Chair, said that he and Ken Sowers, Vice Chair, attended a meeting of MAG Committee Chairs on behalf of the MAG Executive Committee on the topic of the Sustainable Communities HUD program. Steve said that the committee was looking for committee projects that relate to sustainability for input into possible grant funding. Steve said that at that time it did not appear that the BCC had any projects that would be a fit. Ken Sowers indicated that the projects seemed to be aimed more towards transportation rather than building codes.

Bob Lee asked if topics like photovoltaic or solar water heaters would apply. Steve said that it did not appear that these fit into the grant programs that are being looked at. He said it was more “live and work” type projects such as those along the light rail corridor. Ken said that it was more about city plans and what projects were already in the city plans.

6. Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Deployment Guidelines

Steve Hether introduced Marc Sobelman from ECOTality North America (formerly eTec). Steve said that since the March committee meeting version 3.0 of the document had been distributed for comments. He said that he did not receive any comments nor did Jami Garrison, MAG staff.

Marc Sobelman gave a brief presentation to present an overview of the project; changes made from version 2.0 and 3.0 of the Deployment Guidelines and wrapped up with the next steps for the EV Project. He thanked the Committee for their input.

Michael Clack recommended approval of the guidelines as presented in version 3.0. Tom Ewers seconded the motion. The floor opened for discussion and Bob Lee asked what an “approval” vote means for this motion.

Michael Clack responded to Bob Lee’s question saying that a recommendation of approval indicates encouragement for electric vehicle adoption in the region and nothing binding with

regards to permitting. Ken Sowers said that it would be a recommendation for approval of the concept of the electric vehicle infrastructure. Michael Clack added agreement and said that it still means any installs have to comply with required codes. He added that there will still be some issues that will need to be worked through with the cities and local ordinances as the installs begin to take place around the region but this document is just a guideline towards consistency between the cities and overall concept design.

Mike Baxley asked if the Design Guidelines document will be brought forward to the committee as well. Marc Sobelman indicated yes that is still in the works and expect to be completed in a few weeks. He said that the Design Guidelines will be part of the 10 Year Plan and MicroClimate documents which will be presented to each city/town as locations are selected.

Bob Lee asked if the committee will be passing a resolution or approving this document. Michael Clack said that usually the committee passes resolutions. Jami Garrison clarified that if the committee would be recommended approval of the Deployment Guidelines for it to move forward to the MAG Management Committee.

Michael Clack clarified his motion to recommend approval of the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Deployment Guidelines version 3.0. Tom Ewers seconded. There was no further discussion.

The motion was passed unanimously. Bridget Jones representing the Home Builders Association abstained.

7. Arizona Building Officials (AZBO) Amendments

Ken Sowers discussed the status of the 2009 AZBO Amendments. He reminded the members that he had passed out a copy of the Amendments at the April meeting and requested comments from the members. He said that the topic of most concern appears to be that of “care facilities” and indicated that the AZBO Code Development group had discussed this issue with the State representative. The State provided feedback indicating that the AZBO codes were in line with all State requirements.

There were no comments from the members and Ken asked for clarification from the committee to ensure that “no comment” meant that the members were happy with the Amendments as written. Bob Lee said that yes, this was the case for him.

Steve Hether asked if Ken would like to put these forward for a vote at a future meeting of the BCC. Ken said that he is waiting for AZBO to formally approve the Amendments and will bring it forward after that is complete.

8. Updated MAG Building Codes Committee Membership

No updates were provided. Members were encouraged to send any changes to Jami Garrison or Heidi Pahl-Bickart. Jami Garrison said to check email addresses to ensure you are using the correct one.

9. Recommendation of Chair and Vice Chair of the MAG Building Codes Committee

Steve Hether said that the one year term for Chair and Vice Chair will expire in June. The Committee has two options: 1) recommend reappointment of the current Chair and Vice Chair to server a second one year term until June 2011; or 2) recommend that a new Chair and Vice Chair be appointed by the MAG Executive Committee to serve a one year term until June 2011.

Jami Garrison added that if option two is selected by the Committee that the Committee would essentially be recommending a new Vice Chair be appointed as the current Vice Chair, Ken Sowers, would most likely rotate up and be officially appointed by the Executive Committee to the Chair position.

Bob Lee made a motion to recommend reapointment of the current Chair, Steve Hether, and Vice Chair, Ken Sowers, for a second one year term until June 2011. Michael Clack seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

10. Update Survey of Code Adoption

Steve Hether asked if any members had updates for the Survey of Code Adoption. Jami Garrison commented that while there had been no updates since the last meeting, there have been inquiries made from people looking for the document. She said that keeping the document current and posted the MAG website has proven helpful.

Tom Wandrie said that the City of Phoenix is looking into a Green Building Code for Phoenix. They have received some grant funding so are looking to have a Green Building Code added. Michael Clack asked if there was any reason that Phoenix was not going with what the ICC had proposed. Tom Wandrie responded that it had to do with the requirements for the grant funding.

Steve Hether said that the way Phoenix is proceeding with using the grant funding for establishing the Green Building Code is along the same lines that Mesa used in creating their Energy Code using Stimulus funding.

Bridget Jones asked if there is a blank in the column “Anticipated Adopted Date by Council” for an agency does that mean they are no anticipating adoption or what does that mean? Steve Hether indicated that it most likely means that the particular jurisdiction has not established an anticipated date of adoption. Jami Garrison agreed with Steve but said that she would get further clarification from Heid Bickart, who set up the document, when she returns to the office.

11. Topics for Future Agendas

Steve Hether asked if the Committee did not have any pressing agenda items if the next two months of meetings could be canceled for the summer. Bob Lee asked if MAG had a rule that you could not cancel two meetings in a row. Jami Garrison said that she was not aware of any rule but would find out and pass that on to the Chair.

Bob Lee said that he is performing Fire Marshall duties at Paradise Valley along with his Building Official duties. He said that each month they meet to discuss staffing issues and how to meet their goals with decreasing staff due to layoffs. He asked that if any member had ideas on how to “do more with less” and can share that with the group at the next meeting, it would be

helpful. Bob Lee said that perhaps the Mesa Fire Marshall could present. Steve Hether said he would ask the Fire Marshall to come present on how they are handling the staffing shortages.

Steve Hether suggested another topic to look at over the next few months would be the International Green Construction Code that is being proposed. He said that it is scheduled to become part of the 2012 Codes and would be a good topic for information and discussion.

Steve said that once he gets word on whether or not two meetings in a row can be canceled, a notice will be sent out to the group on the next meeting date.

12. Adjournment

Ken Sowers made the motion for adjournment and Bob Lee seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.