



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING OFFICIALS

*“Leading the way to excellence in building and life safety”*

**MINUTES – 2024 Annual Business Meeting**

*Leavenworth, Washington*

*April 18-19, 2024*

**Call to Order**

The annual business meeting of the voting representatives was called to order by President Andy Higgins on April 18, 2024 at 8:05 a.m.

**Roll Call**

The following executive board officers were present:

- Andy Higgins - President
- Ray Cockerham - 1st Vice President
- Todd Blevins - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Kurt Aldworth - Immediate Past President

The following executive board directors were present:

- Brian Smith - Certification & Registration
- Micah Chappell - Technical Code Development
- Tim Woodard - Government Relations
- Angela Haupt - Finance
- Stacy Criswell - Outreach Services
- Ryan Mumma - Emergency Management
- James Tumelson - Accreditation
- C. Ray Allshouse - Past President
- Trace Justice - Past President

The following management personnel were present:

- Tara Jenkins - Executive Director
- Troy Jenkins - Jenkins Management Solutions
- Tanner Jenkins - Jenkins Management Solutions

**Introductions**

The active member voting representatives, associate members, and guests introduced themselves. Registration list is on file at the WABO office.

## **Agenda**

President Andy Higgins presented the proposed Agenda for the April 18-19, 2024, Annual Business Meeting.

**MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as presented.**  
The motion carried.

## **Minutes**

President Andy Higgins presented the proposed Minutes for the WABO Winter Committee Meeting on January 25, 2024.

**MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the Minutes be approved as presented.**  
The motion carried.

## **President's Report**

President Andy Higgins announced it was a successful legislative session and that more would be heard at the Government Relations Committee from Tim Woodard. Andy reported Technical Code Development (TCD) members traveled to participate in the ICC Group A1 Committee Action Hearings in Florida and that Micah would provide an update on the new format ICC has implemented at the TCD meeting. He also stated WABO was successful at the state and national level and has a great west coast influence. Andy encouraged members to get involved and to attend the ICC Annual Business Meeting.

Andy Higgins reported that the Governor has officially appointed Angela Haupt to represent the Building Officials on the State Building Code Council.

WABO's 2024 TAG Committee representatives have been approved.

## **First Vice President**

Ray Cockerham thanked the first timers for attending and for such a strong pierce county presence (Puyallup, Edgewood, Sumner, Steilacoom, Tacoma, & Pierce County). Ray reported on the Leadership Academy that he and Todd Blevins attended in Florida in April and on the OBOA Quarterly meeting he attended where he had the chance to tour an Amazon facility. Ray announced that he had the opportunity to sit in on a Technical Director interview with WABO Technical Consultant Gary Schenk. He encouraged the membership to take time from their schedules to sit in on these if a Technical Consultant calls upon them with such requests as it is a great way to make a connection with your local Technical Director.

## **Second Vice President**

Todd Blevins reported he attended the Committee Action Hearings (CAH) in Florida. Attending the CAH gives you the opportunity to know the 'why'. Todd encouraged members to convince their directors of the need to attend the ICC hearings.

## **Nominating Committee**

Kurt Aldworth announced one of the duties of the Immediate Past President is to serve as the Nominating Chair. WABO typically will ask a board member to serve in their position for a 2-year commitment. The WABO Board of Director elections will be held in the afternoon, and we have

a full slate of candidates running for each position, and an election will be held for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Kurt reminded members that voting representatives can run for any position, and even though we have a full slate, that it does not preclude anyone from running from the floor. Any person interested in running for office should fill out a nomination form.

The current candidates for the WABO Officers are as follows:

Ray Cockerham	-	President
Todd Blevins	-	1st Vice President
Angela Haupt/Stacy Criswell	-	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President

The current candidates for the WABO Committee Chairs are as follows:

Brian Smith	-	Certification & Registration
Micah Chappell	-	Technical Code Development
Tim Woodard	-	Government Relations
Angela Haupt/Andie Lorenz	-	Finance
Ryan Mumma	-	Education
Stacy Criswell/Andie Lorenz	-	Outreach Services
Quyem Thai	-	Emergency Management
James Tumelson	-	Accreditation

### **Executive Director**

Tara Jenkins announced the meeting logistics to the membership. Members were informed of the Governor and WABO's BSM proclamations. Tara highlighted the ICC Professional Development on Artificial Intelligence, the Code Official Accreditation Program (COAP) fall registration, and the opening for a COAP First Year Instructor.

Meeting recessed for committee meetings at 8:50 a.m.

**Meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.**

### **Election of WABO Board of Directors**

Kurt Aldworth announced the current candidates and asked if there were any other nominations for the officers and committee chairs.

A nomination from the floor for C & R Committee was received for George Naill.

**MOTION: By affirmation it was moved and seconded that the President and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President be approved.**

The motion carried.

Ballots for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP chair were distributed, and members voted. Angela Haupt is the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP chair.

Ballots for C & R chair were distributed, and members voted. Brian Smith retains the C & R chair.

He then asked for unanimous consent on the other uncontested committee chair races.

**MOTION: It was moved and seconded that the uncontested committee chair races be approved.**

The motion carried.

## **GUEST REPORTS:**

### **International Code Council**

ICC Director, Jim Sayers, reported that they are looking at CEO replacements. Jim stated that the IECC had 9 appeals that the Board went through individually. May is Building Safety Month and Jim challenged the group to beat Kentucky! Jim reported that ICC just finished Leadership Academy and the first round of CAH's are in Florida and the ABM will be held in Long Beach, CA with registration now open.

ICC Vice-President, David Spencer, announced the CEO search is going through various candidates (and the entire Board has to agree on 1 CEO). All 18 Directors will ensure the correct choice. ICC has the IECC Appeals (non redacted) version of the official decision posted on the ICC website.

ICC Director, Jack Applegate, announced that ICC is celebrating it's 30 year anniversary and David Spencer will be elected President this year and encouraged as many members that can attend to show and support this occasion.

### **ICC Region II**

Tim Blevins announced Region II consists of WA, ID, OR, MT, WY and AK. The Region meets virtually each month and has many committees you can get involved with. Anyone interested in getting on their distribution list was asked to contact Tim Blevins.

### **ICC Local Chapters**

**Western WA Chapter** – Quyen Thai announced the WWC chapter is going strong and will soon have a new President. He encouraged jurisdictions in the Western WA chapter areas to send staff members to meetings.

**Olympic Peninsula Chapter** – David Kinley reported that the chapter will have an Energy code Workshop which will be targeted towards applicants who need to learn code/process for prepping plans.

### **WSAPT**

Tela Gardner announced the Permit Technicians created an ad hoc committee for their Fall 30-year celebration. Tela reported a great way to stay in the loop with the permit technicians is to have an active membership and networking with others. She also stated the Habitat for Humanity project for Long Beach, CA this year will be play equipment. Tela reported WSAPT are pursuing a break in tradition by leaving Leavenworth/Chelan and finding new locations.

### **WPLBO**

Trace Justice announced the Western Pacific League of Building Officials (WPLBO) is made up of the following regions - WA, CA, Southern NV, & OR. WPLBO will be hosting a Candidates Forum September 12-13, 2024 in Clark County, NV. Trace reported that even though WPLBO comes together collectively for the Candidates Forum, everyone has their own voice and can vote for the candidates they choose to support in the ICC nomination process.

## **WSAFM**

Dave Kokot reported the last update on Fire Code training will be coming up on May 16, 2024. Dave reported on the Food Truck registration program and stated the program would be good for multiple jurisdictions.

## **OBOA**

Amy Williams reported OBOA's ABM will be held July 17-19, 2024 and will have technical training provided prior to the ABM. OBOA's QBM will be May 15, 2024 at Hillsboro and will include building tours. Amy provided an updated on the Board retreat that included the past presidents and strategic planning.

## **NFPA**

Gary Honold provided an update on NFPA 241 – Safety During Construction. Gary also reported on NFPA 855 that deals with electrical and energy. NFPA will be holding a Presidents Forum for building officials December 3-5, 2024 and will be sending an invite to Ray Cockerham (if Ray cannot attend he can send a designee).

## **WABO/SEAW**

Hoyt Jeter stated the committee is working on updating all the white papers to the 2021 codes. A question was asked on wind regions boundaries – the SEAW website has a tool for boundaries mapping which can be used. If you are interested in joining the committee, please email Julius Carreon or Hoyt Jeter.

## **State Agencies**

No reports.

## **State Building Code Council**

Angela Haupt reported that March 15 was the last SBCC meeting and the 2024 Code adoption schedule was approved. She also reported that all of WABO's Building Official seats for the 2024 Group 1 TAG positions are filled. Angela announced May 25-July 24 is the window to get comment in for 2024 TAGS and that they are open to public. Angela reported the Council approved an emergency rule for the 2021 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (WUIC) to remove all amended language from WAC 51-55 until new mapping and amendments can be developed. Local jurisdictions are still allowed to adopt the Model WUIC. She stated another Emergency rule was pushed through by a 2021 Fire Code TAG error in Section 308.1.4 to make it clear that the restrictions on Open Flame Cooking Devices are not included in state building codes. Angela reported the next SBCC meeting is April 19, 2024.

## **MyBuildingPermit.com (MBP)**

Krystal Kolke reported that MyBuildingPermit.com (MBP) is a online portal trying to provide consistency amongst the 17 jurisdictions under the umbrella ECity.gov. MBP has tip sheets available on their website for use with most having been updated to 2021. Krystal reported the RFP is done for the backend software and a contractor will be selected for work to begin on software development. Krystal provided an update on SB5290 that Tyler Running deer and Jake Hesselgesser are on. MBP's Annual Business meeting will be held in early October.

## **NW Housing Association**

Lance Clark reported that 2025 will mark their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for their association. Lance reported their manufacturers will be rolling out duplex manufactured homes. He also reported that Chris Rarig has stepped down as L&I's FAS Operations Manager and Melissa McBride has now stepped into that position.

## **Liaison Reports**

No Liaison Reports.

## **Other**

Tim Woodard reported, on behalf of the +1's, that at the conclusion of the AI professional development there is a 20% discount on Leavenworth's Roller Coaster.

Meeting recessed for URM presentation and code forum at 3:00 p.m.

## **Friday, April 19, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. – Meeting reconvened**

President Ray Cockerham reconvened meeting at 8:00 a.m.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Motion and Action Items**

None.

### **Technical Code Development Committee**

Micah Chappell reported a lot of TCD meetings are occurring and encouraged members to get involved. Micah announced ICC Committee Action Hearings (CAH) Group A1 members just got back and how we have had a lot of participation from our region. The 2<sup>nd</sup> CAH will be in Long Beach, CA in October and Micah stated the TCD Committee has scholarships and encouraged member involvement. Micah reported the State will be beginning May 24<sup>th</sup> on Group 1 and encourage members to participate in it as public comment is accepted.

### **C & R Committee**

Brian Smith thanked the C & R committee for the great turnout they had at their virtual hosting. Brian reported the committee is discussing criteria for Technical Directors and the 50-mile radius that the SIRP Advisory Board had removed from that position. A subcommittee has been established and Tara Jenkins will reach out to the Technical Directors to volunteer on the committee for their input. Brian reported that the SIRP Advisory Board has been discussing lab tours to jurisdictions that are interested in having staff members tour a WABO Special Inspection Agency. Brian asked that if interested to please reach out to him so he can facilitate. Brian provided an update on the WABO Special Energy Code Plans Examiner Certification Program.

## **Government Relations Committee**

Tim Woodard reported effective March 15 the Council approved an emergency rule for the 2021 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (WUIC) to remove all amended language from WAC 51-55 until new mapping and amendments can be developed. Local jurisdictions are still allowed to adopt the Model WUIC. The Government Relations committee will work on legislation to create an RCW to require the SBCC to produce the Washington Custom codes.

## **Finance Committee**

Andie Lorenz provided the membership with an overview of WABO's 2023/2024 third quarter financials.

## **Education Committee**

Stacy Criswell reported that the Education Committee discussed results of the 2024 Annual Education Institute and provided committee members with a list of 2025 courses the members would like to see next year. Stacy stressed that the comments are reviewed and analyzed very thoroughly so to please make sure to make your opinion is known.

## **Outreach Services Committee**

Stacy Criswell spoke regarding the Liaison Consultant and encouraged the membership to step up and fill the roles where they are already attending. Stacy asked for volunteers and denoted them next to the organization the Outreach committee has identified as important to increase communications to.

## **Emergency Management Committee**

Quyen Thai reported that as new chair the Emergency Management committee will kick off meeting once a month. Quyen announced the Unreinforced Masonry project was completed in Everett and the goal being to survey the entire state of Washington. Quyen stated Emergency Management will expand focus outside of just seismic and move into wildfires and lithium batteries. Ryan Mumma informed the membership that a survey will be drafted for members of eastern and central Washington to encourage increased participation from those members as we will need them in the event of a disaster. WAsafe will create a survey to find the best date/time to host a training event. Ryan reported WAsafe held a trainer event with a 20-25 person turnout and stated that we can work on getting individuals trained if interested.

## **Accreditation Committee**

James Tumelson informed the membership about the Code Official Accreditation Program (COAP), the Accredited Code Official (ACO), and Self-Paced Programs (only plumbing curriculum currently available) which all fall under the Accreditation Committee. The committee is currently looking for a Year 1 Plans Examiner instructor to fill a vacancy. This position was left by an instructor that has been with the program since the inception.

## **Announcements**

None.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.