



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING OFFICIALS

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

MINUTES – 2022 Fall Business Meeting

Spokane, Washington

October 27-28, 2022

Call to Order

The fall business meeting of the voting representatives was called to order by President Andy Higgins on October 27, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call

The following executive board officers were present:

- Andy Higgins - President
- Ray Cockerham - 1st Vice President
- Todd Blevins - 2nd 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
- Max Booth - Education
- 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 on file at WABO office.

Agenda

The President presented the proposed Agenda for the October 27-28, 2022, Fall Business Meeting.

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

Minutes

The President presented the proposed Minutes for the WABO Annual Business Meeting on July 28-29, 2022.

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

President's Report

President Andy Higgins reported on the ICC Annual Business Meeting and Public Comment Hearings and stated the highlight was the strong West Coast presence as well as the election of David Spencer and Jack Applegate.

Executive Board Report

No Report.

First Vice President

No Report.

Second Vice President

Todd Blevins announced the Professional Development 'Who Says Who Stamps?' and encouraged members to stick around for the panel that will include the assistant attorney general, engineers, and architects. Todd also announced that the strategic plan will begin a review process.

Election of Board of Director Nominations

Kurt Aldworth announced this is the last quarterly business meeting before our Annual Business Meeting (ABM) that will occur in Leavenworth. The WABO Board of Director elections will be held at the ABM on April 20, 2023. At this time all board positions are currently filled, but members can run against incumbents and situations could change where a position could open before the next meeting. You must be one of two voting representatives for the jurisdiction and obtain management approval for involvement. The WABO office will send out nomination reminders to the membership prior to the meeting. For more information on serving and time commitments please contact Kurt.

Immediate Past President

No Report.

Executive Director

Tara Jenkins announced the meeting logistics to the membership. Tara announced a new committee volunteer page on the WABO website where members can review all the committees and sign up as a volunteer online.

Meeting recessed for committee meetings at 8:35 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

GUEST REPORTS:

International Code Council

Director Jim Sayers reported that he is our new ICC liaison and that we can reach out to him, David Spencer, or Jack Applegate at any time. Jim announced ICC has approved decarbonization communication, as energy can be controversial. ICC wants to be at the forefront so they can be a part of the decision-making process. Jim announced calls for Exams Development committees closes on October 31st and encourage members to get their applications in. Jim reminded members of the Building Safety Journal and Podcasts that ICC has available as member resources. ICC ABM will be held next year in Saint Louis, MO October 8-11, 2023 and EduCode will be held February 27- March 3, 2023 in Las Vegas, NV.

Jack Applegate helped represent ICC in world standards day. Jack reported that Dominic Sims was Master of Ceremony of the process to help ICC celebrate the Clean Water Act and attended the event at the White House.

ICC Region II

No Report.

ICC Local Chapters

No Reports.

IABO

No Report.

WPLBO

No Report.

OBOA

Jack Applegate announced OBOA Fall Quarterly Business meeting will be held November 18, 2022 in Albany, OR and highlighted that Virtual Inspection Training will be held, training will be presented by Clark County.

NFPA

Gary Honold announced NFPA has a network newsletter that is customizable based on your preferences. Gary reported a new Electrical Inspector Membership that includes a free copy of the NEC. Gary informed the membership on the standard development process through NFPA and encouraged AHJ's to participate in the standard development process (NFPA.com/enforcer). Gary provided a presentation on NFPA's subscription-based standards on their website available at: link.NFPA.org.

WABO/SEAW

Hoyt Jeter asked members to be consistent amongst jurisdictions. If there are any concerns/issues with engineers, please bring the issues to Hoyt Jeter or Jon Siu so they can be presented to the committee for discussion.

State Agencies

No reports.

State Building Code Council

Micah Chappell announced that SBCC Director Stoyan Bumbalov came to WABO's 2022 Spring QBM in April and stated that the SBCC was not going to produce the insert pages for the 2021 codes. The members at WABO's ABM in July stated that was going to be a problem and members volunteered to create a custom code (without asking for SBCC staff members assistance) but would need to ask for a delay in the code implementation date to help with ICC's timeframe. October 21, 2022 the Council did not approve the Building Official's request for a 3 month code implementation delay. Micah reported the Council directed the SBCC to produce insert pages for the 2021 code cycle and Stoyan is working with ICC to produce the 2024 codes. Micah reported that Stoyan would like for jurisdictions to review their SBCC funding and fees, it appears that they are not being sent in. Micah reported the SBCC has added one new staff member and their next meeting will be for Group B final language.

MyBuildingPermit.com (MBP)

Kurt Aldworth announced MBP's 20-year anniversary and the first city to issue a permit was the City of Kirkland! Kurt announced MBP will be providing ½ day Permit Technician training Nov 15-17, 2022 and I-Code training in early 2023. Kurt report the Structural Committee is now the Technical Codes Committee to expand its scope of work. MBP updated the software platform for improved functionality and added more custom messaging for applicants. Kurt reported the Executive Board approved procurement of MBP sponsored backend permitting system.

Liaison Reports

WA Cities Electrical Code –

Kurt reported Tim Hingtgen who chairs the committee is retiring from the City of Bellevue and and that Gary Bartelheimer from the City of Kirkland has accepted the committee chair position and is transitioning into the role. Kurt reported there is a delay that may push back the implementation date of the 2023 NEC and the next committee meeting will be held January 2023.

State Electrical Board –

James Tumelson announced a 33% reduction of electrical inspectors. L & I have a desire to assemble the TAG on time to get adoption on July 1, 2023.

IAS –

James Tumelson reported that his work on the committee consists of listening to testimony and make recommendations to the group. IAS is discussing the possibility of going back to in-person meetings.

WSAPT –

Jessica Lether encourages permit technicians to join the Washington Association of Permit Technicians. Jessica announced the association has a newly designed website and improved communications.

Strategic Planning Kickoff

Todd Blevins asked the membership to review the Strategic Plan as the Strategic Plan Subcommittee will be fine tuning the document. The committee level documents will be incorporated into the individual committee charters. Todd asked for comments to be submitted by April 2023.

Energy Code Task Force

Brian Smith informed the membership of the different proposal received from Evergreen Technology Consulting and he took the membership's comments and concerns back to Lisa Rosenow. Lisa Rosenow presented the new scope based off WABO member feedback regarding the WSEC Plans Examiner Certification Program.

Meeting recessed for code forum at 3:45 p.m.

Friday, October 28, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. – Meeting reconvened

President Higgins reconvened meeting at 8:00 a.m.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

C & R Committee

Nothing to report.

Technical Code Development Committee

Micah Chappell reminded the membership that if you get involved, TCD has scholarships available up to \$2k for actively involved members and \$1,500 non-active participation. Micah reported the Public Comment Hearings in Louisville, KY were successful. WABO's high priority items had a 77% success rate, overall success rate for hearings was 76% rate. Micah announced the proposed wind study that was done by SEAW can be found on the WABO resource page under the tsunami maps. Micah reported that the State Building Code Council will be finalizing Group 2 and that the 2021 codes will remain with an implementation date of July 1, 2023. Micah announced the SBCC has been directed to create insert pages for the 2021 codes. Micah reported TCD will reconvene meetings summer of 2023.

Government Relations Committee

Tim Woodard reported the Government Relations committee worked on finalizing the 2023 legislative positions. Tim announced the Government Relations committee has a discussion board circle where legislative topics are held outside of e-mails. If you are interested in joining the government relations committee to send Tara a request to gain access to the Government Relations Circle. Tim announced the committee will continue the successful practice of quick 15-minute weekly update meetings during session to keep everyone informed in real time. Tim provided an update on the Winter Committee meeting and the request for members to meet virtually with their representatives. The Government Relations Committee will meet in early January to get firm commitments and Marian will schedule the meeting with the representatives. Tim presented the committee's two new legislative positions to the membership for consideration.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that a new bullet point on code language in RCW as presented and revised be approved.

The motion carried.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded that a new bullet point on building permit efficiency as presented be approved.

The motion carried.

Finance Committee

Angela Haupt provided the membership with an overview of WABO's 2022/2023 first quarter financials.

Education Committee

Max Booth provided an overview of the 2023 Annual Education Institute (AEI) that will be held at the Lynnwood Convention Center. Max announced that he wanted the committee to look at ways to help local ICC Chapters get training closer to home. If you have any suggestions, please forward them to him.

Outreach Services Committee

Stacy Criswell encouraged members to check the attendee list in the packet and reach out to them and bounce ideas off your colleagues. Stacy reminded members of the WABO resource page that includes helpful checklists and tip sheets. Stacy encouraged the membership to utilize the Building Official Handbook that can also be found on the WABO website as a helpful tool. Stacy suggested outreach jurisdictions do monthly breakfasts with neighboring jurisdictions to help with communication. Stacy promoted the Permit Tech Association and asked jurisdiction to help support the association which has revamped their website and communication platform. The Permit Tech Association has scholarship available as well as WCIA will reimburse the Spring & Fall conference (1 per jurisdiction). Stacy reminded members that WABO has a mentor list on the website and if you need to run a question by someone to please visit that resource, or if you would like to become a mentor, please let Tara know in the WABO office and we can add you to the list.

Emergency Management Committee

Ryan Mumma reported that WABO helped create WAsafe, a coalition comprised of SEAW, ASCE Seattle, and AIA WA Council. Ryan announced that WAsafe is developing a refresher training course that will satisfy the renewal requirements and will be good for 5 years. Ryan reported that EMD King County is looking at applying for a training grant (wind, ice, snow, and fire). Ryan reported that EMD is working with WA Trust for Historic Preservation to develop a database of Unreinforced Masonry Buildings (URM's).

Accreditation Committee

James reported on the Accredited Code Officials (ACO's) program and encouraged members with active participation to apply. James announced that the Code Official Accreditation Program is running 2 concurrent first year classes for the first time and that we have noticed a slight drop in registrations due to budget constraints. James informed the new members attending that the first year of the program is the Permit Technician track, 2nd year is the Building Inspector track, 3rd year is the Plans Examiner track, and the 4th year is the Building Official track. James provided an update on the 12 module self-paced Plumbing course that Dave Cantrell is currently developing.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

None.

Motion and Action Items

None.

Announcements

None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.