

## GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONSTRUCTION CODES COORDINATING BOARD

## **REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, March 20, 2025 Video Conference Call 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Transcript of this Board meeting can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

## **UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

<b>Board Members Present</b>	Board Members Not Present	DOB Staff Present	Other Persons Present
Marc Fetterman, Vice Chair	Matt Borger	Ali Alaswadi	Kimberly Brown, BEGA Office of OG
Mike Brown	Gus Mehrdad	LaTrease Christian	Max Brown, <i>Group 360</i>
Joel Causey	Jeff Reiss	William Daming	Bob Hayes, <i>SWA</i>
Anthony Dale		Ashley Delgado	David Mallof, Ward 2 Resident
Ed Kauffman		Helen Hooks-Scott	Mimi Noorani
Harrison Miller		Nicole Rogers	Chris Pendley, AOBA
Keith Parsons			Dragana Thibault, <i>Northeast Energy</i> Efficiency
Casey Studhalter			Tony White, DC Fire
Jason Wright			
Jeff Viano			

## 1. Preliminary Matters

### i. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Marc Fetterman, Vice Chairperson. Marc Fetterman has the role of Board Acting Chairperson because there is no Board Chairperson. Roll call of Board members and other persons present was initiated by Marc Fetterman. All members and other persons present participated via WebEx video conference.

## ii. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Marc Fetterman presented the meeting agenda for the Board's approval. A motion to adopt the meeting agenda was made by Anthony Dale and seconded by Joel Causey. Without any objections, the agenda was adopted.

iii. Review and Adoption of Minutes of October 17, 2024, Regular Meeting Marc Fetterman presented the revised meeting minutes from the October 17, 2024, Board Meeting for the Board's approval. The meeting minutes were approved unanimously upon motion made by Joel Causey and seconded by Jason Wright. Without any objections, the minutes were adopted.

## 2. Code Change Proposals for Consideration

i. No new proposals

Amendment No.	Code/Section	CCCB Presentation	Procedural History	CCCB Action & Date

#### 3. Administrative & Other Matters

Mike Brown presented items i. through vi. below.

- i. CCCB Private-Sector Members Renewal of Appointments by MOTA
  - a. MOTA has no date for the swearing-in.

boiler chapter to the CCCB.

# ii. Adoption of 2023 Code Changes: Status of OAG review prior to publication in *DC Register* as 1st Notice of Proposed Rulemaking

330 code changes were submitted by the CCCB. The Codes will be known as the 2025 Construction Codes, and are based on the 2021 model codes of the ICC. DOB has received over 650 comments from OAG.

a. Building Code Chapter 1
The most comments, 286, dealt with this chapter.

There are places in the Building Code that use the word "shall" or "the code official is authorized to." OAG said we should replace these terms with the word "may" because there are choices that DOB should be able to make.

Secondly, in the proposed code, the Building Official is authorized to develop the 3rd Party Inspection Manual. OAG requested that the date of the DOB-adopted manual appear in the Code.

b. Mechanical Code Chapter 10 Boilers The chapter had 96 comments concerning DC amendments. Most DOB work was explaining how the amendments pertained to local requirements. It was recommended that DOB review the boiler chapter of the DC Mechanical Code to simplify this document. Marc Fetterman pointed out that the Mechanical TAG had recommended this action to DCRA (now DOB) during presentation of the

- c. Energy Code Commercial
   Casey Studhalter and the TAG worked with OAG to respond to issues.
- d. CCCB Review of Proposed Changes to CCCB Draft Construction Codes DOB envisions transmitting OAG proposed changes to the Construction Codes to the Office of the Mayor. After the Office of the Mayor review, the document will return to the CCCB to consideration of changes to the CCCB document. It was pointed out that, in the past, OAG changes came to the CCCB and its TAGS for review and approval prior to the document going to the Office of the Mayor. Mike Brown is going to consider this request and inform OAG of what took place in the past

#### iii. WGL lawsuit

Washington Gas has filed a lawsuit against the District of Columbia arguing that DC cannot have a law that requires electric-only use in buildings. (A "Net-Zero" code.) This lawsuit has been filed across the country against municipalities and states that seek to eliminate the use of fossil fuels. The judge is still in the hearing process and the last hearing was a couple of weeks ago. Mike Brown committed to keeping the CCCB informed of the status of this lawsuit.

## iv. Net-Zero Code for next code cycle

An existing DC law requires a Net-Zero code by December 31, 2026 and work is required to develop the code change(s). Mike Brown recommended that the CCCB follow existing law and develop the code change(s), unless the law is changed by the WGL lawsuit or the DC Council. CCCB members expressed a preference for receiving a ruling from the Court or DC Council prior to developing code change(s).

- v. Update on DC Council Bills signed by Mayor that affect Construction Codes Each of the following regulations are in different stages of being added to the Construction Codes. None are currently being enforced & a transitory period will be included for each statute.
  - a. Insurance for adjacent properties (DC Law 339 & DC Act 25-373 Expired) The law identified DOB as the agency to set the regulations. It has been determined that the insurance industry doesn't offer insurance that meets the legislative requirements. The insurance industry & DC Council need to resolve this issue.
  - b. Bird-friendly building facades (DC Bill 24-337) The law identified DOB as the agency to set the regulations. Bird-friendly building facades regulations have been drafted by DOB and are being reviewed by DOB and DC Council staff. The current draft will be sent to the CCCB.
  - c. Harmonious Living Amendment Act of 2024 (DC Bill 25-750)
    Legislation identified the CCCB to promulgate the regulations. DOB staff have expressed concern with the legislation, Mike Brown is seeking guidance, and will provide it to the Board.

## vi. Construction Code Cycle

The Board, with DOB administrative support, has been asked by the Mayor's Office to amend the codes more frequently, including annual updates. Marc Fetterman pointed

out that the Board has approved numerous code changes to the existing Construction Codes that have not been brought forward for rulemaking consideration by DOB.

vii. DC Council and Other Agencies Work that Affects Construction Codes Marc Fetterman requested that DOB regularly furnish the CCCB with work by DC Council and Agencies that affect the DC Construction Codes. He noted that these updates had been furnished in the past but the CCCB was no longer receiving this information. Mike Brown said he would confer with Wil Daming, DOB Legislative Affairs Director, to implement this request.

## viii. Financial disclosure statement issues & filing date

Marc Fetterman noted that private-sector Board members are required to complete a financial disclosure form for calendar year 2024. This is a new requirement & the form is similar to those regularly submitted by DC Government employees. The form will be distributed around April 15th and will be due on May15th.

- ix. BEGA yearly ethics training offered April 30, July 30, & October 29 Marc Fetterman reminded private-sector Board member that each private-sector member is required to attend a one-hour ethics training session annually.
- x. Next CCCB Regular Meeting April 17, 2025
- 4. Comments by Board Members and Members of the Public
  - i. Joel Causey asked whether the CCCB approval of net-zero in the Energy Code Residential would be affected by the outcome of the WGL lawsuit.

    Mike Brown responded: No.
  - ii. Max Brown asked whether the OAG proposed changes to CCCB Draft Construction Codes would return to the CCCB for consideration prior to the document going to the Office of the Mayor.

Mike Brown responded that the issue is under consideration.

## 5. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.