

# PROGRESS REPORT

## SPS 314 FIRE PREVENTION CODE COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, July 2, 2013

TIME: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Department of Safety and Professional Services  
Conference Room 121A  
1400 East Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin

### COUNCIL MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

John Ashley	<u>Present</u>
Todd Blaser	<u>Excused</u>
Gregg Cleveland – Chair	<u>P</u>
Tod Doebler	<u>P</u>
Jennie Macaluso-Ruditys	<u>P</u>
Brian McKee	<u>E</u>

### DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES STAFF:

Carl Frisque	<u>P</u>
Sam Rockweiler	<u>P</u>
Jeff Weigand	<u>P</u>

### GUESTS:

Bob Kleinheinz – Wisconsin Fire Protection Coalition  
Matthew Mertens – North Shore Fire Department  
Craig Snyder – LaCrosse Fire Department

## **Introduction**

Gregg Cleveland opened the meeting with a round of introductions.

The Council passed a motion accepting the progress report from the preceding, May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting – after passing a motion recommending that the Department clarify that fire inspectors have authority to issue stop-construction orders for violating the building code, which are newly addressed in section 1.7.14 of the 2012 edition of NFPA 1.

## **Executive Order 61**

Executive Order 61, which addresses job creation and small-business expansion, was distributed – and Jeff Weigand explained that it is a lens which the Department looks through in developing rule changes. Issues that are identified through the process are then discussed with the Small Business Regulatory Review Board. The Council passed a motion recommending that if the Board develops any changes to chapter SPS 314, the Department should then present those changes to the Council for review and consensus.

## **Comparison of the 2012 NFPA 1 to the 2009 NFPA 1**

The building-design requirements for rooftop photovoltaic systems, which are newly addressed in section 11.12 of the 2012 edition of NFPA 1 were discussed as a carryover from the May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Council passed a motion, with dissent from Jennie Macaluso-Ruditys, recommending that the Department apply the new requirements through chapter SPS 314 until the commercial building code is revised to include these requirements. Jennie preferred applying the requirements only through the commercial building code after they are considered and accepted by the building code community.

The changes in sections 12.3.2 to 12.4.5 for installation and inspection of firestop devices and systems at penetrations, joints and openings were accepted.

The changes in chapter 13 for fire sprinkler systems were accepted with an understanding that any design requirements are turned off by section SPS 314.01 (2) (a) 1.

The changes in section 13.6.9.1.2 for maintenance and recharging of portable fire extinguishers were accepted with an understanding that (1) they clarify the requirements for being certified to maintain and recharge the extinguishers, rather than newly require a credential; and (2) the credential is not issued by the Department, which could be explained in an informational note.

The changes in section 13.7.1.4.7 for non-required fire, smoke or heat detection systems were accepted.

For the changes in sections 13.7.1.5 and 13.7.2.9.4 to 13.7.2.9.4.4 relating to carbon monoxide alarms, the Council (1) passed a motion recommending that the Department either initiate or

support changing the corresponding statutory requirements to be consistent with manufacturers' recommendations as outlined in NFPA standards, and (2) agreed the sections should be replaced with an informational note that refers to the current text for these alarms in the commercial building code.

The changes in sections 13.7.4.3.8.1 and 13.7.4.3.8.2 for maintenance and protection of detection systems during construction were accepted.

The Council rejected a motion by Jennie Macaluso-Ruditys to either return the new chapter 15 for fire department service delivery evaluations back to Annex P or make it an informational note, where it would be advisory rather than mandatory.

The changes in sections 17.1 and 17.1.1 for wildland fire hazards were accepted with an understanding that the changes only extract requirements from the corresponding NFPA 1144 standard rather than refer to them.

The changes in sections 18.1.1.1 to 18.5 for fire department access roads, access boxes, water-supply fire flow and fire hydrants were accepted.

The Council agreed the changes in section 34.1.1.2 for general storage in unsprinklered buildings accomplish what is intended by section SPS 314.34, so SPS 314.34 should be repealed.

The changes in section 34.2.4 for classification of storage pallets were accepted.

The Council agreed that the changes in new chapter 36 for telecommunication facilities and information technology equipment include building-design requirements that could be beneficial for both building owners and the fire service, but further discussion may be needed on whether these requirements should be in the building code rather than the fire code, and on whether or how to apply them when retrofitting existing buildings.

### **Next meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for August 13, 2013, at the same time and location.

*Submitted by Sam Rockweiler, P.E., code consultant to the Council  
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