

## **IDAHO ENERGY CODE COLLABORATIVE MEETING: January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

### **In attendance so far:**

1. Lance - AIC
2. Dawn - AIC
3. Daniel - AIC
4. Jerry Peterson - Home Energy Services
5. David Freelove – Energy Circuit Rider
6. Damon Woods - IDL at U of I
7. Robert Bell
8. Buck Jacobs - Tamarack Construction

### **Online:**

9. Brandan Fox - Operations Manager; Fox Heating & Cooling
10. Bobbi Kaufman - Clearwater County
11. Todd Perry - Building Official Orofino
12. Laura Davidson -
13. Judy Van Cleave - Own Quality Heating & Cooling
14. Andrew Sodine
15. Joe Wiggins - DC Engineering
16. Andrew Bick
17. Andrew Sodine
18. Blake Ringeisen
19. Ryan Schwartz - Cushing & Terrell
20. Sam Zahorka - Executive Officer of Building Code Board DOPL
21. Eric Lacy
22. Tess Studley -NEEA
23. Charlie Woodruff
24. Geoff Wardle
25. Clark Wardle and Chairman of BOMA
26. Jeni Larsen - Clearwater Building Official
27. Colton Diehl - Cushing Terrell
28. Sheree Wilhite
29. Rob Brooks
30. Alexa Bouvier
31. Katherine Leija
32. Kelley Packer
33. Jerica Stacey

### **Agenda:**

- **Introductions**

- **Mission Statement**
- **Meeting Cadence**
  - Last Thursday of every month – 1pm
- **Ground Rules - Rules of engagement**
- **Record Keeping –**
  - Meeting Notes and Recordings
- **Review of ZBR and current modifications to existing codes**
- **Discuss review process of 2021 IECC codes**
  - Commercial
  - Residential
- **Resources**
  - ICC Significant Changes
  - ICC Online
- **Adjourn**

We'll be meeting on an ongoing basis on **the last Thursday of each month @ 1 pm.**

We are not an official rule making body.

- We are a collaborative that helps to put forth a discussion of how we can do things more productively in the state of Idaho for energy codes.

#### **ZBR -**

- Governor Little's Executive Order requires state agencies to review its rules every five years for reduction and clarification of language as well as:
- Check for proper authorization; do you have anything in your code that you didn't properly receive permission for?
- Need to focus on ZBR and make sure that no changes are made that would be harmful
- Ensure that weaker codes are given the fortification and clarification they need.
- Lance will continue to assist with making sure that energy code members are updated about upcoming ZBR related committee hearings so they can participate in the discussion.
- [Link to ZBR IDAPA Rules](#)

2021 Energy Code is available in its full [format online for free review](#).

- Look up "Idaho legislative rules" to find the energy code
- Most of the changes in the '21 code are residential
  - [Residential Energy Code](#)
  - [Commercial Energy Code](#)

[www.idahoenergycodes.com](http://www.idahoenergycodes.com)

AIC will publish meeting agendas and notes and the meeting videos on our [idahoenergycodes.com](http://idahoenergycodes.com) website.

- It would also be good to post the Idaho Building Board Meeting schedule.

### **Review of previous changes to the energy code**

- One of the biggest issues was the Blower Door Testing
  - You can put the Blower Door Testing in the code. However, it will be difficult to provide and enforce the testing.
  - Didn't have a good plan for IF a Blower Door Test fails.
  - Really don't want to put policy changes forward that are open to interpretation.
  - Decided that 1 out of every 5 houses built by a builder would be subject to a Blower Door Test.
  - Blower Door exemplifies how **enforcement issues conflict with brevity**
- Lighting - Exterior Lighting
  - 90% was what was required under 2018 code
  - Peeled it back to 75%
- Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index
- Insulation (in particular ceiling insulation)
  - Was previously another point of discussion.

### **ZBR Q&A**

- The ZBR is currently in front of the legislature and expected to pass
  - It must still go through the Building Code Board's process
- We do not yet know if the Building Code Board will attempt to adopt 2021 IECC national recommendations

### **Goals**

-Take time to review policy provisions in the code which may no longer apply.

- Review previous policy changes

Consider the political climate as we review the Idaho energy code.

- It is okay to choose to remain on course and choose to support the current code.
- Significant modifications to the codes will take a lot of time and coordinated effort.

-Provide accurate, reliable information

- This can take time

-Participation in the group is optional. If not productive, these meetings are not necessary.

- We are here to avoid public in-fighting
- Additionally, we propose changes to the Building Code Board
  - They can ignore our suggestions
- When reviewing the code, we will start with hot topics, not at page 1

-Members are encouraged to read the current code themselves prior to the next Collaborative Meeting.

- Link to the 2021 IECC What's New Flyer from ICC: [IECC\\_Whats\\_New\\_FLR.pdf \(iccsafe.org\)](#)
- Recorded Webinar from energy.gov: <https://www.energycodes.gov/technical-assistance/training/courses/whats-new-residential-provisions-2021-iecc>

### **Additional Resources**

Jerry 208-801-2108

[tukarica@gmail.com](mailto:tukarica@gmail.com)

From Charlie Woodruff - Residential Study

- We will adjust those as soon as it's adopted.
- ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act)

Idaho Residential Energy Code Field Study (energycodes.gov)

- Link to the previous compliance field study:  
[https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2019-09/Idaho\\_Field%20Study\\_State\\_Report.pdf](https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/2019-09/Idaho_Field%20Study_State_Report.pdf)
- Data collection
  - Should be more than 3/4 done
  - Final report is expected mid-2024.