



Oregon Mechanical Officials Association

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Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2014

Marion County Public Works, Salem

The Oregon Mechanical Officials Association is dedicated to providing a professional environment for mechanical code officials and industry professionals to share knowledge and educate each other to enhance the public welfare.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Troy Skinner called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m., May 15, 2014.

ATTENDANCE:

Executive Board members present included: President Troy Skinner, First Vice President Mike Remesnik, Secretary Bill Hendrix, Member At-Large Jim Trussell and Past President Bob Wentz. Also present were Mark Heizer, John Stelzenmueller and OMOA's Cory Cross.

MOTION: Jim Trussell moved and it was seconded that the minutes from the April 17, 2014, meeting be approved. Motion approved unanimously.

OMOA COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee: Jim Trussell reported that the OMOA Institute Schedule had been emailed. There is still a full-day class that needs to be added to the second day of the Institute. Bill Cross has contacted Eric Schmidt and Sean Blaire to see if they are available to teach a class. Troy Skinner suggested that an ADA class might be a good class to have.

Code Change Committee: There has been no code change activity.

Scholarship Committee: There has been no scholarship activity.

CODE DISCUSSION:

- Mark Heizer, Mechanical Code Specialist, was asked whether he had been able to answer the previous month's question about carbon monoxide restraint. He had not finished his research on this question so it was tabled for another month.
- Jim Trussell asked the Board about a three-stall bathroom that has a 240 cfm environmental exhaust system installed in it. His question was, "How does one provide make-up air into the room if the architect doesn't want to use outside air?" The architect noted that the contractors would have to cut close to three inches off the bottom of the door to provide enough air into the room. Mark Heizer stated that without makeup air into the space that there would likely be enough pressure differential created in the room to prevent the ADA room users from being able to open the door and stay within the 5.0# maximum opening force for the door per ANSI 117.1 standard (404.2.8). The consensus of the Board was that there would have to be some option created to replace the exhausted air from the bathroom. Either a cross-over duct into another portion of the tenant space, or an outside air source.
- Mark Heizer presented additional information regarding the gas pipe bonding requirements from last month's meeting. He added that it is acceptable practice for the mechanical inspectors to verify the presence of the gas bond (or lack thereof). He also noted that if any new gas lines were added to retrofit an existing home that the new pipe would need to be bonded or the existence of the supply-piping bond would have to be verified.
- A question was brought up by Lynette Davis, City of Gresham, about the installation of an air/fan box connection to an existing "heatilator" type woodstove insert. The concern was about the Mylar-type connector duct between the fan box and the woodstove appliance connection. She wanted to know if this was an acceptable material to use in this application. Several people joined in the discussion, but Mark Heizer responded for the state that, "The fan isn't for combustion air (R1006). It appears to be a "heat recovery blower" that circulates additional air through the heat exchanger/insert housing; popular in late 70's/80's energy crisis days. I'm surprised the fan still works. For time of installation, nothing relative to the fan seems out of place. Wouldn't comply if installed today: the fan is not a listed fireplace accessory and the insert unlikely to meet R1004 either. It appears the fireplace insert/stove and accessory all pre-date the OR DEQ rules (1986). I haven't checked the way-back machine for listing requirements for the hearth extension pre-1986. But I'm more concerned about the parquet floor hearth extension in front of the insert. I suspect it was not OK for when an open fireplace (no insert). Depending on age of home, was non-compliant for time of home construction; definitely not OK today and probably a home-owner project that's created a code conflict (the gaps around the base of the stove indicate one or more modifications to the hearth extension). If the homeowner ever replaces/removes this unit, they've got some updating to do."
- After further research on the portable donut cooking machine from last month's

meeting it was determined that the listing of the appliance had to have the downdraft hood/exhaust system installed on it in order for it to be installed under a Type II hood. Without the factory exhaust system, it would have to be placed under a type I hood to exhaust the grease and smoke accumulations created during operation.

- Bob Wentz queried the group about light testing hood exhausts. In the OMSC 506.3.2.5 it states that, “A light test or *an approved equivalent pressure test* shall be performed to determine that all welded and brazed joints are liquid tight.” (italics mine) The question he posed was, “What constitutes an equivalent pressure test”? John Stelzenmueller stated that a pressure test would have to be verifiable by a gauge. At what psi would the test be acceptable? Mark Heizer stated that he would get back to us with additional information next month. The question was tabled until next month.
- John Stelzenmueller asked the other jurisdictions represented whether or not they allowed the louvered plastic dryer duct terminations in their jurisdictions. His experience has taught him that they readily clog up with lint and block the free flow of dryer exhaust, which seems to contradict ORSC M1502.3 and OMSC 504.4. Since screens are not allowed on these ducts, his opinion was that the louvered terminations were similar to have restrictions to the airflow like screens do. No consensus was reached, and nobody had manufacturer installation instructions present so the question will be researched by the membership and further discussion will likely happen next month.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was a discussion about updating some of the code discussion on the website. John Corliss is looking into the cost of updating the OMOA President’s Plaque.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully,

Cory Cross
Membership Services

**Next OMOA Membership Meeting
12:30 P.M., Thursday, June 19, 2014
Marion County Public Works
Silverton Road, Salem**