



Oregon Mechanical Officials Association

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Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2015

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 Mike Remesnik called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m., May 21, 2015.

ATTENDANCE:

Executive Board members present included: President Mike Remesnik, First Vice President John Corliss, Second Vice President/Treasurer Bill Hendrix, and Member-At-Large Samantha Vandagriff. Also present were Mark Heizer and Karl Harn and OMOA's executive administrative services manager Cory Cross.

MOTION: Bill Hendrix moved and it was seconded that the minutes from the April 16, 2015, meeting be approved. Motion approved unanimously.

OMOA COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee: Mike Remesnik talked to Johnstone Supply about a CSST gas piping class. They would provide material but won't conduct a class. Karl Harn said he would talk to some people about putting on the class. Cory will contact Soaring Eagle Enterprises about their Service First class. John Corliss will contact someone about geothermal inspection class.

Code Change Committee: The ICC committee voted the OMOA amendment down. Mark Heizer will call Jason Phelps to try to find out what the committee's deliberations were. He

suggested that OMOA could try to get a public vote on the amendment at the Long Beach meeting.

Scholarship Committee: No report.

CODE DISCUSSION:

Karl Harn, City of Portland, had several clarifying questions related to Appendix F of the 2014 Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC). These answers are general consensus answers of the Association. Since they are derived from the ORSC they are outside the scope of our Association's general purview, but are frequently assessed by our jurisdictions.

1. Are radon fans allowed in underfloor crawl spaces? *Yes; if there is no access to install the fan in the attic space, typically at the eave line on an outside wall, installing the assembly in the crawlspace is acceptable.*
 - a. Will the crawl outlet be required to be GFCI protected? *The Association's opinion was that if the receptacle was a 'double' use receptacle that GFCI protection was required. If the receptacle was a 'single' use receptacle it was thought that no GFCI protection was typically necessary. (Since no licensed electrical inspectors were present at our meeting it is recommended that you consult with the local AHJ electrical inspector prior to installing the receptacle under floor).*
 - b. What happens if the GFCI trips; is an audible alarm necessary for system failure? *The code is silent on these requirements in the ORSC. We believe that at this time they are optional and not code mandated.*
2. What are the minimum dimensions above the attic insulation that the electrical junction box must be installed for the future radon fan? *This requirement is undefined in the ORSC, but quite likely to be in the current Oregon Electrical Specialty Code (OESC). Please consult with your electrician or AHJ electrical inspector.*
3. What is the minimum area necessary around an attic installed radon fan? *See the manufacturer's installation instructions for space requirements.*
4. Can combustion air be taken out the crawlspace that has a sub-membrane depressurization system? *Yes; no conflict was apparent with current code language.*

5. Section AF103.5.1.3 indicates, “.....The vent pipe shall be extended up through the building floors, terminate at least 12 inches above the roof in a location at least 10 feet away from any windows into the *conditioned spaces* of the building that is less than 2 feet below the exhaust point, and 10 feet from any window or other opening in adjoining or adjacent buildings.” Please clarify how this works with minimum building setbacks. *The Association assumed that this question is related to the roof termination in its relationship to adjacent buildings that are closely spaced with the one this applies to. Many buildings are being built with nominal setbacks or as zero-lot townhomes. The Association’s opinion was that these roof terminations need to be moved up the rake line of the roof, towards their respective ridge lines, to meet the minimum termination requirements.*

6. What type of tape is to be used to seal holes or tears in the soil gas retarder (6-mil plastic sheeting)? *Section AF103.3 does not require a specific, tested material. Any duct-tape style sealing tape appeared to be satisfactory to the Association as long as it’s compatible with the sheet film manufacturer’s product and installation directions.*

7. If the garage slab has living space above it does it need a sub-slab depressurization system installed? *This topic was discussed in our April 2014 code discussion located here http://omoaonline.org/04_17_14_OMOA_Mbr_Minutes.pdf. It is not required.*

8. Section AF103.4.8 indicates, “Ductwork located in crawl spaces shall have all seams and joints sealed by closure systems in accordance with M1601.4.1. Ductwork shall be performance tested to demonstrate conformance to ODOE duct performance standards.” What are we doing to accomplish this? *A quick poll of the seated membership indicated that we were generally evaluating duct sealing at post and beam mechanical, and were requiring the performance duct testing similar to the ORSC Chapter 11, Table 1101.1(2) Envelope Enhancement Measure #3.*

9. Section AF103.9 Vent pipe identification; required in crawlspace? *AF103.9 does require the labels in the crawlspace. One label minimum is required on each floor and in accessible attics.*

10. Section AF 103.5.2.2 Ventilation Openings. Does this section only apply to building tightness installations as listed in AF103.5.2.3? *This section requires crawlspace ventilation as required in Section R408.1 and R408.2 (Foundations). Operable louvers on these vents shall be removed to prevent restricted airflow and radon accumulations within the crawlspace. AF103.5.2.3 requires that a blower door test is conducted for these systems inside the crawlspace.*
11. Are there industry provided standard forms for compliance with AF103.5.2.3, Building Tightness, and M1601.4.1 Ductwork Performance Testing? *There is no relationship between Appendix F duct sealing and the requirements of M1601.4.1 Joints and Connections. The sealer standards for the chapter 16 ducts are not required for the duct sealing for AF103.4.8. Their testing standards used to be provided by the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), but have since been transferred to the PTCS form required in Table 1101.1(2) #3*
12. Section AF103.12; what are the anticipated locations of the system failure alarms? *This answer is undefined in the ORSC chapter. It is an unknown at the time of this summation.*
13. Should the vent pipes be located on interior walls? Integrity of the insulation in exterior walls? *This appears to be a two-part question. Location of the pipe is undefined in the ORSC. Insulation in exterior walls would be similar to plumbing waste pipes routed through the exterior walls. Insulate as required per the ORSC. If there is a problem with the termination of the pipe on the roof due to locations on site (question 5 above), interior walls may be needed to get the pipe where you need it. There are no restrictions in Appendix F on pipe installation for interior or exterior walls.*

This concludes the code discussion questions for this month.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully,

Cory Cross
Administrative Services Mgr.

**Next OMOA Membership Meeting
12:30 P.M., Thursday, June 18, 2015
Marion County Public Works
Silverton Road, Salem**