



## **Oregon Mechanical Officials Association**

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### **Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes**

**November 20, 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:**

Vice President Mike Remesnik called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m., November 20, 2014.

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Executive Board members present included: First Vice President Mike Remesnik, Second Vice President/Treasurer John Corliss, Secretary Bill Hendrix, Past President Claude Kennedy and Members-at-Large Samantha Vandagriff and Jim Trussell. Also present were Rob Peters, Karl Harn, Mark Heizer and OMOA's Cory Cross.

**MOTION: Bill Hendrix moved and it was seconded that the minutes from the October 16, 2014, meeting be approved. Motion approved unanimously.**

#### **OMOA COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*Code Change Committee:* John Corliss noted that there is a need to draft code language regarding wood-fired stoves. He will put together a draft from OMOA to submit by the January deadline. Jim Trussell asked if there are any other code change proposals that need to be done by January.

**MOTION by Samantha Vandagriff and seconded that John Corliss draft a code change proposal for ventilation for wood-fired stoves by the December meeting. Motion approved unanimously.**

*Scholarship Committee:* None of the community colleges have re-instituted a BIT program. Chemeketa isn't looking at doing a program and PCC has stepped back from the idea of starting a new program. Claude Kennedy suggested OMOA could team with OBOA and approach Chemeketa to encourage them to re-institute the BIT program. Mark Heizer suggested looking at working with trades (eg Local 290, electricians) to build a training program. Jim Trussell noted that starting in September there will be programs in high schools that will be oriented toward trade education. Samantha said she would be the OMOA contact for Mark Heizer if he had any feedback from talking with Mark Long about inspector training. Samantha will write a letter on behalf of OMOA to BCD to communicate the need that building departments see to re-develop a viable training program for new inspectors.

**MOTION: It was moved by Claude Kennedy and seconded to have Samantha draft a letter to BCD regarding the need for re-instating BIT programs. Motion approved unanimously.**

## **CODE DISCUSSION:**

1. John Corliss brought to the members that he has a residential project in Corvallis where there is an outside alcove, with outside access, that holds the mechanical equipment. Within the furnace assembly there is an electronic air filter for advanced filtration of the air stream flowing into the house. When the customer moved in, they noticed that they could not get the filter housing door off due to an impingement between the filter door and the interior door trim surrounding the alcove door. The customer was upset that it hadn't been caught at the mechanical final. John's question to the group was, "Are we checking the furnace filters and access to them at mechanical finals?"

Mike Remesnik made the comment that he used to be in the HVAC trade and he always checked the filters at his mechanical finals because the contractors were still using them to 'dry out' the homes before and during wallboard installation. He frequently finds very dirty filters from this practice and, when he finds them, requires the contractors to have the furnace cleaned before occupancy because using the furnaces in this manner violates the listing of the furnaces and their installation instructions. The rest of the members had varying responses as some checked and some did not.

The ORSC G2408.1 states that, “*Equipment and appliances* shall be installed as required by the terms of their approval, in accordance with the conditions of the listing, the manufacturer’s instructions and this *code*. Manufacturers’ installation instructions shall be available on the job site at the time of inspection. Where a *code* provision is less restrictive than the conditions of the listing of the *equipment or appliance* or the manufacturer’s installation instructions, the conditions of the listing and the manufacturer’s installation instructions shall apply.”

2. Bill Hendrix had a project in Happy Valley where the furnace was installed on a platform in a walk-in crawlspace/storage area within the home. The end of the platform walked off into space, where there was a four foot drop to the crawlspace floor below. No guardrail assembly was noted to prevent an accidental fall off the platform. His question was, “Where is their code language in the ORSC that requires and specifies guardrail(s) off this platform?” He was able to review online OSHA information and construction details for a similar application, and was able to use this information to encourage the builder to provide additional protection against falling, but he was looking for specific code language to reinforce his position.

Mark Heizer from BCD mentioned that the code language from the OMSC would provide additional direction to builders and inspectors. All though the ORSC is considered a ‘stand-alone’ code, the OMSC is an approved code book for the state and it can be used as an approved and accepted guide for use where the residential code is silent about this hazard.

The 2014 OMSC section 304.11 states, “Guards shall be provided where appliances, *equipment*, fans or other components that require service and roof hatch openings are located within 10 feet of a roof edge or open side of a walking surface and such edge or open side is located more than 30 inches above the floor, roof or grade below. The guard shall extend not less than 30 inches beyond each end of such appliances, *equipment*, fans components and roof hatch openings and the top of the guard shall be located not less than 42 inches above the elevated surface adjacent to the

guard. The guard shall be constructed so as to prevent the passage of a 21-inch-diameter sphere and shall comply with the loading requirements for guards specified in the *Building Code.*”

This concludes the substantive discussion for November.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Samantha Vandagriff announced that at next month’s Membership Meeting there will be nominations for Secretary and Member At Large on the 2015 OMOA Board.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Respectfully,

Cory Cross  
Administrative Services Mgr

**Next OMOA Membership Meeting  
12:30 P.M., Thursday, December 18, 2014  
Marion County Public Works  
Silverton Road, Salem**