



## **Oregon Mechanical Officials Association**

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### **Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes**

**June 19, 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:**

First Vice President Mike Remesnik called the meeting to order at 12:37 p.m., June 19, 2014.

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Executive Board members present included: First Vice President Mike Remesnik, Second Vice President/Treasurer John Corliss, Secretary Bill Hendrix, Members At-Large Jim Trussell and Samantha Vandagriff. Also present were Bob Wentz, Rob Peters, Randy Soelberg and OMOA's Bill Cross.

**MOTION: Samantha Vandagriff moved and it was seconded that the minutes from the May 15, 2014, meeting be approved. Motion approved unanimously.**

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

*Education Committee:* Jim Trussell reported that we are still short one track of classes for September 18 and that we are looking at offering plumbing classes to fill that track. Other options discussed included an ADA class including a comparison of the ANSI Standards with ADAG. Daryl Ackerman is a possible instructor for ADA. Also mentioned was a class offered by NW Natural.

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

*Scholarship Committee:* There has been no scholarship activity though it appears that both PCC and CCC are gearing up to offer building inspection technology programs again.

## **CODE DISCUSSION:**

1. Mark Heizer, Mechanical Code Specialist, was asked whether he had been able to answer the previous month's question about carbon monoxide detector restraint.

### BCD Notes:

This method will meet the code intent for the restraint (using a strap to provide the restraint necessary to meet the intent of section R315.4.1). However, in new construction, there may be other issues to address:

- The detector might render the outlet unusable; discussion centered on this fact. If one cannot plug in a grounded plug into the remaining outlet on the duplex receptacle, the receptacle is unusable. If this occurs, the CO detector cannot reduce the minimum quantity and spacing of outlets required by code. A dedicated, extra outlet could be necessary to maintain the outlet quantity and spacing.
2. 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". 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?"

### BCD Notes:

There are several other methods available (some are included in code modifications in other states). Any of these could be seen as an alternate method.

- Water test: 1500 psi pressure washer nozzle designed for inserting into a duct from the top; plastic sheeting at the bottom to catch the drainage/spray (as wee as grease trough).
- Pressure test: No standards available. Other states/jurisdictions are using 1.0 inches H<sub>2</sub>O for 20 minutes. AS John noted, this is getting to the point where leakage at the temporary end seals and sensitivity of the equipment. Given the heavy gage of the metal used, a higher pressure should not be an issue. Holding 2.0" w.g. for 20 minutes should be acceptable as equivalent to 506.3.2.5.
- Smoke Test: Light smoke bomb, let draft fill duct then seal the duct top and bottom (not sure on this one).
- Peppermint Oil Test: Won't tell where the hole is but will tell you there is a leak somewhere. Soak rag in 1 bottle of peppermint oil, seal bottom (first) and top. Let sit 30 minutes. If you can smell the peppermint then do further testing. (Not much different from the air pressure test.)

3. 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, which blocks the free flow of dryer exhaust, which seems to contradict ORSC M1502.3 and OMC 504.4. Since screens are not allowed on these ducts, his opinion was that the louvered terminations were similar to restricting the airflow like screens do.

BCD Notes: From the state perspective; not prohibited by code. Cannot prohibit installation.

- Please check with your fire departments. IF your department has seen this as an issue, the Division could address this in code or most likely as a fire marshal item for inspection at apartments.
- National fire reports regarding domestic dryers are not showing this as an issue. This may be due to the report numbering system, but it is not an issue in current FEMA documents, If this is more serious that a maintenance issue, the Division can work with the fire marshals on a solution.

## **JUNE QUESTIONS**

- A. Rob Peters brought up an observation regarding the use of domestic cooking equipment vs. commercial equipment in churches and “soup kitchens” used within the church multi-purpose spaces; and the requirements for Type I or II hoods over the cooking equipment. The discussion revolved around the type of equipment and its use (periodic or frequently), and the need for the jurisdictions to carefully assess the use of these facilities. It was agreed that a number of the church kitchens are opening these kitchens to their communities for impoverished denizens. This practice creates significantly more use of the cooking equipment and exhaust systems within the kitchens. If the equipment is used sporadically for church socials, then domestic cooking appliances could be used under a Type II hoods. Frequent use would require commercial equipment, or as a minimum, a Type I hood system would be necessary to exhaust the by-products of the cooking processes. The jurisdictions would weigh each application to determine what would be allowed. Most of the members agreed that they are typically requiring the Type I hood be proactively installed at the time of construction/remodel to avoid the challenges of requiring the churches to retrofit the hoods in after their needs changed. It was agreed that it is difficult to “draw a line” with these applicants due to the various elements of their operations.
- B. Bob Wentz asked whether the jurisdictions represented were requiring exposed PVC and ABS to be painted to protect the pipe from ultraviolet light degradation in exposed areas. His concern was that he had noticed that some inspectors are requiring the PVC intakes and exhausts for high-efficiency furnaces to be painted where they project above the roofline or terminate on the sides of buildings’ and that condensate lines were also being required to be painted where they project beyond the exterior walls. Viewpoints expressed concluded that most AHJ’s were not requiring paint on this material as the

builders were painting the intakes and exhausts as part of their building painting. Mixed viewpoints were noted with regards to painting the rooftop projections. No consensus was reached.

- C. Randy Soelberg asked the group if they were using the equipment valuation for permit fees for wafer production plants within their jurisdictions. He wanted to know whether they were using all of the equipment valuations or were those values “capped” at a certain percentage or level. It was generally agreed that the permit fees included all of the value of the equipment and fabrication machines, hazardous chemicals, furnaces, exhaust scrubbers, hazmat equipment, etc. Rob Peters noted that his jurisdiction would reassess the fees of additional pieces of equipment that were the same as others being used within the project (duplicate fabrication machines, etc.). Additional review and research was to be done for the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully,

Bill Cross  
Executive Director

**Next OMOA Membership Meeting  
12:30 P.M., Thursday, July 24, 2014  
Marion County Public Works  
Silverton Road, Salem**