

**February 1998**

## **MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER (6:00 PM)**

The February 4, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 6:00 P.M. by President Tom Garcia. There were 28 members and 2 guest speakers in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

President, Tom Garcia  
Vice-President, Harvey Higgs  
Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Walter

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The January minutes were approved

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING (6:30 PM)**

President Tom Garcia introduced David DePiero and Rene Strand of Trus Joist MacMillan. David and Rene gave a very informative presentation on Trus Joist products. The presentation highlights are as follows:

David and Rene distributed new manuals and reviewed the contents with the chapter members. The review of manual products included TJI Joist (TJI Pro - 150, 250, 350, and 550 joists); Microllam (LVL); Parallam (PSL); and TimberStrand (LSL). David spoke about the new "Performance Plus" product and the benefits of using this web material, such as reduced swelling when members are subjected to moisture, as well as increased strength performance which is over twice the strength of plywood webs. David provided information on the TJ Pro Rating System which is a guide used to help determine the floor performance. He stated that this new rating system goes beyond the industry standard of limiting deflection by a span ratio (such as L/360). Since the performance of a floor system is very subjective, TJ Pro Rating System is based on the statistical results of how others rated a particular floor system. David reviewed Timberstrand products and its versatility and benefits such as uniform dimensions. The TimberStrand products are the TimberStrand RimBoard and TimberStrand LSL used for headers and walls.

A question arose regarding web stiffeners and the required 1/8" gap between top chord and stiffener. David indicated that this gap is needed to prevent the possibility of chord / web separation that may occur when "I" joists compress under total load. He stated that web stiffeners are required 2% of the time for residential and 98% of the time for commercial projects. This is due to the larger reactions commonly found on commercial projects. He stated that "TJI" joists cannot be used for garage floors due to the code requiring floor members to be designed for a 2000 lb. concentrated live load (movable) at every point along member. This would result in web stiffeners being required along every point of the "I" joist, which would not be very practical. Therefore, solid beams are recommended for this particular application.

David demonstrated the "TJ-Beam" software available in Windows 95 or DOS. Once design parameters are input, the program provides many options that include (but are not limited to) a list of all acceptable products that meet a given loading condition, hanger options, web hole analysis,

and designs members using the TJ Pro Rating System (as mentioned above). This software appeared to be an impressive design aid.

Rene Strand gave a presentation on the "TJ Expert" design software. Rene indicated that the "TJ Expert" program will generate calculations and specify member sizes based on loads input as well as producing an "I" joist layout drawing. Rene indicated that Trus Joist MacMillian guarantees all resulting designs based loads that are input; however, the loads must correct.

Peter Bernard, Consulting Engineer, raised concerns that manufactured engineered products that he specifies on his structural plans are not always what ends up going into building and that his specified engineered products are being changed without his knowledge. Peter indicated that he should review all shop drawings for conformance with his structural plans. A detailed discussion followed between Peter Bernard and David DePiero. Tom Garcia, City of Fairfield, further clarified concerns. Eric Walter, City of Napa, stated the importance of ensuring that shop drawings and layouts are being reviewed by the engineer of record since it is common to find information on manufacturer's drawings in conflict with information on structural framing plans and that these changes commonly affect the original building and/or foundation design.

Responding to a question, David DePiero discussed the economics of using Trus Joist MacMillian products as compared to conventional lumber. David closed presentation by handing-out survey forms and requested that jurisdictions complete and return forms to Trus Joist MacMillian. David indicated that all Trus Joist MacMillian software, manuals, and technical assistance are available to designers as well as to all jurisdictions. Presentation ended at approximately 7:30 PM.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

No report

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS: (7:31 PM)**

Dan Kasperson, City of Suisun, reported on the ABM 2000 Host Committee Meeting held at the East Bay Peninsula Chapter. Dan Kasperson and Leon McNeil, City of Vallejo, attended this meeting. Since the anticipated attendance for the ABM 2000 will be much greater than expected, Dan requested that the Napa/Solano Chapter donate \$5000. President Tom Garcia suggested that the chapter make a decision at the March meeting. At Tom Garcia's request, Dan Kasperson has agreed to chair this committee.

President Tom Garcia announced three upcoming seminars: In October 1998, there is a seminar reviewing the 1997 UBC Earthquake Regulations. In March 1999 there will be a seminar on the 1997 UBC Non-Structural Update and in April 1999 there will be a seminar on the 1997 UBC Structural Update.

Tom Garcia announced that he received a letter from Steve Mitchell, City of El Cerrito, who is running for CALBO Second Vice President. Steve Mitchell is requesting the support of the Napa-Solano Chapter for this position. There was discussion by chapter members and was voted to send letter of support.

Tom Garcia also indicated that he received a letter from Mark Kluver (PCA) regarding allowable area and height tables in the IBC and that he talked with Bruce Gunn regarding these changes. Tom Garcia also stated that he received a letter from Fred Cullum, City of Burlingame, regarding his being the Napa-Solano ICBO Chapter Liaison.

#### **NEW BUSINESS: (7:37 PM)**

President Tom Garcia requested that the chapter consider donating funds to the Solano College Drafting Fest (\$200-\$300) and for a scholarship (up to \$1000) to a high school student pursuing an

education in drafting, architecture, or engineering. Tom suggested that a decision be made at the next chapter meeting.

Tom Garcia announced that Bruce Gunn, City of Napa, and Dan Kasperson, City of Suisun, are interested in attending the 1998 ICC Code Development Hearings being held April 14-24, 1998, in Virginia. Tom stated that funds, in the amount of \$3000.00, were previously approved for this purpose at the June 1997 meeting and approved the trip financing as a board matter.

Tom Garcia thanked Richard Tash, City of Dixon, and presented a \$40 gift for his outstanding work last year with education. Thank-You Richard ! Your accomplishments are appreciated by the chapter members.

**INSPECTORS TIME: (7:40 PM)**

John Bentos, City of Rio Vista, questioned other jurisdictions on pigtail connection requirements for non-multibranch circuits. It appears that N.E.C. 300-13 only requires pigtail connections on multibranch circuits so as to ensure continuity. Pigtail of non-multibranch conductors does not appear to be required by jurisdictions.

Bob Fessenden, Architect, raised a question as to when an under-floor area is to be considered a basement? The chapter did not appear to have an exact answer at this February 4th meeting. (The following comment is not part of the February 4th minutes: Note from Eric Walter- It appears that UBC Sections 203.3, 220.25, and 220.26 will provide answers to this question, which we can review at our next meeting in March).

**INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE:**

No report

**ADJOURNMENT: (8:00 PM)**

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by President Tom Garcia at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric A. Walter  
Secretary-Treasurer

**MARCH 1998**

## **MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER (5:50 PM)**

The March 4, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 5:50 PM by President Tom Garcia. There were 39 members and 2 guest speakers in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

President, Tom Garcia  
Vice-President, Harvey Higgs  
Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Walter

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The February minutes were approved

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING (6:30 PM)**

President Tom Garcia introduced Mike Zaslove and Steve Spackman of James Hardie Building Products. Mike and Steve gave a very informative presentation on building products offered by James Hardie. Tom indicated that the previously scheduled guest speaker Greg Armstrong with Contractors State License Board was unable to attend this chapter meeting. Some of the presentation highlights are as follows:

Mike indicated that James Hardie has been manufacturing siding for more than 80 years and that they are the number one producer of fiber-cement siding. He described some of the benefits of using HardiPlank panels such as attractiveness, durability, flexural strength, and non-combustibility. Mike indicated that the HardiPlank and HardiPanel products are recognized as exterior claddings in the National Evaluation Service Inc. (Report No. NER-405) and have a 50 year warranty. Mike showed a short video presentation on James Hardie fiber-cement products and flame spread testing. The fiber-cement products appeared to have very favorable results with respect to fire testing.

After a short over-head slide presentation on James Hardie products, Mike and Steve answered questions regarding installation, warranty, earthquake performance, and cost effectiveness.

The presentation ended at approximately 7:30 PM.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS: (7:31 PM)**

Dan Kasperson, City of Suisun, spoke on the proposed ICC code changes from the Sacramento Valley Chapter Code Committee meeting that was held in Yuba City. Richard Tash, City of Dixon, and Bruce Gunn, City of Napa also attended this meeting. This committee reviewed code changes submitted by several California Chapters. Dan distributed handouts on proposed code changes and asked that chapter members review and comment on acceptability. Bruce Gunn indicated that there could be in excess of three thousand code changes. Dan Kasperson gave examples of the

proposed code changes. Some of these examples are as follows: Providing further clarification for exempted accessory structures; The deletion of proposed Certificate of Completion; Trading-off parapet requirements for Class "B" roof covering; Trading-off fire resistive construction requirements for installed fire sprinklers at exterior openings; and Extending the dead end corridor limits to 50 ft when building is equipped with a fire sprinkler system.

Bruce Gunn spoke on the ICC Code Development hearings that will be coming-up in April and stressed the importance of attending this hearing. Bruce indicated that this would be the last opportunity for jurisdictions to make significant improvements to the International Building Code. Jay Salazar, City of Vacaville, strongly recommended that our chapter not support any proposal that would eliminate or lessen the degree of present code requirements.

Eric Walter, Secretary-Treasurer, gave a financial status report for the Napa-Solano Chapter. The report figures were based on a period from January 1997 to present. The present balances are as follows: CMT Checking: \$3,433.26; CMT Savings: \$13,685.75; and Dean Witter: \$13,847.48. The total present assets for the Napa-Solano Chapter is \$30,966.49 (Note that this figure does not include an outstanding February seminar bill of approximately \$2885). President Tom Garcia announced that \$3300.00 will be allocated for the ICC Code Development hearing expenses (\$300 increase to previously allocated figure at Feb. meeting).

#### **OLD BUSINESS: (7:49 PM)**

President Tom Garcia brought-up the question as to whether the Napa-Solano Chapter should donate \$5000 to the ABM 2000 (Follow-up to Dan Kasperson's request at the February chapter meeting). There was a discussion that followed by chapter members: Dan Kasperson, Richard Tash, Bill Turgeon, and Bruce Gunn. The chapter members were in favor and approved a motion of postponing this decision until further details are presented to the chapter as to specific allocation of funds and benefits. Dan Kasperson agreed to obtain further details.

Tom Garcia asked chapter members if anyone had additional comments or information regarding basement / under-floor space (question raised by Bob Fessenden at February chapter meeting). Eric Walter indicated that the UBC Handbook includes illustrations and definitions of basement, which may aid in answering Bob's question.

#### **NEW BUSINESS: (8:00 PM)**

Tom Garcia reminded chapter members that there will be a seminar on Title 24 Energy this month. For those who are interested in attending this seminar, please contact Tom Garcia at (707)428-7451.

Tom Garcia announced that David Perry, Division of the State Architect, Access Compliance Division would be interested in putting on a half-day seminar on Accessibility. Tom also indicated that he is pursuing the possibility of adding an additional half-day seminar on Residential Care Facilities ("R2" Occupancies). This would result in a one-full day seminar.

#### **INSPECTORS TIME: (8:10 PM)**

Jose Jaimes, City of Davis, distributed copies of a press release from the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO). The press release indicated that IAPMO and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) have reached an agreement to jointly support the adoption of each others codes and standards internationally. Also, there was an additional question on the state swimming pool alarm requirements. A discussion followed by Ralph Brockway, City of Napa. Ralph indicated that existing ordinances might over-ride this requirement; however, one should have this issue reviewed by your city attorney. Based on a rough count, it appeared that most jurisdictions have changed their ordinances to reflect this state requirement.

Joe Willer, City of American Canyon, raised concerns regarding issuing permits on homes that are going through probate. A short discussion followed. Also, there was mention of the Senate Bill 873 that was passed which added Section 116049.1(a-f) to the California Health and Safety Code. This new section requires public swimming pool light fixtures (>15 volts) to be protected by a ground-fault circuit interrupter and have encapsulated terminals. Apparently, several County Health Departments have notified jurisdictions that state-mandated inspections are required and must be completed by qualified inspectors. Joe asked Chapter members if an independent inspector should complete the electrical inspections. A discussion followed; however, the chapter did not seem to converge on a single conclusion.

David DeLong, County of Napa, asked members for their opinion on the inspection requirements for single and double check valves. A short discussion followed.

**INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE:** (8:25 PM)

No report

**ADJOURNMENT:** (8:25 PM)

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by President Tom Garcia at 8:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric A. Walter  
Secretary-Treasurer

**APRIL 1998**

## **MINUTES OF APRIL 1, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER (5:55 PM)**

The April 1, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 5:55 PM by President Tom Garcia. There were 42 members and 1 guest speaker in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

President, Tom Garcia

Vice-President, Harvey Higgs

Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Walter

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The March minutes were approved

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

President Tom Garcia announced that Charter Member, Albert Damiano passed away on March 16, 1998. Albert was the first full-time Building Official of City of Vacaville during the 1970's. Bill Turgeon, City of Vacaville, gave a warm description of Albert Damiano and mentioned some of Albert's contributions and accomplishments. Bill asked that the Napa-Solano Chapter consider making a donation to the Cancer Society on behalf of Albert Damiano and his family.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Tom Garcia reminded chapter members that the Code Development Committee (Bruce Gunn, Richard Tash, and Dan Kasperson) will be leaving for Virginia on April 16, 1998. Tom suggested that chapter members give ideas and input to the committee as soon as possible since their departure date is approaching.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Tom Garcia announced that he received a call from the County Health Department regarding the Senate Bill 873 (swimming pool electrical inspections). Tom indicated that the Health Department asked the City of Fairfield to conduct the required electrical inspections. Tom indicated that their jurisdiction has agreed to conduct these inspections since their department has two full-time electrical inspectors.

Bill Turgeon stated that their City Attorney has reviewed the Senate Bill 873. Bill indicated that these requested electrical inspections will not be performed by City staff, mainly due to the fact that complete and creditable inspections will not be possible with existing construction. He also stated that their department will not issue electrical permits for this work since it will be looked upon as a maintenance issue. Bill offered to forward a copy of their response letter to all interested jurisdictions. Bruce Gunn, City of Napa, indicated that his department is going to rely on qualified, licensed electricians to secure appropriate permits. Once work is completed, city inspectors will be called-out as necessary to review work; however, Bruce stated that he would be interested in

reviewing City of Vacaville's response for further consideration. Joe Willer, City of American Canyon, stated that Sonoma County Health Department is requiring these inspections to be performed by qualified electricians since this work is looked upon as a maintenance item.

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING (7:05 PM)**

Harvey Higgs, Vice-President, introduced guest speaker Greg Armstrong, Supervising Investigator with the Contractors State License Board. The presentation highlights are as follows:

Greg Armstrong announced that the Contractors State License Board has a new Registrar, Lance Barnett. Greg indicated that Lance has been in State service for over 25 years and is working on improving the communication with Building Departments and Building Officials. Greg indicated that working closer with Building Departments is important because at the present time, the Contractors State License Board is under staffed with regards to investigators and will need the assistance from Building Departments in order to provide adequate enforcement. Greg announced that they have a new home page and e-mail address. The addresses are as follows: Greg Armstrong: **Error! Reference source not found.** Registrar: **Error! Reference source not found.** and Home Page: **Error! Reference source not found..**

Greg discussed the relatively new "Underground Economy Enforcement Unit". This unit has been created to proactively enforce the license law and is mainly designed to target the unlicensed contractors. There is no paper work involved and can be enacted by a phone call or fax whereby an enforcement unit will be out within one to three days. Greg reviewed the issues regarding the Home Depot Decision and the resulting licensing requirements. A question arose regarding quality of workmanship and contractor responsibility. He indicated that workmanship is based on accepted trade standards. Greg distributed an "Owner / Builder Information" handout for building departments to provide to the public. This form will be helpful in educating the public on regulations on owner / builder permits, workers compensation, and financial risks.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Tom Garcia made a motion that the chapter donate \$200 to the American Cancer Society on behalf of Albert Damiano. The chapter approved and seconded this motion.

Tom Garcia questioned other jurisdictions on how they are handling the workers compensation requirement. It appears that most jurisdictions are requiring contractors to show proof of workers compensation prior to the issuance of building permits. Greg Armstrong, Supervising Investigator with the Contractors State License Board, stated that Labor Code 3800 indicates that jurisdictions shall require applicants to sign a declaration that they either have workers compensation or that they are exempt. Also, Greg indicated that this code requires contractors to show their valid workers compensation at time of permit issuance.

Tom Garcia brought up an issue regarding a complaint from a customer of Chuck-E-Cheese. Apparently her child was playing on a play structure and was bitten by another child. The child's mother feels that there were too many children concentrated in the play area and is questioning the allowable occupant load. Tom asked if any jurisdictions had any similar incidences. The chapter members questioned the allowable occupant load for a play structure. No conclusion followed.

### **INSPECTORS TIME:**

John Stephens, Napa State Hospital, distributed a letter from Don Glover with Brass Craft Company and questioned the chapter members on whether a Brass Craft WBOO connector is listed and approved for connecting copper piping to a steel piping of a water heater. John gave a short presentation on the history of this situation and indicated that their engineers concluded that the steel and copper could be protected against galvanic or electrolytic corrosion by increasing the separation between the copper and steel in the waterway. A short discussion followed by John and the chapter members regarding the appropriate labeling of this type of connector and whether



the label should specify that the device is approved as a dielectric connection. It appeared that several chapter members felt that the information on the label was sufficient for product approval.

**INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE:**

No report

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Tom Garcia announced that he has received a letter from the Portland Cement Association (PCA) regarding their concern with allowable areas and heights proposed in the International Building Code. It appears that the new allowable area and height values are less stringent with respect to fire and life safety than the existing Uniform Building Code values. Bruce Gunn, City of Napa, stated that the proposed allowable areas and heights are very controversial and may produce the longest debates at the ICC Code Development Hearings being held this month in Virginia.

**ADJOURNMENT:** (8:00 PM)

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by President Tom Garcia at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric A. Walter  
Secretary-Treasurer

**MAY 1998**

## **MINUTES OF MAY 6, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER (6:00 PM)**

The May 6, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 6:00 PM by President Tom Garcia. There were 20 members and 1 guest speaker in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

President, Tom Garcia

Vice-President, Harvey Higgs

Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Walter

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The April minutes were approved

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING (6:40 PM)**

Harvey Higgs, Vice-President, introduced guest speaker Darrell R. Pieper with the California Cement Promotion Council. The presentation highlights are as follows:

Darrell Pieper began presentation by showing a short video on Insulating Concrete Form (ICF) as put out by the Portland Cement Association. This video gave information on some of the advantages that ICF has over other types of building construction, such as superior energy efficiency, tight sound proof construction, fire resistance, and is economical. The ICF material costs are greater than conventional framing; however, ICF construction is actually more economical in the long run when considering the energy savings and reduced labor costs. Darrell gave a slide presentation following the video and answered several questions from chapter members.

Darrell indicated that it is very important that the foundation be level and that the forms be adequately braced. It is recommended that the ICF concrete walls be 4000 psi minimum and placed by pumping. At the present time, walls are individually designed by a licensed engineer; however, future ICBO approved tables may be available for specifying construction. Darrell indicated that it is important for jurisdictions to verify that a manufacturer has ICBO approval prior to permit issuance. Darrell ended the presentation by announcing that he has several hand-outs available for chapter members.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Dan Kasperson, City of Suisun, spoke on the results of the ICC Code Development hearings that was held at Alexandria, Virginia in April. Dan Kasperson, Richard Tash, and Bruce Gunn attended these hearings. Dan indicated that there was very little time spent on each code item and many of the topics were on stairway construction. Bruce Gunn, City of Napa, stated that the votes were well balanced and did not appear to side with any one code body. Bruce indicated that fire wall separation between dwelling units and garages did not end up in this code. He also stated that Napa-Solano and Sacramento Valley Chapters had very good representation with more than 10%

of the vote. A question came up regarding stair riser heights. Bruce indicated that the stair riser heights ended up as 7  $\frac{3}{4}$ ".

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No report

**INSPECTORS TIME:**

Eric Seabrook, Phillips Group, announced that the Redwood Chapter is sponsoring a seminar on the Plumbing Code, specifically on Drain, Waste, and Venting.

Richard Tash, City of Dixon, suggested that chapter members provide input on scheduling future guest speakers. This input would be helpful in ensuring that our chapter is obtaining the information that members are most interested in.

If chapter members are interested in contacting the officers by "E" mail, the addresses are as follows:

Tom Garcia: [tgarcia@ci.fairfield.ca.us](mailto:tgarcia@ci.fairfield.ca.us) ; Harvey Higgs: [chiggs5116@aol](mailto:chiggs5116@aol); and Eric Walter: [ewalter@cityofnapa.org](mailto:ewalter@cityofnapa.org).

**INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE:**

No report

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Tom Garcia announced that he has received an application package from ICBO for an "Award of Excellence". Tom asked chapter members to contact him if anyone has a particular candidate in mind.

**ADJOURNMENT:** (7:50 PM)

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by President Tom Garcia at 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric A. Walter  
Secretary-Treasurer

**JUNE 1998**

## **MINUTES OF JUNE 3, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER (5:50 PM)**

The June 3, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 5:50 P.M. by Vice-President, Harvey Higgs. There were 26 members and 1 guest speaker in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

Vice-President, Harvey Higgs  
Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Walter

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The May minutes were approved

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING**

Vice-President Harvey Higgs introduced Rick Thornberry, President of the Code Consortium. The presentation highlights are as follows:

Rick Thornberry indicated that he is a member of the Napa / Solano ICBO Chapter. His company specializes in code development and he represents many different clients. Rick distributed hand-outs and gave a detailed presentation on cellulose insulation. He indicated that there have been many recent improvements made with this product and it no longer presents the problems that this type of insulation exhibited in the past. He indicated that cellulose insulation is blown in, is cost effective and recyclable. Rick discussed the issues of moisture and cellulose insulation absorbing water. A short discussion followed by chapter members regarding these issues. He indicated that cellulose insulation must meet C.P.S.C. 16 CFR part 1404 regulations and must be labeled showing that it meets this requirement. An additional label is required that states "caution potential fire hazard". The fire hazard warning is mainly for ensuring minimum clearances from heat sources. Rick indicated that there has been an emergency code change to the 1994 UBC. 1994 UBC Section 707.3, Ex.3 states that this section shall not apply to cellulose insulation regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission as provided in C.P.S.C 16 CFR, Parts 1209 and 1404. The 1997 UBC now has a new section for cellulose insulation.

Rick Thornberry stated that the cellulose insulation has been tested for two hour fire resistive construction, smoldering resistance, flame spread, and settle density tests. Cellulose insulation passed these tests.

For further information, Rick provided the telephone numbers and addresses of two agencies as follows: Cellulose Insulation Manufacturers Association- Attn: Dan Lea, Executive Director, (888) 881-2462, 136 S. Keowee St., Dayton, OH, 45402. And Green Stone Industries - Attn: Joel Tranmer, President, (707) 256-0715, 3264 Villa Lane, Napa, CA, 94558. Rick discussed the possibility of the One and Two Family Building Code being incorporated into the International Building Code. He stated that he expects the 1997 Uniform Building Code to be adopted statewide by March 1999. Rick closed the presentation by handing out pins.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No report

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Education Committee has announced a seminar on the "1997 UBC Earthquake Regulations" and will be held October 15, 1998 at the Cultural Center in Vacaville. Seminar information and application is enclosed with these minutes. The following list is the upcoming seminars next year (1999): 1997 Non-Structural Update – Feb.; 1997 Structural Update – Mar.; 1997 Mechanical Update – Apr.; 1997 Plumbing Update – May; NEC Update – Oct. Contact Richard Tash, City of Dixon, if you have any questions regarding the above seminars.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Erna Stevenson with Solano / Napa Builders Exchange indicated that building departments that would like to verify contractor's licenses can contact her at (707) 255-2515 as well as the California State License Board at (800) 321-2752 or web site at [cslb.ca.gov](http://cslb.ca.gov).

## **INSPECTORS TIME**

Eric Walter, City of Napa, discussed issues regarding geotechnical report requirements for building additions. Eric indicated that the City of Napa has a present policy that requires geotechnical reports for all new buildings (residential and commercial). This requirement is mainly due to the amount of clay soils (expansiveness) in the Napa area. Eric indicated that the City of Napa Building Department presently exempts residential additions (excluding pier and grade beam foundation systems) and is reviewing their present soil report policy for possible modifications to include exempting small commercial additions (considering the structural limitations). The foundation system would still need to comply with UBC minimum allowable soil bearing pressures whether an addition is exempt or not. Eric asked other jurisdictions to provide any information that could be helpful such as describing their building department soils report criteria. A short discussion followed with Gary Balbi, Vice President of Smith-Emery Company. If your jurisdiction has any input or useful criteria, please contact Eric Walter at (707) 257-9540.

Ralph Brockway, City of Napa, clarified issues regarding decorative gas appliances with continuously burning pilot lights. Ralph pointed out that although continuous burning pilot lights are prohibited by the Energy Efficiency Standards for decorative gas appliances, these appliances can be sold for installation in a building which does not require compliance with the Residential Energy Efficiency Standards. A short discussion followed.

## **INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE**

No report

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

The Chapter has received a letter of thanks for our donation to the American Cancer Society for Al Damiano. The American Cancer Society sent a memorial card to the family in the chapter name.

The Chapter has received the California Building Officials Training Institute (CTI) list of educational offerings June 18, June 23, July 14, and Aug. 3. For further information and details call (916) 457-1103.

## **ADJOURNMENT (8:00 PM)**

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by Vice-President Harvey Higgs at approximately 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric A. Walter  
Secretary-Treasurer

**JULY 1998**

## **MINUTES OF JULY 1, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The July 1, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 6:00 P.M. by President Tom Garcia. There were 22 members and 1 guest speaker in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

President, Tom Garcia  
Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Walter

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The June minutes were approved

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING (6:50 PM)**

President Tom Garcia introduced Mike Kobel who is the Director of Standards with the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. The presentation highlights are as follows:

Mike Kobel opened the presentation with a little humor. Mike stressed the importance of the Building Departments in United States and the importance of our jobs as code officials, since many countries do not have the benefits of building safety that we have in the United States. Mike discussed the differences between the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) and the International Plumbing Code (ICC). The UPC is a prescriptive code and the ICC is a performance based code. Mike stated that the UPC is based on consensus voting which includes industry participation. He indicated that the UPC is written by those who are most familiar with the plumbing industry and not by Building Officials who typically do not have the necessary expertise. Mike explained that there are going to be costs to change over to a new code such as the retraining of inspectors and cost of changing over to a different standard for product approval listings.

Bruce Gunn, City of Napa, commented on the International Code Development process requiring that all code bodies, code officials, and interested parties have an open mind in order that everyone agrees with one final code that will work for everyone.

Bruce stated that even though the East Coast does things a little differently, their code appears to be working fine. Bruce asked why IAPMO feels that their code should be the final model plumbing code. Mike responded by stating that the open consensus process will allow other voices across the country to be heard and that this communication will be more effective through industry participation rather than the government process since industry has more resources. Bruce stated that the National Electric Code is based on a consensus process and is the most confusing code we enforce. Bruce also indicated that he has never been asked to participate in the amendment process for this N.F.P.A. document.

Mike responded to additional questions on testing and standards and ended presentation. Presentation ended at approximately 7:30 PM.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

No report

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

No report

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

No report

#### **INSPECTORS TIME: (6:05 PM)**

Dan Kasperon, City of Suisun, requested input from other jurisdictions regarding design professional responsibility for buildings complying with the Uniform Building Code, Conventional Construction Provisions (CCP). Dan indicated that his department was considering requiring a licensed engineer or architect to take full responsibility for overall project rather than just those portions that fail the CCP. Tom Garcia, City of Fairfield, indicated that his jurisdiction does accept plans prepared by unlicensed professionals as long as the building complies with the CCP. Eric Walter, City of Napa, also concurred with Tom and stated that the Uniform Building Code does allow portions of a building to be designed by an engineer as long as those portions are complete and remaining portions comply with the CCP. It is important to note; however, that the portions of structure that are required to be designed be complete from the framing portion that is required to be designed to the foundation and include a continuous detailed load path. Eric also indicated that most submittals do require complete engineering since buildings typically do not comply with the CCP, especially larger custom homes. The California Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and the California Board of Architectural Examiners requires that design professionals stamp and wet sign all documents that are required to be designed and prepared by a licensed engineer or architect. Therefore, all structural framing plans (overall project or portion(s) he or she is required to take responsibility), structural details, and calculations must bear the licensed professionals stamp and signature. Eric also stated that it is common to find projects incomplete, in conflict, and/or not adequately coordinated because more than one individual is involved with designing a particular building. One individual may be designing building and preparing calculations while another individual is responsible for plan preparation and detailing structure. These structural details must meet the intended building design. It is important to ensure that the person who is taking responsibility for the overall structural building design stamp and wet sign the structural plans. This is important because many design professionals preparing and stamping plans never intended to take responsibility for the structural portions since they had someone else prepare the structural calculations.

Ralph Brockway, City of Napa, asked chapter members if their jurisdictions have approved the 3M FireMaster Duct wraps and if they are requiring this product to be certified by 3M. Tom Garcia indicated that his jurisdiction has reviewed and approved this foil wrap based on the UL Listing and appears to meet the one-hour fire resistive construction requirements.

Bruce Gunn, City of Napa, asked chapter members if any jurisdictions have reviewed and approved a new decking material named TimberTech. This deck is made from a recyclable composite plastic and wood material. This product does not presently have an ICBO Evaluation Report or UL Listing but has testing data reports. It appeared that the chapter members have not reviewed this product.

#### **INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE:**

No report

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**



President Tom Garcia received a letter from Ray Bizal regarding the Scoping Committee for the IBC. The Scoping Committee reviews sections of the IBC as well as the other model codes for possible overlap. This committee will determine where duplications should be eliminated. Tom asked chapter members to contact him if members have input or are interested in assisting with this committee.

**ADJOURNMENT:** (7:45 PM)

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by President Tom Garcia at 7:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric A. Walter  
Secretary-Treasurer

**SEPTEMBER 1998**

## **MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER (6:00 PM)**

The September 2, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 6:00 P.M. by President Tom Garcia. There were 22 members and 1 guest speaker in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

President, Tom Garcia

Vice-President, Harvey Higgs

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The July minutes were approved

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING**

President Tom Garcia introduced Bill Brooks, Project Engineer with Endecon Engineering. Bill gave a very informative presentation with the following highlights: Bill Brooks spoke on Photo Voltarc power systems. Mr. Brooks discussed code items concerning installation and acquainted the chapter with NEC requirements. The meeting ventured outside to look at a solar panel system mounted on a truck. All were enlightened to see the actual operation of the solar panel, battery, and switch gear. The system requires approximately ten thousand dollars to install. Installations are currently being subsidized by PG&E.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1997 UBC Earthquake Regulations; Location: Cultural Center, Vacaville; Date: October 15, 1998  
Code Update seminars are as follows:

1997 Non-Structural UBC Update Seminar; February 23, 24, & 25, 1999

1997 Structural UBC Update Seminar; March 30 & 31, 1999

1997 UMC Update Seminar; April 20 & 21, 1999

1997 IAPMO UPC Update Seminar; May 18 & 19, 1999

Doug Beaman will offer Energy code update classes in 1999

**Note: All seminars listed above are one day classes being offered two or three consecutive days.**

President Tom Garcia announced that a chapter by-law change will be proposed at the next meeting to split the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Garcia offered to become a permanent Treasurer if approved by chapter members. Nomination of officers will be held during the October meeting. Anyone interested in servicing as an officer should contact either immediate past president, Jay Salazar or any officer.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

No report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

No report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No report

**INSPECTORS TIME:**

Tom Garcia indicated that a question came up at his jurisdiction regarding what to do if disability access was not available to an outside door when the code required access because of its mere existence. A solution was suggested that a door knob not be put on the outside and the inside be clearly labeled "Not Handicap Accessible".

Wayne Weimer, City of Fairfield, asked if electrical for HVAC installations was considered incidental or primary which would require a C-10 contractor to obtain the permit. Al Hurd, City of Fairfield, contacted the Contractors State License Board for an answer. The Board indicated that the contractor is empowered to perform all work required to install a new HVAC system including electrical circuits and wiring.

**INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE:**

No report

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by President Tom Garcia at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
C.H. Higgs  
Vice President

**OCTOBER 1998**

## **MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER (6:00 PM)**

The October 7, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 6:00 P.M. by President Tom Garcia. There were 34 members and 1 guest speaker in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

President, Tom Garcia  
Vice-President, Harvey Higgs  
Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Walter

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The September minutes were approved

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Tom Garcia announced that he has received a letter from Aztec Code Consultants requesting chapter support for proposed guardrail changes to the International Building Code. Tom indicated that the specifics of this request was unclear and that he will forward letter to Dan Kasperson and Bruce Gunn for further review. Tom Garcia received a letter from CALBO regarding free Title 24 Energy Classes (Vacaville will be sponsoring one of these classes). CALBO was also requesting financial support (\$250 for breaks) from our chapter during the week of October 19-22 and November 16-19 for Education Week.

Vice-President Harvey Higgs announced that he attended a Chapter President's Meeting. Harvey stated that one topic of interest was a program called "Ride-A-Longs". This program gives elected officials the opportunity to see first hand the day-to-day tasks of building department staff such as permit processing, technical counter work, plan checking, and building inspections. Harvey stated that those departments who have implemented this program had favorable results.

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING (7:15 PM)**

Vice-President Harvey Higgs introduced Mark Hronicek of Huttig Building Products. Mark indicated that his primary job is marketing and providing information to the public on Tyvek products. Mark gave a very informative presentation on Tyvek building paper which included the installation requirements as well as the advantages over black grade "D" paper. Tyvek is an ICBO approved weather-resistive barrier and is rated as a grade "D" paper. Tyvek is approximately 58 perms where black paper is 10 perms. The hydro-head test results show that Tyvek can hold water for up to eight hours without leaking and amazingly this product is permeable (breathable). Apparently, the reason for this leak resistance is due to the lack of air movement and negligible air space which does not allow air to reach the saturation point. Tyvek is textured to allow for drainage; however, the sheets must be installed in the correct orientation. Tyvek should be installed with a six inch overlap on horizontal seams and should overlap to the next stud on the vertical seams. The manufacturer recommends a Mercedes-Benz cut be used at window openings rather than an "X" cut. Mark pointed out that one of the common problems with installation is due to nail holes not

being repaired prior to residing. The manufacturer also recommends that all joints be taped to maximize the resistance to air infiltration. Mark answered several questions from the chapter prior to ending presentation.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

No report

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

No report

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Tom Garcia distributed the proposed By-Law changes for the Napa/Solano Chapter. Because the chapter has grown in size as well as the additional work involved with education, etc., Tom is proposing to change the Secretary/Treasurer position into two separate positions, where Tom is offering to be a permanent Treasurer elected each year to a one year term. Tom stated the benefits of having one individual maintain the chapter accounts. In addition to the change in officer positions, Tom proposed additional changes/corrections. A discussion followed on the final wording of the proposed By-Law changes. Tom also indicated that he recommends the chapter continue with "In-Attendance" voting.

Tom Garcia reported on his attendance at the Annual Business Meeting (ABM) that was held this year in San Diego. Tom indicated that the ABM included several educational seminars particularly on exiting. A resolution was passed at one of the ABM meetings that included a By-Law change doing away with the North/Central and South Districts. Another change included expanding the Education Department into two separate departments, one being Education and the other Certifications. Tom listed the locations of the future ABM meetings and noted that SBCCI will not be attending all of these meetings since this organization relies heavily on elected officials to represent this code body. One interesting item that Tom brought back from the ABM was in addition to the new International Building Code (IBC), there will be a performance based code that will parallel the IBC which should aid in decision making with those borderline or alternate material / method code issues. Tom encouraged chapter members to participate in the upcoming Spring Code Development Meetings. Bruce Gunn, City of Napa, gave additional input on the ABM. Bruce stated that the meeting in San Diego was a nice mixture of education and code layout review of the International Building Code; however, he felt the meeting appeared to lack with regards to significant code development.

Past President Richard Tash nominated John Bento, City of Rio Vista as the 1999 ICBO Napa-Solano Chapter Secretary, Harvey Higgs as President, Eric Walter as Vice-President, and Tom Garcia as Treasurer. The final nominations and election of officers will be held at the November chapter meeting.

#### **INSPECTORS TIME:**

Eric Walter, City of Napa, brought attention to the manufacturer's installation manual for Masonite lap siding. The manufacturer's manual requires a black, 6 mil, polyethylene film ground cover to be installed in all crawl space areas, otherwise the warranty may be voided. Those jurisdictions that have a considerable amount of raised-floor construction may want to pay particular attention to this requirement.

Jose Jaimes, City of Davis, indicated that he attended an IAPMO chapter meeting. One of the items brought up at this meeting was a problem with flux corroding ABS pipe. Apparently, the ABS pipe deteriorates over time when flux drips onto pipe during the soldering of copper pipes above. A short discussion followed.

**INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE:**

No report

**ADJOURNMENT:** (8:30 PM)

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by President Tom Garcia at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric A. Walter  
Secretary-Treasurer

**NOVEMBER 1998**

## **MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 1998**

### **CALL TO ORDER (6:00 PM)**

The November 4, 1998 meeting of the I.C.B.O. Napa-Solano Chapter was called to order at approximately 6:00 P.M. by Vice-President Harvey Higgs. There were 28 members and 1 guest speaker in attendance.

### **ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

The following officers were present:

Vice-President, Harvey Higgs  
Secretary-Treasurer, Eric Walter

### **SELF INTRODUCTIONS**

Self introductions of dinner attendees

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The October minutes were approved

### **SPEAKER OF THE EVENING (6:30 PM)**

Vice-President Harvey Higgs introduced guest speaker Colin Gilboy of STI Fire Stopping. The presentation included good information on fire-stopping requirements and the presentation highlights are as follows:

Colin provided information on the testing of fire resistive construction and the effectiveness of fire stopping, particularly with the hose stream tests. Colin handed out fire-stopping manuals which should aid in determining which fire stopping method is best for a given application. Presently, there are over 130 U.L. listings on fire stopping. The discussion was primarily on motels, hotels, small offices, and overall commercial wood construction projects. Colin indicated that single family dwellings do not have much need for fire stopping except at the separation between garage and residence. Also, California is unique compared to other states in that we do not have a lot of plastic piping in buildings three stories or greater. When specifying fire stopping products, the material being penetrated, the penetrating material, and the size of hole must be predetermined prior to researching product in the manual. Colin reviewed several fire stopping details with Chapter members. He indicated that contractors should take extra care when drilling holes for penetrations since these gaps must be fire caulked. Costs can add up quickly on large buildings if over sized holes need to be filled with fire caulking. Colin recommended that inspectors should hold preconstruction meetings to determine in advance which appropriate fire stopping methods should be used for each application. Holding preconstruction meetings would sure help in preventing unnecessary rework. After answering a few questions from the Chapter, Colin ended the presentation.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Harvey Higgs described the proposed changes to the Bylaws. The primary change is that the present single officer Secretary-Treasurer be changed to a two officer position- one being the Secretary and the other Treasurer. The other proposed changes to the Bylaws were minor corrections / clarifications. The proposed Bylaw changes were approved and seconded by the

Chapter. Harvey proposed a \$20.00 dues fee for next year (no change from last year). A motion was made, approved, and seconded for the dues to remain the same.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Eric Walter, City of Napa, attended the 1997 UBC Seismic Provisions Seminar that was sponsored by the Napa/Solano ICBO Chapter and described a few of the important code changes. Presently, buildings are designed for seismic loads using the method of zones (zones 1 – 4); however, the 1997 code will require the use of fault maps in order to determine distances from project site to faults. The proposed changes to the seismic design provisions appear to be more accurate but is significantly more detailed. The soil types at the building site is now a very important consideration, compared to the present analysis, and may affect the resulting seismic design considerably. Allowable shear wall height-to-widths have been reduced, which will not allow for the shorter shear wall panels that we are accustomed to seeing. Also, special detailing requirements have been added for tilt-up building construction. The connection between roof diaphragm and tilt-up wall panels did not perform as well as expected with recent earthquakes.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Harvey Higgs asked the Chapter members to suggest new nominations for Secretary. Paul Siegal, City of Dixon, was nominated as the 1999 Napa/Solano Chapter Secretary. Harvey requested for additional nominations from the floor for Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-President, and President. A motion was approved and seconded for the following officers for the year 1999: Tom Garcia as Treasurer, Paul Siegel as Secretary, Eric Walter as Vice-President, and Harvey Higgs as President.

Jay Salazar, City of Vacaville, announced that Vacaville will be sponsoring a training seminar on the new Energy Standards. The seminar dates are January 18 and 21. Douglas Beaman will be teaching this workshop. Jay indicated that if anyone has questions to contact Douglas at (209) 924-1623.

### **INSPECTORS TIME: (7:40 PM)**

Jose Gallegos, CSFM, brought up concerns regarding the Omega fire sprinkler recall. Central Sprinkler is recalling approximately 8.4 million Omega series fire sprinklers now in service. The Chapter discussed the permitting process for this recall.

### **INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVE:**

No report

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Harvey Higgs announced that there will not be a meeting in December and reminded the chapter of the installation dinner to be held at the Paradise Valley Golf Course on January 15, 1999.

### **ADJOURNMENT: (8:00 PM)**

There was a motion to adjourn and a 2nd. The meeting was adjourned by Vice-President Harvey Higgs at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric A. Walter  
Secretary-Treasurer