



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

MINUTES

GRASSROOTS GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEES CONFERENCE CALL

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2015 – 9:00 AM ET (USA)

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bert Phillips, Chair
Rob Craddock, 1ST Vice Chair
Keith Reihl, 2ND Vice Chair
Charles Culp, ExO
William Dietrich
David Underwood, CO
Richard Vehlow, Region I
Dunstan Macauley, Region III
Sonya Pouncy, Region V
Kelly Crow, Region VI
Dan Merkel, Region VIII
Mark Bender, Region X
Scott Seigel, Region XII
Tom Watson
Steve Kennedy
Cesar Lim
Tim Wentz
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dru Crawley, Communications Coordinator
Douglas Cochrane, Region II
Bryan Lampley, Region IV
Chad Moore, Region VII
Brian Lynch, Region IX
Jeffery Hurd, Region XI
Ng Yong Kong, Region XIII
Ahmed Alaa Eldin Mohamed, Region-At-Large
Ross Montgomery
Jim Wolfe
- STAFF PRESENT:** Jim Scarborough, Staff Liaison, GGAC
Mark Ames, Staff Liaison, Advocacy Committee
- GUESTS PRESENT:** Ron Gagnon

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mr. Phillips called the meeting to order at 9:02 am ET (US).



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

REVIEW OF AGENDA

The agenda was accepted as written.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 17, 2015 GGAC MEETING

Mr. Reihl moved approval of the minutes as written. Mr. Craddock seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED: 11-0-0 CNV (ONLY GGAC MEMBERS VOTING)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 24, 2015 ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Wentz moved approval of the minutes as written. Mr. Dietrich seconded the motion.

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-0 CNV (ONLY ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MEMBERS VOTING)

REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Scarborough reviewed the outstanding Action Items. The item regarding the software will be decided later this morning by the Executive Subcommittees of both GGAC and Advocacy and a recommendation will be sent forward to the ASHRAE Finance Committee and ExCom. An additional item, where ASHRAE and IAPMO might have combined Chapter meetings, has not progressed and is being removed from the list.

Of particular interest is Item # 1 from the January 2015 meeting. Mr. Scarborough and Mr. Ames asked for additional clarity on exactly what the Committee would like to have included in this list as there are over 200 ASHRAE Standards and Guidelines alone. Also, Mr. Scarborough noted that he has been in contact with Steve Comstock, Director of the PubEd Department, to see if something like this list already exists.

On the other item from the January 2015 meeting, Dr. Mohamed is not present on today's call and there is no update.

EXO REPORT

Mr. Culp made a brief report.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Scarborough and Mr. Ames gave staff report.

Mr. Scarborough noted that, on grassroots issues, of special importance is legislation in Utah. The Utah House had passed legislation that would have changed the state to a six-



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

year code cycle. The legislation had been approved by the Utah Senate but with a minor change. The bill had to return to the House for concurrence but the legislative session ended before the House could vote again so the bill did not pass.

There is also a bill in the Maryland General Assembly that would exempt one county, Washington County, from the three-year code cycle and allow it to have a six-year code cycle. This bill is opposed by ASHRAE but passed out of a Senate Committee last week.

Mr. Ames noted that he has been working on the federal level with Appropriations issues. Of course of big importance is the reintroduction of the Portman Shaheen legislation. This was legislation that was also considered in the previous session of Congress but which did not pass. This year's version will be working its way through the Committee structure in the coming weeks.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF PUBLIC POLICY ISSUE BRIEFS

Mr. Ames noted that the Public Policy Issue Briefs must be updated each year or they expire. He suggested that we might need an action item to have members review the various briefs for recommendations and approval as well as to create new Briefs. Almost all now are US federal focused. Mr. Phillips suggested an email be sent to the members of GGAC and Advocacy and for each member to review two of the PPIBs and make recommendations for changes to those as well as ideas for new ones. Also Mr. Ames asked for suggestions on format changes to the PPIBs. Mr. Watson suggested that people respond within a week which PPIBs they plan to review. Mr. Scarborough and Mr. Ames will send this information out to the Committees.

<https://www.ashrae.org/government-affairs/public-policy-issue-briefs-letters--testimony>

RVC/CHAPTER REPORTS

Mr. Merkel reported for Region VIII. He reported that PACE in Texas continues to move forward. They are in an RFP status for an administrator. In North Texas, they are looking for different cities and counties to participate in PACE. Their CRC is next month.

Mr. Bender reported for Region X. He has applied to be a member of Western HVAC Performance Alliance. He was accepted and will be working with the code updates. Mr. Watson noted that ASHRAE Member Bob Baker has been involved for some time with this group.

Mr. Seigel reported for Region XII. bEQ was added to the reporting system last year. Mr. Montgomery is making sure this is being enforced. He is meeting with Chapters and making presentations. In the Brazil Chapter, they are talking with the Olympic Committee about performing ASHRAE processes on the Olympic buildings. Nate Boyd



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

with the City of Orlando is writing bEQ into the city BERDO process. He is going to Colombia for a meeting.

Mr. Vehlow reported for Region I. He went to Montpelier, VT to attend a public hearing on the MOE issue last month lead by the Vermont Licensing Board for Professional Engineers. A number of members of ASHRAE's Champlain Valley Chapter were in attendance. The meeting was very well attended by people on both sides of the issue. Mr. Vehlow spoke in opposition to changing the educational requirement. He also noted there is a bill in Maine for energy efficiency technologies.

Mr. Gagnon made a brief report for Region II in the absence of Mr. Cochrane.

Mr. Macauley reported for Region III. He is working with the PA Chapters on a bill in the PA legislature. Attempts are being made to meet with the bill's sponsor. Also he is working on issues with National Capitol Chapter.

Ms. Pouncy reported for Region V. She has been giving ASHRAE 62.1 seminars to local mechanical inspectors in Metro Detroit and for the State of Michigan coming up at their conference.

Mr. Crow had no report for Region VI this month.

Mr. Underwood congratulated each RVC. He noted how much more detailed the reports are becoming and he is happy that GGAC is really getting traction and getting ASHRAE recognized.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Reihl had no report for the Member Services Committee.

Mr. Craddock asked how many Chapters had submitted Engineer Week Proclamations. Mr. Scarborough reported he had received from three Chapters.

COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES

Mr. Crawley was not present for the call today so no communications report.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. BUILDING SAFETY MONTH – MAY 2015

Mr. Scarborough reported on Building Safety Month. This is an annual recognition sponsored by the International Code Council. Each week of the month has a different theme. The theme for the fourth week of May is "Save Energy: Build to Code."



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

On other business, Mr. Ames noted that an email is going out today to the Chapter Presidents, GGAC Chairs and Co-Chairs today encouraging them to meet with US Senators and House Members during the upcoming Easter-Passover recess when the Senators and Congressmen are in their home districts.

Mr. Ames also gave an update on CBECS.

There is an ASHRAE webcast on April 23 on Commissioning. Mr. Phillips encouraged the Committee members to publicize this with the Chapters.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday, April 21, 2015
9:00 am ET (USA)
Conference Call**

Mr. Phillips noted he will not be present for the April call and Mr. Craddock will need to chair the meeting.

ADJOURN

Mr. Phillips adjourned the meeting at 9:54 am ET (US)



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

ACTION ITEMS: From January 2015 GGAC Meeting

1. Staff will work to create a list that can be sent out to Chapters on what materials (e.g. Standards, publications, etc.) are currently available for Chapters to use with code officials or other government agencies.

DUE DATE: March 2015 GGAC Conference Call. **PENDING**

2. Dr. Mohamed will Chair a Task Force of the RVCs who represent non-US areas as well as the Chair and 2 Vice Chairs of GGAC to develop a set of ideas and a road map to moving forward on issues of concern in the non-US community.

DUE DATE: March 2015 GGAC Conference Call. **PENDING**



Shaping Tomorrow's
Built Environment Today

ACTION ITEMS: From March 2015 GGAC Meeting

1. Staff will send an email with website link immediately to the members of GGAC and Advocacy Committees asking each member to review two of the Public Policy Issue Briefs (PPIBs) and make recommendations for changes to those as well as ideas for new ones. Recommendations should also include any proposed format changes to the PPIBs. Committee members should respond within a week which PPIBs they plan to review.

DUE DATE: April 2015 GGAC Conference Call. **PENDING**