

North Carolina Code Officials Qualification Board Education and Research Committee



June 27, 2023, 1:30-3:30 P.M.

This meeting was held via WebEx.

1. Introduction Welcome/Roll Call

Danny Couch called the meeting to order. Mr. Couch asked Jennifer Hollyfield to call the roll.

Mr. Couch read the Ethics Awareness & Conflict of Interest Reminder. Mr. Couch asked the committee members if any of them have any known conflict of interest or the potential of conflict with respect to matters on the agenda coming before the Code Officials Research & Education Committee today. None was noted.

Committee members present by roll call vote:

- 1) Danny Couch, Chairman
- 2) Stephen Terry, PhD, PE
- 3) Jeff Griffin, Code Official
- 4) Montrena Hadley, Elected Official
- 5) Kenny Weatherington, NC Community College System
- 6) Joshua Robbins, NCAT Engineering Faculty

Attendees:

Todd Neal, Board legal counsel
Mike Hejduk
Sam Whittington
Jennifer Hollyfield
Beth Williams
Lori Degre, Sandhills Community College

2. Board Course instructors to discuss changes to update courses from 2018 to 2024 Codes.

Mr. Couch asked Mike Hejduk to go over the Board Course updates 2018-2024 Codes.

- 1) Scope of work, cost estimates, funding? 3/13/23 memo
- 2) ICC® Codes, IFPA® NEC®, Law & Admin
- 3) Pages: 4,000
- 4) Hours: 480
- 5) Slides: 1,000's
- 6) Worksheets
- 7) End -of-Course and State Exam Test Items
- 8) Engineering Division staff – Staff Dev. Coord.
- 9) NC Community College System sponsors/instructors
- 10) Guidelines 2006
- 11) Stakeholder Surveys

12) Code Enforcement Officials – Standards of Practice?

The Engineering Division has Beth William's old position, which is a staff development coordinator position, which is unfilled now. This position would be the person in house to update all those courses. Hejduk stated that there is a Bill in the Senate and in the House, that talks about creating an apprentice program for basically the entry level. Hejduk stated that we also have some guidelines, that was never put into the board rules about the board courses and the date of those guidelines is 2006, which predate all our online application stuff. Hejduk said that the guidelines need to be updated, which is a project. Hejduk reached out to all the instructors at the community colleges. Hejduk said that maybe we ought to have monthly meetings between staff and the instructors. Mr. Couch suggested that the committee reach out to the Department of Insurance legislative liaison to find out about the funding for the project.

3. NC General Assembly updates.

Hejduk went over the N.C. General Assembly updates:

- 1) H850 Licensing Board/Contractors & Inspectors
- 2) G.S. 143-151.13 Architects, Engineers, Licensed Contractors: General, Plumbing, Heating, Electrical pass state exam, no Board short course required.
- 3) G.S. 143-151.13 voluntary apprenticeship program
- 4) G.S. 143-151.16 Professional development program course fees
- 5) S463 Home Inspectors Lic. Mods./Code Qual. Bd.
- 6) G.S. 143-151.13 Architects, Engineers, Licensed Contractors: General, Plumbing, Heating, Electrical pass state exam, no Board short course required.
- 7) G.S. 143-151.13A Professional development program course fees
- 8) G.S. 143-138.1 DOI may develop an apprenticeship program and fees
- 9) H320 = S712 Create Bldg. Code Permit Tech Cert.
- 10) H893 Private Commercial Inspections
- 11) G.S. 143-151.12 and G.S. 143-15.14A, 14B, 19A

Hejduk stated that G.S. 143-151.13 may develop an apprenticeship program and fees. The apprenticeship word is kind of being used relative to the North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency that had a special program with the Department of Insurance and signed agreement. This was to have 7 trainers and 15 field people to go look at the stuff that was being rebuilt from prior flooding from the hurricanes. Those 15 trainees were apprentices. That is where it started. May be that's a good way to let other jurisdictions send their people to some of the training. Hejduk stated Beth Williams and him did an outline for the NC apprenticeship program. That was with the community college system specifically. Department of Insurance would need to have partnered with a specific community college to be part of that. Mr. Couch stated that the committee would have to wait and see if the bills pass the House & Senate. Hejduk went over House Bill 488 that is about the reorganization of the Code Council and H893 private commercial inspections.

Hejduk checked with Carl Martin on the status of the code.

Status of 2024 Code:

- 1) NCAC&P adopted
- 2) NCBC adopted
- 3) NCFC adopted
- 4) NCEBC adopted
- 5) NCECC not yet adopted / waiting for a fiscal note
- 6) NCPC is open for public comment / will be voted on in September
- 7) NCRC Chapters 1-10, 25-33, 45, 46 and Appendices are open for public comment / will be voted on in September
- 8) NCMC not yet approved
- 9) NCFGC not yet approved
- 10) NEC not yet approved
- 11) NCRC Chapters 11, 12-23 and 24 are not yet approved

Hejduk stated that if you took 1 subject matter expert and dedicated them to a year's long project, how many people would you need, and this just compares if you pay them \$30.00 an hour. This is typically what a course instructor gets maybe through the community college system.

ESTIMATED COST TO UPDATE 2018 TO 2024 BOARD COURSES	Count	\$Rate/hr	Hrs	Cost
(1) Subject Matter Expert per Board Course (all levels)?	7	\$30	2,000	\$420,000
(1) Subject Matter Expert for Energy Code?	1	\$30	2,000	\$60,000
(1) Subject Matter Expert for Existing Building Code?	1	\$30	2,000	\$60,000
(1) Subject Matter Expert for Residential Code?	1	\$30	2,000	\$60,000
TOTAL SME'S	10	\$30	2,000	\$600,000

ESTIMATED COST TO UPDATE 2018 TO 2024 BOARD COURSES	Count	\$Rate/hr	Hrs	Cost
(1) Subject Matter Expert per Board Course (all levels)?	7	\$50	2,000	\$700,000
(1) Subject Matter Expert for Energy Code?	1	\$50	2,000	\$100,000
(1) Subject Matter Expert for Existing Building Code?	1	\$50	2,000	\$100,000
(1) Subject Matter Expert for Residential Code?	1	\$50	2,000	\$100,000
TOTAL SME'S	10	\$50	2,000	\$1,000,000

4. Third party educational updates.

Hejduk went over the third party educational/certification updates.

- 1) NC Community Colleges
- 2) UNC School of Government
- 3) East Carolina University
- 4) ICC Online Learning /Certification
- 5) NFPA

Hejduk stated that you have the community colleges that are already in the board rule. UNC School of Government has kind of come back in the game providing a Law and Administrative Instructor. They are accredited and they are allowed to do that. East Carolina University that's the way they wee trying to hook up with their construction management program.

Hejduk stated that the new codes will become effective January 1, 2025. If you think about it all the changes need to be done probably 6 months before you need to have the new test questions 6 months before 3 months before anyway, which is October 2023. Mr. Couch asked Hejduk if the ICC Online Learning need to be an agenda item for the full board discussion. NFPA may need to be an agenda item as well.

5. CE Completion

Hejduk asked Jennifer Hollyfield to go over the CE completion – 6 hours by 6/30/2023.

Total number of Standard Certificates – 6,992

Total number of inspectors who have met CE requirement – 6,683 (96%)

6. Adjournment

Kenny Weatherington made the motion to adjourn. Montrena Hadley seconded. Motion passed.

DRAFT