



**MINUTES OF THE
THIRD FIRE SUB-COUNCIL MEETING OF 2021**

DATE: May 20, 2021

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Teleconference

PRESENT: *Sub-Council Members*

Michael Bos, Chair
Cameron Bardas
Allan Blatz
Joseph Davis
Richard Friesen
Robbin Foxcroft, Vice Chair South
Mark Heiderich
Cammie Laird
John Penzo
Payman Montakhebi
Chris Taylor
Glenn Baxter

Safety Codes Council

Allison Karch, Kathryn Derkach, Jennifer Johnson

Alberta Municipal Affairs

Tina Parker, Cindy Yan

REGRETS: Hunter Langpap, Vice Chair North
Marc Royer
Stephen Suen

GUESTS: Colin Belliveau, BSC Liaison

RECORDER: Jennifer Johnson

2021 MEETINGS: September 16, November 25

1. Meeting Opening

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A round table introduction was held.

1.1 Agenda Adoption

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Item 2.1. – Closed Session
- Item 2.1.1. - Reappointment of Marc Royer

Cameron Bardas/Richard Friesen moved that the agenda be adopted, as amended; CARRIED.

1.2 Adoption of the March 18 Minutes

Robbin Foxcroft/John Penzo moved to adopt the minutes of the March 18, 2021 meeting, as circulated; CARRIED.

2. Matters for Decision

2.1. Closed Session

Chris Taylor/Cameron Bardas moved to go into Closed Session

Cameron Bardas/Glenn Baxter moved to come out of Closed Session

2.1.1. Reappointment of Marc Royer

At the January meeting, the Sub-Council made a motion to recommend to the Board the reappointment of Marc Royer for a second term ending January 31, 2024, under the assumption that his term had expired. However, Mr. Royer's term does not end until January 31, 2022. In order to correct the error and ensure that the opportunity for a complete term is granted to the member, there should be a motion to rescind the original motion. This has no effect on Mr. Royer's ability to be reappointed at the end of his current term, it is purely an administrative correction and will put him back into the correct term cycle.

Robbin Foxcroft/Richard Friesen move to rescind the motion made at the January 21, 2021 meeting to recommend to the Board reappointment of Marc Royer to the Fire Sub-Council to represent Urban Municipalities for a term ending January 31, 2024, effective February 1, 2021.

3. Review Matters Arising/Action List

	Item	Action	Date Initiated	Responsible	Status/Update
1.	Qualified Persons Registry (E.2.06.11)	Communicate status of registry	Nov 23/16	Orr	James will attend the September meeting and provide an update at that time.

2.	Farm Buildings	Administrator will provide updates on farm building issues as they arise.	Jan 21/21	Parker	No update at this time.
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4. Matters for Discussion

4.1. Wildland Urban Interface Fire Risk

Cameron Bardas shared a presentation, which included the following highlights:

- Transmission of wildfire is different than urban fires as it's due to flying embers as opposed to direct contact with flames
- A wildfire in the City of Edmonton in 2016 led to the loss of 4 homes
- Mill Creek Ravine was identified as a potential risk area that would be very difficult to manage if a wildfire were to start due to the high slopes, lack of access, and limited water
- The Building Code does not explicitly address wildfire concerns
- There are no regulations in Alberta that protect against flying brands and embers
- Potential options to address the issue include Enforcement, Engineering, Emergency Response, Economic Incentive and Education
- Municipalities could potentially mitigate risk through the use of bylaws; NRC identified the need but Municipalities need to be able to act on it

The following was discussed:

- Residential sprinklers help for life safety and egress but not fire prevention
- Firesmart has excellent information for members to share with nominating organizations
- There is an incorrect assumption that the Building Code covers all aspects of fire safety
- Camrose has a land-use bylaw related to fire safety, it's not necessarily enforced but used to educate residents
- It was noted that educating politicians in urban and rural municipalities would be beneficial to moving this forward, Cammie offered to assist
- The insurance industry is very interested in regulations as solutions
- Emergency response cannot be considered risk reduction
- The Administrator will look into information for members on how Canmore was able to implement their land-use bylaw [Parker]
- Discussion will be brought forward to the next sub-council meeting [Council Staff]

4.2. Environmental Scanning

An opportunity was provided for members to bring up anything they've learned or issues they've identified since the last meeting.

As no comments were made, members were reminded to bring items forward based off their nominating organizations and what they're seeing in the industry.

4.3. BSC Liaison Report

The BSC Liaison reported:

- The Farm Buildings STANDATA and Interior Stairways for Roof Access STANDATA were reviewed; they are available to view on the Building Member Portal
- There is a submission to NRC going forward for sprinklers in Part 9 Buildings
- A working group was formed to look into a potential code change proposal related to hail damage and resilient roofing

4.4. Administrator/AMA Report

The Administrator reported:

- Majority of staff are still working from home
- Website is under construction
- There is a draft STANDATA on Occupant Loads included in the Member Portal (Building Sub-Council has the same document) and all members are asked to review and bring questions back to September meeting for discussion [All]

4.4.1. Code Review

The following was reported:

- The working group had a presentation from Mike Baker with Municipal Affairs on code review and the submission process
- Group realizes that the current list of 30 – 40 items for submission is likely not feasible
- Will meet next month to prioritize items and figure out next steps
- The Administrator and Technical Advisor both requested to attend, Allan Blatz will also assist as a subject matter expert

4.5. Council Updates

A written report was included in the portal and updates were provided on:

- COVID-19 Update
 - In light of the province's directives for a safely staged relaunch, the Council will continue to offer services remotely.
 - Please visit our [website](#) for updates on programming and services offered by the Safety Codes Council.
- Staff Adjustments
 - Now that Allison is back from maternity leave, we are making some changes to the way we distribute work within our team.
 - Kathryn will be the lead for the Building, Barrier Free, Fire, Electrical and Electrical Utilities.
 - Allison will be the lead for the Plumbing, Private Sewage, Gas, Pressure Equipment, Elevators, Amusement Rides and Passenger Ropeways.
 - Both will attend every sub-council meeting, switching between hosting and minute taking.
 - Jennifer has moved to another area within the stakeholder relations department so please ensure you are contacting your sub-council lead (Allison or Kathryn) on sub-council related items.

5. Meeting Finalization

5.1. Round Table

- Many accredited corporations are struggling with outbreaks due to the third wave of COVID-19 as well as maintenance turnarounds
- Clearwater County has been awarded another year of grant funding for their WUI team; appreciated the presentation, please forward any info that may be helpful for educating RMA members

- Richard Friesen has moved from an agency to a position with the City of Edmonton
- Building owners are very busy looking at the expanding information being provided around ventilation systems
- Calgary dealt with a catastrophic hail storm last year and believes WUI issue is similar, looking forward to more discussion on this; also dealing with issues exacerbated by COVID-19 like blocked entrances and vacant buildings
- St. Albert had a significant fire event to a supportive living condominium building but experienced no losses of life due to the fire safety planning done with them by the City and the proactiveness of the site administrator

5.2. Next Meeting

The next meeting was reconfirmed for September 16, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

5.3. Meeting Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

– NEW ACTION ITEMS –

4. Matters for Discussion

4.1. Wildland Urban Interface Fire Risk

- The Administrator will look into information for members on how Canmore was able to implement their land-use bylaw

[Parker]

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[All]

– MOTIONS –

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– WORKING GROUP MEMBER LISTS –

WORKING GROUP	WORKING GROUP MEMBERS (<u>Chair</u>)
Code Review	<u>Chris Taylor</u> Marc Royer, Glenn Baxter, Hunter Langpap Municipal Affairs: Cindy Yan