Factory Assembled Structures Advisory Board

Labor & Industries
February 16, 2017 – S119
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Attendees:
Board Members Present: Board Chair Joan Brown, Don Carlson, Alan Duer, Steve Hart Craig Hillis., Mike Lubliner, Gary Stoskopf, Mike Szramek Absent: Wade Elliott

L&I Staff: Craig, Sedlacek, FAS Program Manager, Dean Simpson, Contractors and Plumbers Program Manager, Ken Knutson, FAS Technical Specialist, John McMillan, Installer Certification Technical Specialist

• PROCEDURAL:
  o Meeting called to order by Joan Brown

• CHANGE IN PROGRAM MANAGER
  o Congratulation Craig Sedlacek, new FAS/Installer Program Manager

• AGENDA ITEMS:
  o Approval of Minutes – approved and seconded

• LEGISLATIVE REPORT:
  o HB 1329/SB 5341 Agency request – Installer penalties under state law requires that there is an infraction issued for violations of the installer rules, it is the same $1000 penalty regardless of the severity of the offence. For example if a certified installer forgets to put a WAINs label when installing a manufactured home it’s the same automatic penalty as if they were not certified at all. This makes it difficult to administer the law fairly and makes it harder for the department to achieve compliance. The proposed change in law will give us discretion to issue the penalty starting at $250 for first offence. The agency must adopt a schedule of penalties based on the infraction. The bill passed out of house by unanimous vote and passed out of Senate committee with a do pass recommendation. Will have to adopt new rules through standard public hearing, stakeholder through installer groups, about 6 months maybe in June.
  o HB 1716 Agency request – Dedicated fund
    • Third year in a row that we have run it. Takes program out of the general fund.
  o HB 1085 Minimum room dimensions
    • Resurrection of past tiny homes bills; we would get plans for “tiny” modular homes – not a big impact.
  o HB 1263 Power operated doors: requirement that all public buildings (including educational) have power assisted doors, 500 square feet in area or more; expensive $15-2,000.00 per door; would apply to portable classrooms.
  o HB 1435 Alternate plumbing code (FAS impact)
• Resurrection to adopt UPC and IPC codes which would allow a contractor to use whichever code he wants to. We would have to purchase codebooks every code cycle and train our people.
  o HB 1514 Park closures
  o HB 1822 Park leases
  o HB 1846 New MH communities
  o HB 2017 Lemon Law and RV’s
  o SB 5627 Sale of MH communities
  o SB 5678 MH relocation assistance

• PROGRAM STATUS
  o Behind on RV plans – we are about 3 weeks out
  o Website Update
  o RV Code change in August – 4,500 plans
  o Updating Food Truck Website
  o Installer - 953 new manufactured homes from January to November – 1,000 for the year
    ▪ Manufacturers – should be held accountable for faulty units. Much discussion about the industry and the HUD program requirements. Hiring is becoming more difficult with the economy upswing and harder to retain quality employees.
    ▪ Construction quality issues.
  o New “mobile inspections” project mapping device; helps inspector in planning routes; better search engine, provides efficiency.
  o Manufactured mobile home alteration permits - 10,777 in one year -- very busy for 11 inspectors.
    ▪ Roofing, furnaces, electrical upgrades, new smaller heat pumps (mini splits) people are upgrading because of the economy. Unpermitted work is not getting caught compliance wise because there just are not enough inspectors. 60-70% of permits are purchased online.

• FOOD TRUCK ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE
  o The committee agreed they would like to see a state law changed to require periodic mandatory fire and LP tank inspections; also a training/certification program for owners and employees requiring knowledge of fire suppression/extinguishers, alarms, LP tank filling, etc. Maybe an online/private industry/county initiative. Report to the legislature needs to be in by end of September. Working on long term planning.
  o NFPA 96 ad hoc committee came up with 13 pages of “mobile cooking” rules which will be reviewed for eventual incorporation in our WAC. Participants in the ad hoc were all stakeholders and provided input and comments.

• TRI-STATE CONTRACT
  o Current OR/WA>ID contract allows each state to perform each other’s inspections.
Changes were made thru an amendment proposed by OR that OR would not provide inspections if the MFG was not using certified plumbers and electricians. This change affects the manufactured home companies in OR that are building modular homes for export. WA would then do the inspections in the OR factory, as we currently do for other factories without a contract.

WA agreed to the change but did not discuss the proposal with the board or stakeholders first.

ID Attorneys have raised questions whether it is legal.

This is a huge impact on the whole northwest.

The board puts forth a motion to advise FAS to rescind their signature on the amendment to redo the process and there is an agreed upon implementation plan between WA/OR/ID with their attorneys. Motion was seconded. All board members were in favor; Craig will take under advisement.

**ROUND TABLE; NEW ITEMS**

- Building code training is needed for manufactured homes (ponding).
- The condition of schools needs to be assessed – plumbing/electrical. Portable classrooms have come under purview; they are not funded the same way.

Meeting was adjourned by Joan Brown, and unanimously approved.

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Joan Brown, Chair     Craig Sedlacek, Secretary