



## Oklahoma Uniform Building Code Commission

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(Located at Sheppard Mall)

A decorative architectural column with intricate carvings, including a capital with a shell-like motif and a base with a similar design. The column is rendered in a light, monochromatic style.

## OUBCC History and Purpose

- The OUBCC was created by the legislature in 2009 and was mandated to provide state-wide minimum building codes for residential and commercial construction for use by all entities within the state.
- These minimum building codes are created utilizing the review and adoption of existing codes by reference through the Oklahoma Secretary of State's Office of Administrative Rules.



# Composition of the Commission

The Commission is composed of eleven (11) members and are broken out as follows:

- Nine (9) members are appointed by the Governor with the advise and consent of the Senate. These nine members all represent the construction industry in different capacities.
  1. A general contractor representing commercial construction – David Timberlake (Chairman)
  2. A local-level regulator/inspector who has represented municipalities and had statutory functions for municipalities for at least fifteen (15) years prior to November 1, 2005 – Mitchell Hort (Vice-Chair)
  3. A general contractor representing residential construction – Curtis McCarty
  4. A contractor representing electrical contractors – Michael Ridgell
  5. A contractor representing plumbing contractors – Ronnie Smith
  6. A contractor representing heating and cooling contractors – Joe McKenzie
  7. A Certified Building Official employed by a political subdivision – Grant Easterling



# Composition of the Commission

Nine (9) members list continued:

8. A licensed architect that represents architects – Larry Herzel
9. One from the insurance industry with knowledge of building codes and experience in property loss mitigation – Mark Dziadula

Two (2) members are appointed by State Agencies:

1. State Fire Marshal Appointee (serves an indefinite period at the pleasure of the State Fire Marshal) – Terry Whiteley
2. Construction Industries Board (serves an indefinite period at the pleasure of the Construction Industries Board) – Jim George

Commission meetings are required to be held at least quarterly, however the Commission usually meets monthly.



# OUBCC Code Approval Process

## Technical Committees

The Commission decides which codes to be reviewed and then creates technical committees comprised of volunteers from various construction industries to review the code and make recommendations on what changes are needed as the Commission adopts the codes.

Technical Committees include at least one Commission member serving as a liaison to the Commission.

All other members will be from the public providing in general for a cross-section of expert representatives in the field of construction related to the task assignment given to the committee by the Commission.



# OUBCC Code Approval Process

## Technical Committees

Public members of the technical committees are selected from individual volunteers. Candidates submit resumes and any other background data requested by the Commission, including a statement of interest as to why they would provide the needed expertise and code experience for service based on the task of a specific technical committee.

The vice-chair of the Commission serves as the point of contact for committees and provides the Commission a slate of volunteers for each technical committee. The Commission votes to approve or disprove each volunteer.

Service on a technical committee remains in force until dismissed by the Commission individually or collectively.



# OUBCC Code Approval Process

## Adoption Procedures

Technical Committees will provide for public comment and suggestions for the task assignments directed by the Commission. This interaction shall occur during the committee's deliberations and before the final report/recommendation presented to the Commission for action.

All report/recommendations presented to the Commission are tendered in writing and provide a recommendation for adoption without modification, with modification or adoption not recommended.

After the report to the commission, made in an open session to allow for public comment, the commission may commence rulemaking to adopt the code.



# OUBCC Code Approval Process

## State Agencies and Political Subdivisions

State agencies and political subdivisions may adopt codes and standards with requirements which exceed the standards and requirements adopted by the Commission.

State agencies and political subdivisions are required to file an adopted code with the Commission. All adopted codes for state agencies and political subdivisions will be listed on the OUBCC website.

State agencies and political subdivisions may amend codes adopted by the Commission to make changes necessary to accommodate local conditions, subject to the approval of the Commission.



# Adopted Codes

The International Residential Code®<sup>®</sup>, 2009 (IRC) edition was adopted as amended and modified and became effective July 15, 2011 as the statewide minimum standard for residential construction for one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses pursuant to 59 O.S. §1000.23.

Currently this is the only code adopted by the OUBCC.

The IRC was reviewed by four (4) technical committees:

1. Building
2. Plumbing/Fuel Gas
3. Mechanical/Fuel Gas
4. Electrical



# Codes in the Review Process

Seven codes and one NFPA standard have gone through technical committee review and are in various states of the rulemaking process.

The following codes have entered the final adoption process and have been submitted to the Oklahoma Legislature and the Governor for approval:

1. National Electrical Code®<sup>®</sup>, 2011 Edition (NEC) – NFPA 70
2. International Fuel Gas Code®<sup>®</sup>, 2009 Edition (IFGC)
3. International Mechanical Code®<sup>®</sup>, 2009 Edition (IMC)
4. International Plumbing Code®<sup>®</sup>, 2009 Edition (IPC)

Each code was assigned to a separate technical committee for review. The public hearing on the amendments to them was held January 17, 2011.



# Code in the Review Process

The following codes are still in the initial adoption stage and will be starting the public comment phase of rulemaking in the next few weeks.

1. International Building Code®, 2009 Edition (IBC)
2. International Existing Building Code®, 2009 Edition (IEBC)
3. International Fire Code®, 2009 Edition (IFC)

A public hearing on these codes has been scheduled for March 21, 2011

**All seven codes, if approved by the Oklahoma Legislature and the Governor will become effective in the summer or fall of 2012.**



## 2012-2013 Code Reviews

### **Technical Committees:**

The International Energy Conservation Code, 2009 edition is scheduled to be reviewed during the 2012 spring, summer and fall. A call for volunteers to serve on the committee will be sent out soon.

### **Ad-hoc Committees:**

NFPA 101 – Life Safety – an Ad-hoc committee is being formed to study this standard for possible adoption. Since it impacts the IBC, IEBC and IFC codes, the commission liaisons for those technical committees will serve on this ad-hoc committee. Several other state agencies have been requested to serve on this committee as this standard is used by many state agencies for various needs.



## 2013 and Beyond

**2013** - The International Residential Code®, 2012 will be reviewed for possible adoption.

**2014** – The following codes will be reviewed for possible adoption:

- National Electrical Code®, 2014 edition
- International Building Code®, 2012 edition
- International Existing Building Code®, 2012 edition
- International Fire Code®, 2012 edition
- International Fuel Gas Code®, 2012 edition
- International Mechanical Code®, 2012 edition
- International Plumbing Code®, 2012 edition

**2015** – The following codes will be reviewed for possible adoption:

- NFPA 101 Life Safety®, 2012 Edition
- International Energy Conservation Code®, 2012 Edition