PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

GP-2252

MINUTES
BUILDING CODE COMMITTEE MEETING
SHERATON LOS ANGELES-AIRPORT HOTEL

February 10, 1976

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hovind at 8:40 a.m. The following were in attendance:

J. J. Gafford	The Celotex Corporation
J. L. Houser	The Flintkote Company
T. R. Godfrey	Georgia-Pacific Corporation
C. W. Lehnert	Georgia-Pacific Corporation
W. J. Marshall	Kaiser Cement & Gypsum Corporation
J. K. Hovind	National Gypsum Company
K. S. Oleson	National Gypsum Company
D. Graham	United States Gypsum Company
M. C. Hipsher	United States Gypsum Company
R. L. Selbe	United States Gypsum Company
A. V. Abnee, Jr.	Gypsum Association
D. E. Brackett	Gypsum Association
H. B. Carlsen	Gypsum Association
J. R. Lawson, Sr.	Gypsum Association
M. C. Smith	Gypsum Association
J. P. Powers	Baker & McKenzie

Chairman Hovind announced that Mr. D. R. Watson, Technical Director for ICBO would be the luncheon guest on Wednesday and would be discussing industry Research Approval Cards as well as answering any questions the members might have.

On motion made, seconded and carried, the minutes of the August 1975 meeting of the Building Code Committee were approved as distributed.

SECTION 1 - MODEL BUILDING CODES

Item 1 - 1 AMERICAN INSURANCE ASSOCIATION (National Building Code)

The Committee was informed that the latest projected publishing date for the 1976 edition, National Building Code is April of this year. A copy of the New York City approval application for AIA fire resistance ratings is attached.

Item 1 - 2 BUILDING OFFICIALS AND CODE ADMINISTRATORS INTERNATIONAL (BOCA)

This item was reviewed without additional comment. A detailed report was furnished in the meeting agenda and no new items were discussed.

Item 1 - 3 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BUILDING OFFICIALS (ICBO)

A review of the increased fee schedule for Research Approvals resulted in the suggestion that each member company may want to review their own reports for possible transfer of items on their cards to the Association cards. This may result in a cost reduction for the member companies.

Discussion concerning Association Research Report No. 1874, resulted in the recommendation that the data for shear load values of gypsum board on ceiling framing 16 in. o.c. at 90 lbs./lin. ft. and on 24 in. o.c. at 70 lbs./lin. ft. be submitted to the Technical Committee. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the Technical Committee be asked to review this data and make any modification based on available data they feel appropriate. Shear values will be shown when this research approval is next published.

Association Research Report 1628 was reviewed for possible amendments, but none were offered. Since the report will be considered for review soon, it was requested that any changes should be sent to the Association.

Attachment BC Item 1-3 - 1976, attached, was discussed by item, and the following recommendations were made to revise Association Research Report No. 1632:

1. The subject was discussed and approved.

2. Recommend including a statement that joint treatment is not necessary on walls above ceilings in accordance with U.L. letter report on file with the Association.

3. Reword this item to show a minimum screw penetration into framing of 5/8 inch.

4. Submit this item without change. A question on the propriety of listing the ceiling assembly was withdrawn.

5. Expand the table on 20 gage framing to include additional higher exterior wind loads. A task group of Messrs. Marshall, Graham, Oleson and Smith was appointed to prepare these figures for inclusion in Research Report 1632.

6. The same task group was requested to assist the staff in preparing proper revisions to the table on 25 gage studs to be used as ceiling joists in non-rated construction.

7. Add 24 inch stud spacing applying to 2 x 4's only in item D of the report. It was recommended that a new table be added to Research Report 1632 to show the same shear values now in United States Gypsum Company's report No. 1602, Table 1. Upon receipt of a letter of release from the United States Gypsum Company, the staff was directed to request inclusion of this table on the Gypsum Association report.

8. Recommendation approved to add the term "Predecorated Nails" in place of "Kolor Pins."

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Association Research Report 1632 be revised as modified in discussion of the eight items.

It was further recommended the Gypsum Association Research Report Card 1632 be ammended to list the current Association members on the card pending approval by legal counsel and the Board of Directors. It was estimated the cost would be $100.00 per name.

A Group of member company west coast representatives recommended that all member companies consider placing on their individual Research Approval Cards, the appropriate GA file number listed in the GA 600-75, Fire Resistance Design Manual in lieu of the present description for their proprietary assemblies. Additional descriptive items required by ICBO would be shown with the GA number and incorporated into the next revision of GA-600. If this recommended change is approved by ICBO, it would lead to even greater use of the Fire Resistance Design Manual by building officials. The abbreviated description on the Research Reports couid also reduce the cost of the card.

It was reported that the ICBO Research Committee has proposed a change to remove from the code the current toxicity requirements due to a lack of proper testing methods.

It was also noted that ASTM is forming a committee on Toxicity to prepare acceptable test methods for building materials relative to their toxicity when they become a product of combustion.

A new Code Changes Committee of ICBO will consider a proposed code change from the Gypsum Association in April to reinstate the 1-hour requirement for office corridor walls.

Item 1 - 4 SOUTHERN BUILDING CODE CONGRESS INTERNATIONAL (SBCCI)

The Committee was reminded that the last date for filing proposed code changes for the Standard Building Code is April 1, 1976. The Congress has formed two new standing committees, one for general design and one for life safety. Mr. Brackett has been appointed a voting member of the General Design Committee. The first meeting of this Committee will be held February

24 - 25 in Birmingham, Alabama. Mr. Brackett will also be attending the Life Safety Committee meeting being held on February 26 and 27.

Item I - 5 FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

There are three areas of interest which have recently been discussed with the National Bureau of Standards of concern to this Committee. It was learned that NBS recently recommended to the various model code groups that they rescind their toxicity requirements due to the lack of any standard test method which could be considered conclusive. There is a great deal of organized work being done in this area not only at the Bureau but at the University of Utah, Ohio State University and several other laboratories and schools. It is estimated that development of acceptable test methods are at least five and possibly ten years off.

There is concern about the proliferation of literature promoting the use of cellulose fiber insulation in attic spaces both in new and old construction. It had been learned that the macerated paper is, in some cases, being used with a small degree of moisture. A thorough investigation of this method disclosed there was no apparent reason for alarm by our industry in that the presence and weight of water would not harm either a new or older ceiling. The National Bureau of Standards is concerned about life cycle testing of the flame spread resistance of this product, and will be evaluating it over the next few years.

Legislation in the United States Congress to make the National Bureau of Standards an independent agency, taking it out of the Department of Commerce and restoring it to the status it held from 1901 to 1950 has been introduced. This activity will need to be monitored in that all the possible ramifications of such a move have not yet been ascertained or judged.

The Committee was informed that all the proposed amendments offered to FHA by the Association to modify the Minimum Property Standards have been accepted by HUD/FHA with exception of the substitution of GA-216-75 for ANSI A 97.1. It was explained that this governmental agency had elected to hold to the consensus standard, as old as it is, and wait for the standard in ASTM Committee C-11 to be published.

Mr. David N. deWilde, Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing Production Mortgage Credit and Acting Commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration, has been assigned the task of bringing interested industry members together on a committee to evaluate possibility of an exchange of technical information concerning housing and other construction technology with Russia. It was pointed out that there may be opportunities for individual U.S. industries to use their technology abroad and thus a degree of interest remains. The Building Code Committee was advised that if any of the member companies were interested, they should contact Mr. deWilde for further information.

Item I - 8 COUNCIL OF AMERICAN BUILDING OFFICIALS (CABO)

In addition to the report noted in the agenda, the Committee was informed that one company has filed for a National Research Board product approval. Most other trade associations contacted feel, as we do, that the fee schedule is set too high.

Item I - 9 NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFiPA)

A copy of a letter written to Mr. T. H. Carter, Executive Director, ICBO, from John G. Degenkolb, (See attached) was distributed and discussed. The Committee concluded this was a most improper procedure by NFiPA 80 on Fire Doors and Windows in that it was inaccurate and implied possible failures for gypsum products already installed. ICBO, as well as all other interested parties will be informed of our recommendations in this matter.

Mr. J. R. Lawson, Sr. reported that his recommended changes to improve NFiPA test procedure 259 Potential Heat Method, will be voted on shortly, and he expected his proposals to be accepted without change. The staff is also preparing group comments on this standard which will hopefully bring out additional improvements. He reported that other areas being considered by this NFiPA Committee on fire testing was a special fire test for air conditioning ducts through floors at the perimeter of a building.

Mr. Hovind reported that Mr. William Schmidt of the Veteran's Administration, on behalf of NFiPA Committee 90A (See letter attached) is seeking additional information on floor penetrations at the building perimeters where fire problems are concerned. The members were asked to respond individually if they wished.

Because of objections being raised in NFiPA Committee 90A and 90B to gypsum ceilings used to protect openings in the floor above, the Committee recommends that the Association apply for membership on this committee. Mr. R. Gewain an AISI engineer, has continued to question the performance of various gypsum assemblies in this committee.

Item I - 10 MOBILE HOMES, NFiPA 501C, ANSI A 119.1

The staff reported that on January 22, 1976, HUD issued the Mobile Home Procedural and Enforcement Regulations which is part 3 of the Mobile Home Law. The deadline for public comment is February 23, 1976.

In discussing part 2 of the Mobile Home Law, which concerns the construction and safety standards for mobile homes, the portion dealing with wind load requirements resulted in the following motion.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Technical Committee be asked to evaluate and develop generic design criteria for ceiling and wall shear values through an appropriate Association test program for the industry.

SECTION II - STATE AND COUNTY BUILDING CODES

Item II - 1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

With regard to sound control, the Committee was informed that the State of California appears more concerned with outside noise than noise which may trouble the occupant of the building. The Committee was advised that the control of interior building noises would not be an issue for perhaps a year or two. The Committee is to be kept informed of any activities in this area.

Item II - 2 CALIFORNIA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Apparently the recently enacted 120 day highrise emergency regulations for existing buildings under the authority of the State Fire Marshal, will not affect gypsum board products. However, the Fire Marshal's concern with the possible toxicity of the vinyl applied to our board products may be a question to be dealt with soon.

The Committee was informed that the toxicity requirements have been withdrawn due to a lack of adequate standard testing methods.

Mr. Hovind, on behalf of Gold Bond Building Products, offered to sell their toxic test data results, prepared by U.S. Testing Laboratories at their cost of $960.00. An additional cost may be involved to have the laboratory reissue the report to the Gypsum Association. A motion was made, seconded and passed that Mr. Hovind is to request the Board of Directors approve funds for the purchase of this test data by the Association for the use of all of its members. The Standard Building Code of the SBCC and New York City both have toxicity requirements. The test results would then be disseminated by the Gypsum Association to the proper authorities upon request.

Item II - 9 STATE OF NEW YORK

The Committee was informed that the State of New York is in the process of preparing a fire prevention code. The staff will monitor this matter.

Item II - 15 STATES, OTHER

In addition to the states reported on in the agenda, Attachment 11-15-76, attached to these minutes, provide additional data on other states. The staff is to appear at a hearing held by the Texas State Insurance Commission to support a proposal for adopting, by reference, the Gypsum Association 1975-76 Fire Resistance Design Manual. A report on the outcome of this hearing will be distributed to the members.

SECTION III - CITY BUILDING CODES

Item III - 1 NEW YORK CITY

Attention was called to a new New York City Council Amendment which would permit the use of gypsum in stairwells and other required smoke proof locations. The ordinance would require a separate approval of any such assembly for the intended use by the Board of Standards and Appeals.

Secretary's note: It has been learned that the New York City Council Committee on Housing and Building adopted Int. No. 429 permitting approved equivalent construction to masonry for enclosing stairs on highrise residential construction occupancy groups under Section C 26-604.8 of the New York City Building Code.

Item III - 4 LOS ANGELES CITY

The Gypsum Association's Los Angeles City report 23961 is being updated, and will be circulated to the Committee upon receipt in the Western Office noting the updating of the reference to our Fire Resistance Design Manual to the 1975-76 edition.

As reported in the agenda, Research Report 24012-T has been issued giving general approval for the use of water resistant gypsum backing board as a base for the application for ceramic tile. The Committee was informed, however, that an amendment had recently been filed to permit one coat of adhesive rather than two coats, and to permit the use of dry-set and latex mortars in wet areas over water resistant board. Neither of these proposals are recommended by the Gypsum Association. A newly proposed ASTM application standard as well as ANSI Standards A108.4 and A108.5 currently on ballot are also not acceptable.

Following discussion of these matters, a motion was made, seconded and passed that a white paper be prepared on the use of water resistant gypsum backing board in wet areas. It is hoped that the Technical and Building Code Committee members will aid the staff in this effort. The treatise is to be directed toward ANSI Committee A108, the City of Los Angeles and other appropriate parties in order to clarify the proper use of water resistant board.

Item III - 8 CITIES, OTHER

After considerable discussion concerning the city of San Francisco and the "fall-off" criteria being imposed by that city, it was suggested that there were three approaches that could be considered if action were taken:

1. Appeal to the Board of Examiner's with a better presentation than has been made heretofore,

2. Proceed with a challenge in the courts,

3. Approach the City Council with an amendment to the building code to eliminate this restrictive criteria.

Association legal counsel pointed out that the California courts appear inclined to go along with a governmental agency's findings and thus he discouraged a challenge in the courts. A possible misuse of delegated authority by the Superintendent of Buildings and the Board of Examiners may be that they have assumed legislative activities not rightfully within their responsibility with their "fall-off" modifications to ASTM E 119.

It was also noted that the Board of Examiners have not made a ruling on "fall-off" but have allowed the Superintendent to impose the criteria, thus leaving open a route of appeal to themselves. Furthermore, it seems that the current Board of Examiners are uninformed on fire testing and with the proper education, might be more sympathetic to our point of view.

Legal counsel feels that there is less than a 50 percent chance to win by legal action. It was the opinion of the Building Code Committee that no further action should be taken until new and persuasive information becomes available.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to drop this subject from the agenda. There was one abstaining vote.

It was reported that the City of Denver, Colorado has amended their highrise ordinance to retain compartmentation and not accept trade-offs for the installation of sprinklers. Phoenix, Arizona is in the process of reviewing its highrise ordinance and no detrimental change is predicted.

The City of Chicago has suffered three nursing home fires in recent weeks, thus bringing the attention of the public as well as building officials to what may be inadequately constructed nursing homes. It is suggested that nursing homes in the city may be required to be sprinkled throughout. There is no indication at this time that the use of gypsum board products in this type of construction will be affected.

SECTION IV - GYPSUM PRODUCTS

Item IV - 14 GYPSUM SHEATHING

Since there was not test data or other work done by the Technical Committee, there was no action on this item and it will remain on the agenda for possible action at a later date.

Item IV - 16 METRICATION

Chariman Hovind reported to the Committee that as a result of his survey, he in turn reported to Metric Task Group Chairman, Holloway, that the Building Code Committee was generally in favor of the Gypsum Association taking an active position in advancing a change to the metric system within the industry. This activity was confirmed by those members present at this meeting.

A question was raised concerning the Canadian conversion from 1 inch to 25 mm. The staff was directed to write to the appropriate Canadian official concerning this and the possible question of fire ratings if the millimeter measure was established at less than 26 mm. Hard conversion of 1/2" would be 13 mm and two 1/2" boards placed together to form a 1" core would then equal 26 mm. Upon receipt of this information, it will be distributed to the Committee for their use.

SECTION V - TRADE FACTOR PROGRAM

Item V - 3 ASTM STANDARDS STATUS REPORT

A list of the current standards under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C-11 was circulated for information and file. It was noted that a relatively large number of standards are now on ballot in C-11 Main Committee and also being forwarded to Society for confirmation and publication. Included among these is the long sought after application standard for gypsum wallboard.

Item V - 11 SOUND CONTROL IN CODES

The task group of Messrs. Marshall and Godfrey reported that their review of the UBC Appendix covering sound control has been completed and that the requirements were standard. On motion made, seconded and passed, the item is to be dropped from the agenda.

Item V - 12 QUESTIONNAIRE

Mr. Lawson distributed copies of the Questionnaire he has prepared which will be distributed later this year in order to further update some previous work done by Mr. Houser. The Committee reviewed and endorsed the Questionnaire as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Hovind announced that the next meeting of the Building Code Committee would be held in early August immediately preceding the Technical Committee Meeting and at the same location. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. with thanks to all present for their cooperation and input at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

D. E. Brackett/ch

D. E. Brackett, Secretary
Building Code Committee

DEB:ch
Attachments

Proposed ICBO Item To Be Transferred From Company
Research Reports To Association Research Report No. 1632

1. Include a provision to permit - where possible - horizontal or vertical application of gypsum board where there is now a restriction.

2. Revise Item "J" to further provide for the omission of joint treatment. A proposed addition is "Taping and finishing of the joints of tapered edge gypsum wallboard may be omitted as provided in Section 4711(e) of the Code and where the joints are backed by framing, furring or gypsum board."

3. Add an item to permit the use of screws as an alternate to nails. Note On one Research Report a 1-1/4 inch Type W screw is permitted in lieu of a 6d nail, the Committee's recommendation on the length of the screw is requested.

4. Item C on National Gypsum Company Report No. 1352 to be transferred to the Association Report No. 1632. Note - This is a two-hour wood stud assembly with two layers of 5/8 inch Type X board on one side and resilient furring channels on the opposite side with two layers of 5/8 inch Type X board applied to the channels. (One member of the task group expressed concern over the transfer of this item)

5. Add a windload allowable height table for 20 gage studs.

6. Add a table to permit 25 gage studs to be used as ceiling joists in non rated construction.

7. Add 24 inch stud spacing to Item D of Report 1632.

8. Add an item to allow "Kolor Pins" to be used on non rated construction/
Sizes are: 1/2 inch board, 1-3/8 inches long, .066 inch shank dia., .135 inch hd.
5/8 inch board, 1-7/8 inches long, .086 inch shank dia., .135 inch hd.

Mr. C. W. Lehnert, Georgia-Pacific Corp.
14030 S. W. 72nd Ave. Tigard, Oregon

GA Minutes
Other Committee

Gypsum Association

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(301) 593-6710

March 12, 1976

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE
BUILDING CODE COMMITTEE

RECEIVED
MAR 16

Gentlemen:

Subject: Minutes

Enclosed for your information, action and file is a copy of the minutes of the Building Code Committee meeting held at the Sheraton Los Angeles-Airport Hotel, February 10, 1976.

Very truly yours,

GYPSUM ASSOCIATION

D. E. Brackett/ch

D. E. Brackett, Secretary
Building Code Committee

DEB:ch

Attachment