



Setting the Standards for
Home Energy Efficiency

Minutes
RESNET Annual Board Meeting Sunday, February 15, 2015
Seabreeze I & II
Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina

Members Present

Ben Adams
Jacob Atalla
David Beam
Dave Bell
Steve Byers
Dennis Creech
Brett Dillon
Philip Fairey
David Goldstein
Andy Gordon
Roy Honican
Cardice Howard
Mark Jansen
Lee O'Neal
Frank O'Brien-Bernini
Jim Petersen
Nancy St. Hilaire
Kelly Stephens
Dennis Stroer
Barb Yankie

Staff Present

Steve Baden
Stephanie DeZee
Laurel Elam
Kathy Spigarelli

RESNET Anti-Trust Policy

Prior to the meeting being called to order board members were provided the recently revised RESNET anti-trust polices.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by RESNET Board President Jim Petersen at 1:00 p.m.

Roll Call

The roll was called by RESNET Board Secretary, Brett Dillon, and a quorum was achieved.

Approve Agenda

David Beam made a motion to approve the draft meeting agenda. Roy Honican seconded the motion.

It was noted that Brett Dillon was incorrectly listed as RESNET Board Treasurer on the draft agenda.

Steve Byers requested that the Water Efficiency Rating Index be moved so that Mike Collison of the GreenBuilder Coalition could attend the presentation on the RESNET Water Efficiency Rating Index. The request was granted.

The motion to adopt the amended agenda was approved by voice vote.

Approve November 3-4, 2014 Minutes

Brett Dillon made a motion to approve the minutes of the RESNET Board Meeting on November 3-4, 2014. (Attachment A). Mark Jansen seconded the motion. The motion was adopted by a voice vote with no dissensions.

RESNET 2014 Financial Compilation

RESNET Board Treasurer Lee O'Neal presented the RESNET 2014 Financial Compilation prepared by RESNET's Comptroller Faye Berriman. (Attachment B). The draft compilation had been e-mailed to board members previous to the meeting. Mr. O'Neal requested a motion be made that the RESNET Board of Directors formally acknowledge the receipt of the final 2014 financial compilation.

Roy Honican made a motion to acknowledge acceptance. Barb Yankie seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously

Election of 2015 Board Officers

The 2015 RESNET Board Officers Nominations Committee was composed of RESNET Board Members Mark Jansen, Cardice Gray-Howard, Barb Yankie and Nancy St Hilaire..

The Chairman of Nominations Committee, Mark Jansen, presented the slate of officers:

Jim Petersen – Board President
Andy Gordon – Board Vice President
Lee O’Neal - Board Treasurer
Brett Dillon - Board Secretary

It was noted that according to RESNET’s By-Laws this was the last term as RESNET Board President that Jim Petersen was eligible to serve.

Philip Fairey made a motion to accept the slate of officers by acclamation, Dennis Stroer seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

Update on HERS Index and 2015 IECC

Steve Baden presented the update on the HERS Index and the 2015 IECC. Mr. Baden began by reviewing the rating scores that have been adopted for each climate zone. RESNET will continue to support and advocate the of adoption of RE-188 of the 2015 IECC at the state and local levels. RESNET conducted a campaign on adoption of ERI including factsheets and PowerPoint presentations which are posted on the website. A video message to code officials will also be created. The International Code Council (ICC) and RESNET have formed a partnership that includes HERS Raters being ICC/IRC code inspectors and providing raters a customized ICC membership. ICC and RESNET will also undertake education effort to code officials on the Energy Rating Index option and its benefits.

ICC/RESNET Partnership

Mark Johnson, ICC Executive Vice President, presented the ICC and RESNET Partnership. Mr. Johnson began with providing a background on the ICC. The ICC is a non-profit that develops codes/standards used to construct residential and commercial buildings. They currently maintain 15 base codes and 8 standards. There are 57,000 members and 360 local chapters.

Mr. Johnson then explained why the ICC entered into a partnership with RESNET. It is to tap knowledge base of RESNET and its members to improve level of code compliance. The ICC recognized the shared mission to promote energy efficiency through education. RESNET Members can serve as resource in raising efficiency of building performance and the partnership will assist with the demographic shift of code related workforce.

Mr. Johnson highlighted the demographic trend in code workforce. 56% of current officials are over 55 and 51% plan to leave within 5-15 years. The demand for officials is growing, the supply is dwindling and that RESNET can be part of the solution.

Home Energy Raters will be able to become a member of ICC for a reduced fee of \$285 and that includes a 1 year ICC professional membership, complimentary download of the ICC, a voucher for IECC certification exam, valuable code opinion services, member pricing on support material and services and the online Building Safety Journal. ICC is also granting RESNET a 2 year preferred provider status. ICC is a trusted brand with jurisdictions throughout the US and holding an ICC certification will make a Home Energy Rater more in demand.

Update on Implementation of New QA Oversight Policies

Daran Wastchak presented updates of implementation of new RESNET Quality Assurance Oversight Policies adopted by the RESNET Board at its 2014 Fall Meeting. He highlighted the new tools for QADs including new QA webpage, QA process document, annual QA submittal page/process, field and file QA checklist and provider export function in the Registry.

Mr. Wastchak then reviewed the Board Directives. RESNET will centrally administer quality assurance review of building files using data in the National Building Registry. There will be new Provider categories- "Direct" and "Third Party". Quality Assurance Designees working for QA Contractors & Third-Party Providers shall be "Agents" of RESNET, trained and certified by RESNET, may have their certification revoked by RESNET and will be financially independent of either their provider or raters depending on the category.

Mr. Wastchak presented his implementation plan of new RESNET QA program. First there will be vetting meetings starting at the conference. New standards will be drafted next. A group of Quality Agents will be established and includes a new QA exam and training. A pilot program will be implemented in 2016 prior to the new QA structure being required of all providers. The pilot will have three third party providers, three direct providers and 3 Quality Agents.

Phase 1- changes to QA process which will apply to all QADs is effective January 2016
Phase 2- Changes to QA delivery and defining of QADs will be agents of RESNET is effective January 2017

RESNET will develop a central administration of building file quality assurance review. That will move all QA data management to within the RESNET Registry. Rating software input checks will be implemented and there will be an ability for the RESNET Registry to check inputs. There will be an evaluation of the ability of the RESNET Registry to serve as a QA and testing and inspection data gathering tool/database.

Garland Insulating Pilot Insulation Installer RESNET JOBWerks Project Report

Cardice Howard presented on the pilot RESNET JOBWerks insulation installer program. She needed to implement an insulation installation training program for insulation

installers and needed consistent tool for in-field use. Mrs. Howard worked with Rob Moody on the development of the tool.

Mr. Moody developed the tablet based application for training and mentoring- insulation installers, RFIs and retrofit contractors as a joint venture with RESNET. The application is currently being piloted in Denver, Atlanta, Orlando, Seattle, Phoenix, Dallas and Fort Smith, Arkansas.

The goal was to create product that is simple and easy for installation issues, failed inspections and could even be product specifics. The critical needs were simple deployment, defensible and easy for quality assurance.

Existing assessment tools have little education in enforcement and are typically multiple choice exams with traditional education delivery methods. The solution was the RESNET JOBWerks application which has the ability to assess skills and mentor on the job. RESNET JOBWerks is cloud based, simple, has the ability to record feedback, photo documentation of performance and candidate reporting. It creates an instant feedback loop for mentorship and skills assessment. It current works on apple and PC and have plans in development for android devices.

RESNET Supplier Advisory Board Report

Frank O'Brien-Bernini presented an update on the RESNET Suppliers Advisory Board. There are 20 supplier board members at this time and they include diverse mix of suppliers small and large; established and start-ups. Most HERS-impact product/solution categories are covered as well.

The first supplier advisory board meeting that took place the previous day was well attended and members volunteered for several committees. The 2014 goals for establishing the board were met.

Goals for 2015 include establishing the vision/mission of the organization in service of both member and RESNET success; establishing how the organization will function and begin functioning in that way and setting near term and long term goals and priorities.

Development of Water Efficiency Rating System

Jacob Atalla gave an update on the development of RESNET's Water Efficiency Rating Index (RESNET WER Index). Mr. Atalla showed the drought maps for 2013, 2014 and 2015 as well as rising water and sewer rates from 2007 to a 2017 projection. There is momentum for water conservation at congress and the Water in the 21st Century Act has been introduced.

RESNET ANSI Standard 301-2014 adopted a domestic hot water system amendment that lays the ground work for adding other water uses. Additional indoor and outdoor

water usage calculations need to be added. The amendment factor in new technologies, set/compare to a reference home and has field verification.

Many will benefit from a RESNET WER Index including the environment, homeowners, builders, raters, water districts, municipalities, and supplier/innovators.

There has been impressive initial support from the NRDC, US EPA and broad stakeholder participation from home energy raters, builders, suppliers, water districts, utilities and software developers.

The goal is to develop Water Efficiency Rating System by November 2015. An advisory board will be created to advise on the development of the system.

California & HERS Index Harmonization Update

Jacob Atalla gave an update on the California HERS index harmonization as a follow up to his presentation at the Fall Board meeting. Since the last RESNET board meeting there has been a more political effort regarding the harmonization. The California raters will be able to calculate a national HERS index along with CA Title 24.

The RESNET Conference being in California and having California Energy Commission Commissioner Andrew McAllister as keynote as general session also aids in the harmonization effort. Mr. Atalla reported that there will be monthly meetings for the remainder of 2015.

Washington Update

Carl Chidlow presented the Washington update. In late 2013, RESNET drafts legislation to reform and improve 45L tax credit. Goals include permanence, adjusting credit as technology improves and market penetration increases, being performance based and eliminating prescriptive elements.

Leading Builders of America (LBA) and NRDC have formed working group to draft improvements. NAHB has been consulted and working through drafts with the working group. A concept paper has been created for staff of Senators Hatch and Wyden.

There are many key indicators of movement including Senator Hatch giving a speech at US Chamber of Commerce outlining policy principals including “permanence”, Senators Biden and Hatch discussing working together on tax policy and Senators Hatch and Wyden forming five working groups within Finance and deputize each with key policy portfolios.

Mr. Chidlow then reviewed the various strategies to assist in 45L reform. He is working with Energy Efficiency champions on Senate Finance Committee to make preservation of 45L a “do or die” mission. He is identifying RESNET and LBA members with influence in Wisconsin to engage in senior level conversation with House Chairman Ryan. He is

bringing industry groups to conversation with Chairman Hatch and other pro-business Senators on Committee as well as working to convince other stakeholders to join coalition. Finally, Mr. Chidlow is utilizing RESNET board member relations with Hatch and other key players.

ENERGY STAR Update

Jonathan Passe gave program update for ENERGY STAR Homes. The EPA's themes for their with RESNET are stability, coordination, transparency, responsiveness, support and appreciation.

Mr. Passe began with the number of ENERGY STAR Home reported in 2014 compared to past years. 86,736 homes were reported in 2014 compared to 91,533 in 2013 and 101,034 in 2012. Homebuilders continue to sign up at a rate of 100-150 each quarter and Home Energy Raters continue to sign up as well.

The EPA wanted to address concerns over too much paperwork, challenging workflow and discomfort regarding rater oversight of HVAC requirements for ENERGY STAR V3. They have created Revision 08 with the guiding principles of streamlining the program requirements that provide the most value, eliminating the requirements that provide the least value and working towards greater harmonization between ENERGY STAR and the rating process.

Raters will no longer collect builder's water management system checklist, full load calculations, AHRI certificate, test/ balance report and HVAC system commissioning checklist. Raters will only have to collect a single HVAC design report per system design. The Thermal Enclosure System and HVAC System Rater checklists will be consolidated into a half-page Rater Plan Review Checklist and a single-page Rater Field Inspection Checklist.

There have also be improvements to verification workflow including splitting the HVAC list into two parts and fewer items on the rater field checklist Rater plan review checklist. There will also be reduced oversight of HVAC oversight role for raters.

Additional and informal vetting will be conducted over next weeks and an expected release of revisions will be May or June 2015.

Future plans include working with HVAC design software manufacturers to deliver the HVAC design report in consistent format, deploying a new HVAC training and video resources for raters and working with RESNET to develop HVAC installation grades.

Appraisal Institute Report

Lance Coyle, President, Appraisal Institute presented the residential appraisal green addendum. Mr. Coyle provided background on the Appraisal Institute. It is an 83 year

old professional society with members around the world and is an education organization that is the largest publisher of appraisal text books in the world.

Mr. Coyle believes that this is an opportunity for RESNET and Appraisal Institute to work together to make difference in real estate industry.

Appraisers need to understand the energy efficiency of a property and need the most accurate quantifiable energy performance data so that they able to prove the value. The public access to the RESNET Registry access helpful but need more detail about the rating are needed.

Mr. Coyle encouraged that projected ratings given to appraiser so they can do an extraordinary assumption and continue to stay on the path of strong quality control.

The residential green and energy efficiency addendum has gained market acceptance and is becoming market standard. It is a way to exchange information so everyone notices that there is something different about the home including the lender. Federal regulation requires that lender hires appraiser that is competent in the home type.

Mr. Coyle also highlighted a timing issue that the addendum should not be completed after the home is finished or after the final appraisal is done. The Appraisal Institute is considering modifying the form to address the timing issue by including projected and final rating information.

Adjournment

Mark Jansen made a motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 5:06 PM