

STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS MAGAZINE

December 2002

Across the Board

WTCA Open Quarterly Meeting Summary – October 19, 2002, Columbus, OH by Kendall Hoyd

You will find a slight departure in style on this page during my tenure as Secretary. This is not because I'm going to offer you any improvement over the work done by my predecessors, but because I'm decidedly lazier than they are.

The October 19, 2002 board meeting, held in conjunction with BCMC, was held in Columbus, OH. New 2003 WTCA President Scott Arquilla called the meeting to order.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board thanked outgoing members, and everyone expressed appreciation for the excellent work Mike Ruede did as WTCA President during 2002.

FINNFOREST

Jack Palacio of Finnforest USA presented the WTCA board with a \$5,000 gift to be put toward Marketing Committee activities. Jack said that as a supplier to our industry, they really appreciate WTCA's efforts to protect and develop markets for the building components industry.

2003 BOARD MEETING LOCATIONS

- February 27-March 1: Houston, TX
- April 30-May 3: Washington D.C.
- August 6-8: Seattle, WA
- October 11: Phoenix, AZ

CHAPTER REPORTS

In this section, I'll list the major issues reported by each chapter, especially if they are issues that are common among multiple chapters.

- **Southern California:** Dealing with a sealed placement plan issue with a local building department, increasing attendance at chapter meetings.
- **Central California:** Review/approve WTCA policies.
- **Colorado:** Educational seminars for building officials, review and approve the WTCA policies.
- **Georgia:** Recent presentation to the chapter on mold, policies have been approved.

- **Chicago:** Working on re-invigorating the chapter and stimulating more continuous participation.
- **Iowa:** Fire training, TTW workshops, policies reviewed and approved at the most recent meeting.
- **Mid-South:** Policy review process has begun, presentations to fire officials.
- **Northwest:** A recent presentation for building officials had about 50 plan reviewers and building inspectors in attendance. The policy review and approval process will be started.
- **South Florida:** Had a recent Risk Management seminar, also dealing with a local building department on sealed placement plans. WTCA policies have been reviewed and approved.
- **Southwest Florida:** Recently convinced a local building authority to simplify their reporting requirements on uplift, currently working on mold issues, policy approval will be done in early December 2002.
- **Texas:** Mold and additional insured issues.
- **Wisconsin:** Will have a speaker from the APA on the subject of mold at their next meeting. Policy review process is on going.
- **New York:** Currently dealing with the fire service building labeling issue.
- **Northeast:** Educational seminars for building officials.
- **Ohio:** Will try to have Nathan Yost, an expert on mold, issues speak at their next meeting.
- **Capital Area:** Currently working to resolve off-center load issues with the Virginia DOT, with success. Members are trying to develop a common approach to the mold issue.
- **Michigan:** Working successfully in conjunction with the NAHB to influence Michigan's adoption of the IBC.
- **North Carolina:** Will review and vote on WTCA policy approval at the November meeting, also working on sealed placement plans and IBC adoption issues in conjunction with WTCA staff.

MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

- There was a lot of discussion on the mold topic, which is affecting more and more members. Kent Pagel, WTCA legal counsel, reported that Dr. Nathan Yost of the Building Science Corporation (www.buildingscience.com) is the most informed and sensible expert on mold that he has come across. Kent also urged members to be wary of mold policies and "Best Practices" promoted by others in the building supply chain. These "Best Practices" may require more than reasonable efforts by our members to be in compliance.
- After a fair amount of discussion, a motion to approve WTCA participating in an association marketing effort with NCO, a collection agency, was adopted. The basic arrangement is that in return for their using our membership list, NCO will return five percent of their revenue to the association. The condition required by the board is that there is no hidden, incremental cost for members who engage NCO in help in the collections area.

WTCA BYLAWS

There was even more discussion on a motion to approve new changes to the bylaws. The motion was modified a couple of times and approved. Here are the changes in summary:

- Allow for the expansion of the Executive Committee from four to eight. This will keep the size of the Executive Committee more proportional to the size of the Board, which has grown dramatically over the years.

- Clarify the wording that requires regular Chapter members to be members of WTCA national, since all regular Chapter members can be appointed as WTCA Board members. Associate chapter members are not required to be WTCA members.
- Require policies, rules, regulations and articles of incorporation of chapters not to conflict with those of the WTCA. The language also requires, in the event of some conflict, that the Chapters and WTCA National work together in good faith to resolve any differences.
- Preclude the Board from approving a budget with a deficit greater than the balance of the Reserve Savings Fund.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dan Holland reviewed the year-to-date financial statements and budget with the Board. He pointed out that we are having a good year financially, and that the assumptions used with respect to revenue for TTT Online are recognized on a very conservative accrual basis. A motion to approve the report was voted on and accepted.

BCMC REPORT

Carl Schoening reported that the show was a big success, and thanked staff and the exhibitors. Everyone agreed that the new format was great and that the level of enthusiasm was unprecedented. The final report on show economics is not in yet, but so far it is looking good.

INSURANCE

Management Committee members have successfully collected enough survey information that Lockton can proceed with approaching insurers with an association program. The goal is to have something available for members with a 1/1 renewal to look at. There is also some interest in an industry captive insurance company, and this concept will be developed in parallel with the industry program.

TPI UPDATE

Andy Schwitter reported that the "litmus test," which guides the WTCA and the TPI on whose charter various issues fall under, has been working very well and continues to improve cooperation between the two industry associations.

SOFTWOOD LUMBER

Not much has changed here. The board approved a motion to re-cast our ITC 332 petition (regarding the study on how the marketplace for the structural building components industry functions) so that the petition would focus more specifically on the products that our membership manufactures. The board stated that we should only do this if this change does not slow the process down that has been started and that we need to all work together on this with the ITC. If this causes the process to get derailed in some manner, there may be nothing that we can do.

CLOSING REMARKS

Scott Arquilla emphasized that the intent of the entire organization is to facilitate working together on important issues that face our industry so it can continue to grow and develop. This is the function of all the policies that are developed as our Board is charged with setting industry-wide policy that will help us achieve our mission. It is always possible that there will be disagreement or misunderstanding by some of our members on the work that we are undertaking as it is very difficult to provide every member with all the information to that goes into each of the decisions that are made. If any member has a concern please bring it to the board through your Chapter representative and we will work diligently together to gather all the information that we have on the issue and find a resolution that works.

WTCA's next Open Quarterly Meeting will be February 17 - March 1 in Houston, TX.
Contact staff for details: 608/274-4849.

[SBC HOME PAGE](#)

Copyright © 2002 by Truss Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. For permission to reprint materials from SBC Magazine, call 608/310-6706 or email editor@sbcmag.info.

The mission of Structural Building Components Magazine (SBC) is to increase the knowledge of and to promote the common interests of those engaged in manufacturing and distributing of structural building components to ensure growth and continuity, and to be the information conduit by staying abreast of leading-edge issues. SBC will take a leadership role on behalf of the component industry in disseminating technical and marketplace information, and will maintain advisory committees consisting of the most knowledgeable professionals in the industry. The opinions expressed in SBC are those of the authors and those quoted solely, and are not necessarily the opinions of any of the affiliated associations (SBCC, WTCA, SCDA & STCA).