



WASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
STATE BUILDING CODES
JANUARY 30, 2018

PRESENT: Steve Kramer, Commission Chair
Scott Hege, Vice-Chair
Rod Runyon, County Commissioner

STAFF: Tyler Stone, Administrative Officer
Kathy White, Executive Assistant

STATE: Rex Turner, Structural Program Chief
Oregon Building Codes Division
Shane Sumption, Policy and Technical
Services Manager Oregon Building
Codes Division

At 5:00 p.m. Mr. Turner opened the public meeting regarding State Building Codes Division providing services in Wasco, Sherman, Wheeler, and Gilliam Counties. He explained that State services would begin on February 1, 2018, through an office in The Dalles. He provided an overview of the State's responsibilities and their method for service delivery. He explained that one MCCOG inspector has come to work for the State and they have engaged an inspector currently working for the State out of Hood River. He reported that more interviews will take place tomorrow for a permit technician and they will use a structural/mechanical inspector from their offices in Pendleton until they can hire for that position locally.

The floor was then opened to questions from the audience. Questions and answers included the following:

Will there be an inspection schedule for the smaller, outlying counties?

The State will try to keep with the current model for scheduling inspections. In addition the inspectors' cell phone numbers will be available for direct contact. Contractors can expect some delays during the first few weeks as the office gets

up and running. The State's goal is to meet the needs of the contractors.

Will plan reviews be done locally? Certainly not on day one, but that will get better. It is likely that plan reviews for smaller jobs will be reviewed locally fairly soon.

Will forms be available online? For the first two weeks, the electronic system will not be available but forms can be obtained at the office. After February 12th, the online system will be available.

Are there rules for the length of response times? Under statute the electrical inspections must occur within 48 hours; other disciplines do not have that requirement. However, it is the intent of the State to do better than the 48-hour standard; however, delays can be expected for the first couple of weeks. It will be important that contractors communicate and make sure that the job is ready for inspection when they call to schedule it.

What is the future of the Building Codes Program in the region? The State is stepping in to keep the program running while the counties determine how they want to provide service going forward.

What will the fee schedule be? There will be no change to the current schedule.

Will the inspectors have GPS? Yes, on their phones.

Will there be continuity of knowledge? The system will do a freeze upon the closing of the MCCOG office and the local State office will receive a print out of that information. Once the electronic system is in place, the information will be available to local inspectors through that system. In addition, they have access to the hard-copy files.

Will pink notices still be issued for job sites? Yes, but the public will also be able to go online to view permits for job sites.

The meeting was closed at 5:45 p.m.

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