INDIANA FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING SAFETY COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Details

Date: March 5, 2024 **Time**: 9:00 AM

Location: Government Center South – Conference Room A

Member Attendance

Name	Present		Means of Participation	
	Yes	No		
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		In Person	
John Crisp	\boxtimes		Electronic Means (MS Teams)	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes		In Person	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		In Person	
James Murua	×		In Person	
Scott Pannicke	×		NA	
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes		In Person	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes		In Person	
David Porter	\boxtimes		In Person	
Kenneth Wagner	⊠		Electronic Means (MS Teams)	
Michael Zehner			Electronic Means (MS Teams)	

Notes

Additional information may be available at the Commission's Web Page.

Also in attendance:

Dustin Dyer, Director of Boards and Commissions, IDHS

- 1. Call to Order 9:02am.
- 2. Roll Call Quorum was met. Mr. Pannicke was not present. Commissioners Crisp, Wagner, and Zehner online.
- 3. Review and Action on February 2024 Meeting Minutes --
- 4. IDHS Reports and Updates

i. IDHS Variance Determinations Report as required by 675 IAC 12-5-6.2(f) – Isaac Delgadillo

5. State Building Commissioner Interpretations

- i. ALB-2023-35 [2014 IBC-2902-2.2-Exc.] Unisex Toilet Rooms
- ii. ALB-2023-38 [2020 IRC-R302.6] Dwelling Garage Fire Separations
- iii. ALB-2023-40 [2009 IEC-300.4] Protection Against Physical Damage

6. Rulemaking Update(s)

- i. Electrical Code Update Committee Did not meet in February, will resume in March.
- ii. Fire Code Update Committee Meets next week. Deadline for submissions tomorrow by 5pm.
- iii. Building Code Update Committee Meets next week. Deadline for submissions tomorrow by 5pm.
- iv. Lift Device Update Committee Change quorum to 3.

Motion: Approve changing quorum to 3.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	☒	
Kenneth Wagner		
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

- v. Civil Penalty Rule Moving through process.
- 7. Honors, Awards, and Recognitions
 - i. **State Fire Marshal's Meritorious Service Award** Presented to Ralph Gerdes. Presented by S.F.M. Steve Jones.

8. Variances

a. Tabled

i. 23-10-32 PIN1 (Indianapolis) – No proponent. On the agenda several times.

Motion: Deny.

Name	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		
James Murua			
Scott Pannicke			
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes		
Michael Popich	\boxtimes		
David Porter	\boxtimes		
Kenneth Wagner			
Michael Zehner	×		

ii. **23-12-79(b) Grayford Farm LLC (North Vernon)** – Darren, owner, presented. Had a new engineer. Requesting to be tabled until more information can be gathered.

Motion: Table.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner		
Michael Zehner		

iii. 23-12-81(a)(b) White Box Remodel (Greenwood) – Tabled while corrections were made to plans. Made additional changes to variance request based on updated plans.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner		
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

iv. 24-01-44(a)(b) Fortify Homes Renovation (Auburn) – Jordan, presented. Renovation to existing R1 hotel converted to transitional housing. Change of occupancy. Requesting variance to fire sprinkler system and provisions of firewalls between dwelling units. Building constructed in 80's without one-hour protection between the units. Adding in additional fire protection would create an undue burden as it would involve demolition and reconstruction of all bathroom units and ceilings. Commissioners questioned cost estimates provided by contractor, as initial plan already included significant demo work.

Motion: Table

Name Vote Yes No Logan Cook \boxtimes John Crisp \boxtimes Harold Davidson \boxtimes Todd Hite \boxtimes James Murua \boxtimes Scott Pannicke Michael Patarino \boxtimes Michael Popich \boxtimes David Porter \boxtimes Kenneth Wagner Michael Zehner \boxtimes

v. **24-01-45 Kiser House Restoration (South Bend)** – Ed Rensink. Requesting variance based on installation of NFPA 13 sprinkler system, providing all required smoke alarms in the building (inside sleeping rooms, bottom, top of all stairs, interconnected to alarms).

Motion: Approve with NFPA 13 D 2010 Edition.

Name	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	⊠		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		
James Murua	×		
Scott Pannicke			
Michael Patarino	×		
Michael Popich	×		
David Porter	×		
Kenneth Wagner			
Michael Zehner	×		

Commission broke from 9:53-10:05.

b. New

i. **24-02-26 Journeyman Distillery (Valparaiso)** – Request to allow stored liquid quantities to exceed allowed maximum per adopted code. No proponent.

Motion: Table.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	⊠	
Kenneth Wagner		
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Commission reopened after Christina Collester presented.

Name	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook			
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		
James Murua	×		
Scott Pannicke			
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes		
Michael Popich	\boxtimes		
David Porter	\boxtimes		
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes		
Michael Zehner			

ii. **24-02-27 King Jugg Brewery (Fishers)** – Variance to exclude sprinkler system in new addition. LFO opposed. Commission questioned why proponent was asking for a variance almost a year after proponent agreed to pursue one with LFO. Proponent indicated confusion as to the process.

Motion: Deny.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

iii. **24-02-28(a)(b)(c) Project Elkhart (Elkhart)** – Request to use 2021 IBC to allow use of construction materials not present in current IBC, specifically cross-laminated timber. Commission questioned whether section changes in 2024 IBC, proponent indicated it does not.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

iv. 24-02-29(a)(b)(c)(d)(e)(f) Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum (Indianapolis) – C, D, E, F are a-category. 2A construction building required to be one-hour rated. Asking not to completely rate building. Asking to use engineered design type instead of prescription requirements listed in NFPA 13 standard. Ed Rensink presented.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

v. **24-02-30 AHP** – **Bloomington** – **Building 2** (**Bloomington**) – Request to not provide a separation between an A3-B and an A3-R2 occupancy. Ana Pena presented. Mr. Larue presented as well, noting that he is comfortable with the variance as presented and is unsure that a variance is necessary based on previous variances.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	×	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

vi. **24-02-31 Selking International (Fort Wayne)** – Variance for photovoltaic system. Code requires firm anchoring, proposing to use ballast weights in lieu of anchors. LBO opposed.

Motion: Table.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	⊠	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Motion: Reopen.

Name	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook			
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		

James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Motion: Table.

Name	Vote	e
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite		
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino		
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		

vii. **24-02-32 Busy Bee (Indianapolis)** – Request to allow children's play structure to be 24 inches from wall, code requires 5 feet minimum. Christina Collester presented. Should have originally been placed 5 feet from wall, but company that builds the equipment placed it close to wall in compliance with play guidelines, which conflict with codes. \$42,000 to move the assembly.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter		

Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

viii. **24-02-33 Emerald Pointe Replacement Stairs (South Bend)** – Ralph Gerdes presented. Code requires tread depth to be 12 inches, requesting tread depth of 10 inches. LFO & LBO do not oppose. Cost to replace stairs is \$500,000.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vo	Vote	
	Yes	No	
Logan Cook	\boxtimes		
John Crisp	\boxtimes		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes		
James Murua	\boxtimes		
Scott Pannicke			
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes		
Michael Popich		\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes		
Kenneth Wagner		\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes		

ix. **24-02-34 Endress + Hauser USA Sales Center (Greenwood)** – Request to allow room schedule terminal to be 48 inches. No accessibility issue as accessibility is granted through online and mobile app. Not for public use.

Motion: Deny.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

x. **24-02-35(a)(b)(c)** CTI Building Addition (Bristol) – Christina Collester presented. Three sides of building is short 60 feet for unlimited building. 90,000 square feet, undivided. Fire access road.

Motion: Approve A and B, Table C.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	⊠	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Commission went to lunch from Noon to 1:00PM.

xi. 24-02-36 Sprinkler System Removal (Beech Grove) – Request to cap off existing water hookup to fire suppression system that is currently leaking. Proponent indicated that this was a re-hearing of a previous denial based on new evidence presented, sprinkler system heads were never present after purchase, would cost approximately \$140,000 to replace. Currently a Mexican restaurant since June 2018. LFO opposed.

Motion: Table until proponent can find more information for Commission re: firewalls and sprinkler systems.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp		
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino		
Michael Popich		
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	⊠	
Michael Zehner		

xii. **24-02-37 The Farm Multifamily Building A & Garage (Zionsville)** – Allow a once-inch gap to be allowed in wood floor top plate, not permitted by code.

Motion: Approve for all currently-existing or under construction buildings on the site as of the date of this variance approval.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook		
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson		
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino		
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	×	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

xiii. **24-02-38(a)(b) USG: Miscellaneous Renovation Projects (Shoals)** – Variance A is a-category. Requesting to not supply fire suppression system for building addition over 12,000 square feet.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	⊠	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

required and wanting to remove sprinkler heads, place a sign stating system is non-operational. Control panels for sprinklers in another section of the strip mall, owners will not allow Langel's Pizza access to sprinkler system. Solely for delivery and carryout. Vice-Chairman Popich questioned whether a variance was needed as the wording of the GAR allows for removal of non-required sprinkler systems.

Motion: Table.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	⊠	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

Commission broke from 2:15 – 2:25.

xv. 24-02-40(a)(b)(c)(d) Jeffersonville-Clarksville West Storage Facility (Clarksville) – Requesting various variances related to access roads, height requirements, etc. Ed Rensink and Shelly Wakefield presented.

Motion: A – Table. Approve B, C, D. Vice-Chairman Popich voted 'no' on B, C, D. Chairman Murua would have voted 'no' on the access road variance.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

xvi. 24-02-41 Mentone Elementary School Child Care Rooms (Mentone) – Infant and toddler child care rooms with single means of egress leading to interior corridor. Code requires an exit directly to the exterior if 5 or more children under 2.5 years of age, two exits if more than 10 children.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson		\boxtimes
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino		
Michael Popich		
David Porter	⊠	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

xvii. 24-02-42 MAACabre Haunted Attraction (Valparaiso) – Haunted attraction. Fire suppression system. Fourth time asking for variance. CEO Selena Weathermark presented.

Motion: Approve on the condition that fire watch is approved by State Fire Marshal's Office and space be inspected by DHS.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		

xviii. 24-02-43 Motherhouse renovation and Addition (Plymouth) – Addition to fivestory building, would need to provide a three hour structurally independent firewall which proponent is unwilling to do. Melissa Tupper presented.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson		\boxtimes
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	⊠	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner		

xix. 24-02-44 70 West Commerce Park Bldg 5 (Clayton) – Seeking to allow quantity of flammable liquids to exceed maximum allowed by code. Christina Collester presented.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	×	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

xx. 24-02-45 Upstairs Pub West Bar (Bloomington) – Code prohibits openings in exteriors walls where building is located less than three feet from property line. Requesting to allow two new openings in exterior wall with building less than three

feet from property line. Melissa Tupper presented. Openings normally protected via sprinkler heads, using braces instead. Bobby LaRue notes that building is heavily utilized by student population, additional openings provide additional means of egress. Not opposed.

Motion: Approve.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook	\boxtimes	
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	×	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino		
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

xxi. 24-02-46 New Distribution Building (Indianapolis) – Withdrawn.

xxii. 24-02-47 2023 Brownsburg High School (Brownsburg) – Logan Cook recused. Requesting to have multipurpose fieldhouse to not have voice alarm system. LFO does not object.

Name	Vote	
	Yes	No
Logan Cook (R)		
John Crisp	\boxtimes	
Harold Davidson	\boxtimes	
Todd Hite	\boxtimes	
James Murua	\boxtimes	
Scott Pannicke		
Michael Patarino	\boxtimes	
Michael Popich	\boxtimes	
David Porter	\boxtimes	
Kenneth Wagner	\boxtimes	
Michael Zehner	\boxtimes	

- 9. Industrialized Building Systems Applications and Renewals
 - i. None
- 10. Report on Administrative Review
 - a. OALP Non-Final Orders Commission Review/Action Required as Ultimate Authority
 - i. *** DHS-2311-002796 Washington Community Schools
 - b. New Cases *Monitoring Only*
 - i. DHS-2402-000396 Knight's Inn v. Seymour Fire
 - c. Ongoing Cases
 - i. DHS-2307-002000 Scannell Properties v. City of Bloomington
 - ii. DHS-2308-002119 Singh Basra LLC
 - iii. DHS-2311-002835 Ronald Davidhizer vs. City of Goshen
 - iv. DHS-2312-003133 LaPorte County
 - v. DHS-2401-000218 LaPorte Civic Auditorium
 - d. New Filings Commission Review/Action Required
 - i. None
 - e. OALP Final Orders No action required.
 - i. DHS-2401-000173 Zionsville Fire Department
- 11. Final Comments/Closing Remarks Chairman Murua
- 12. Next Meeting Tuesday, April 2, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time in CONFERENCE ROOM B of the Indiana Government Center, 302 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204.

A public notice with specific details regarding the format of the meeting will be provided on the <u>Commission main web page</u> in advance of the meeting date.

13. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.