



Setting the Standards for Home Energy Efficiency

# Approved Minutes of RESNET Board Meeting

September 10, 2019  
GoToMeeting

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff Present
Jim Amorin Jacob Atalla Dave Bell Thiel Butner Philip Fairey Matt Gingrich Emelie Glitch Andrew Harris John Hensley Roy Honican Cy Kilbourn Paulette McGhie Chris McTaggart Curt Rich Clayton Traylor	David Beam David Goldstein Mark Johnson Abe Kruger Clayton Morris	Steve Baden Valerie Briggs Laurel Elam Cardice Howard Ryan Meres

## Call to Order

Matt Gingrich RESNET Board President, called the meeting to order at 3:04 PM ET.

## Roll Call

Philip Fairey called roll of the Board of Directors. A quorum of members was present.

## Approve Agenda

Cy Kilbourn made a motion to approve the draft agenda. John Hensley seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

## RESNET Anti-Trust Policy

Curt Rich reviewed the RESNET Anti-Trust Policy that was sent with the meeting materials prior to the meeting.

## Approve Draft August 13, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

Philip Fairey made a motion to approve the draft August 13, 2019, Board meeting minutes. Cy Kilbourn seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

## Updates of RESNET Working Groups

Steve Baden presented an update on three Board of Directors working groups.

#### HERS Modeling Designation

- One of the largest problems in the consistency of HERS Index scores is user inputs to the HERS Rating software program. This issue is bigger than the inconsistencies among the software in calculating HERS Index scores.
- To address this issue the RESNET Board of Directors has established a new HERS Modeling Designation Working Group. The designation would be like a Rating Field Inspector, the HERS Modeling Analyst would work under a certified HERS Rater and the HERS Rater would be responsible for the analyst's work.
- Charter of Working Group Adopted
- The working group has been tasked at developing the following recommendations to the RESNET Board:
  - The goal of the designation
  - Name of designation
  - Whether the designation is a certification of completion of training or a formal RESNET certification
  - What training would be required
  - Who would provide the required training
- The recommendations will be presented to the RESNET Board of Directors to be considered at the 2019 Fall RESNET Board Meeting.

#### Dynamically Increasing Demand for HERS Ratings

- While the number of homes that are HERS rated steadily increases each year, RESNET will fall short of its goal of 50% of all new homes HERS Rated in 2020.
- To address this issue the RESNET Board of Directors has established a Dynamically Increasing Demand for HERS Ratings Working Group.
- The goal is a set of recommendations that will lead to a dynamic increase the demand for HERS Ratings
- The chairman of this working group is Clayton Morris of DPIS Engineering.
- The charter of the working group and its members are still under consideration by the Chair.
- Recommendations will be presented to the RESNET Board of Directors to be considered at the 2019 Fall RESNET Board Meeting.

#### Diversifying RESNET's Revenues While Creating New Business Opportunities for HERS Raters

- There is an emerging competition for energy scores of homes and Energy Rating Index ratings. In addition, there are signals of potential disruptive trends in the home building industry. With these trends, it is prudent for RESNET and certified HERS Raters to understand these trends.
- The changing market place also presents new business opportunities.
- Charter of Working Group Adopted
- The policy recommendations would address:
  - The changing world of the home building industry
  - What opportunities do these changes present
  - Definition of skills and attributes that RESNET and raters bring to the table
  - A preliminary listing of new business opportunities outside of HERS Index scores in terms of the near, mid and long-term opportunities.
  - Recommendation on how RESNET can position the industry to take advantage of these opportunities

- Recommendations will be presented to the RESNET Board of Directors for consideration at the 2019 Fall RESNET Board Meeting.

#### Incorporating When Energy is Used and/or Load Flexibility in HERS® Index Scores

- When energy is used is rapidly becoming as important as how much energy is used.
- Utilities are already beginning to curtail grid-scale renewables during certain times of the day/year because supply exceeds load.
- Homes that can respond to this varying renewable energy supply with high levels of efficiency, thermal and electrical storage, control, and on-site power production offer the grid support that electric utilities are seeking.
- Utilities will increasingly be incentivizing load flexibility through real-time/time-of-use rates and technology rebates.
- Charter of Working Group Adopted
- To be able to respond to this changing environment, the RESNET Board approved establishing a working group to investigate incorporating when energy is used and/or load flexibility in HERS Index Scores at the 2019 Spring RESNET Board Meeting.
- The RESNET Board then would adopt a set of policies that would guide the RESNET Standard Management Board in developing appropriate standards changes.
- Recommendations will be presented to the RESNET Board of Directors for consideration at the 2019 Fall RESNET Board Meeting.

Philip Fairey requested that the presentation be distributed to the board of directors.

#### **Consideration of Proposed RESNET 2020 Goals, Priorities and Activities**

Steve Baden explained that the development of RESNET's annual budget involved the following steps:

- Staff developing and the RESNET Board approving an annual goals, priorities and activities to be undertaken for the forthcoming year
- Based upon the adopted goals, priorities and activities, RESNET staff would develop and the Board approve a set of deliverables that would support the budget request. Progress on achieving the deliverables would be submitted to the Board on a quarterly basis which allows the Board to track RESNET's progress on an ongoing basis
- RESNET staff submits the proposed budget to the RESNET Board Executive Committee
- The RESNET Board considers the Executive Committee recommendations and adopts the budget

Mr. Baden presented the draft RESNET 2020 Goals, Priorities and Activities (Attachment A)

Roy Honican made a motion to approve the draft RESNET 2020 Goals, Priorities and Activities. Philip Fairey seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote.

#### **New Professional & Consumer RESNET Web Site**

Laurel Elam showed features of the new professional and consumer websites. Philip Fairey congratulated Laurel on the excellent job revising the RESNET Web Site.

#### **Location and Date of 2019 Fall RESNET Board Meeting**

The Fall Board meeting will take place in Charlotte NC on October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott South Park. Suppliers Advisory Board will meet on the afternoon of October 17<sup>th</sup>. A reception for Rating Providers and Home Energy Raters in North Carolina will take place the evening of the October 16<sup>th</sup> and board members are encouraged to attend. A Board of Director's dinner will take place the evening of October 17<sup>th</sup>. Room reservations need to be completed by September 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **RESNET Position on Proposed Changes to the IECC Section 406**

Ryan Meres presented RESNET's position on the proposed changes to the IECC Section 407. RESNET submitted only one public comment and encourages disapproval of RE17-19 for the following reasons:

1. This proposal will be the first to take the unprecedented step of allowing a compliance path in the IECC that does not require compliance with all the mandatory requirements
2. This compliance path would make it much easier for larger homes to comply with the IECC than smaller homes
3. This compliance path provides no guidance to code officials as to what to look for to verify compliance, nor what is required by the permit applicant to demonstrate compliance
4. This proposal provides no criteria for an "approved" third party or other qualifications for who conducts the calculations to determine compliance
5. With no requirement for what needs to be included on a report to the code official, this proposal provides a significant opportunity for compliance "gaming"
6. In the reason statement for RE-17, the proponents state: "This method is intended as an alternative method for complex residential buildings and HVAC system designs". However, this is not reflected in the technical content of the proposal.

Steve Baden will be attending the code hearings in Las Vegas in October along with Ryan Meres. Ryan Meres is still going through the comments for section 406.


### **New Business**

Matt Gingrich opened discussion for new business. No new business was presented.

### **Adjournment**

Roy Honican made a motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 3:38 PM ET.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

  
Philip Faurey, Secretary

## **Attachment A**



Setting the **Standards** for  
**Home Energy Efficiency**

## **Draft Proposed RESNET 2020 Goals, Priorities and Activities August 27, 2019**

### **RESNET Goals to Achieve RESNET Mission**

- **RESNET and HERS® Raters Recognized as the Gold Standard for Measuring and Labeling Home Performance**
- **Maintain and Enhance Credibility of HERS Index Scores Through Effective and Efficient Quality Assurance Oversight**
- **Grow Business Development Opportunities for HERS Raters Through Verification of Compliance to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)**
- **Increase Demand for HERS Ratings**
- **Launch HERS<sub>H2O</sub>® Water Efficiency Rating System**

### **Essential Activities of RESNET**

1. **National Registry** – The registry is the hub of rating activity. A home must be entered into the registry in order to print the HERS score and reports. The automated HERS Rating Quality Assurance Engine is fed through the registry. The data contained in the registry is invaluable for analysis, RESNET billings, reporting to policy makers and for the real estate industry to find rated homes. The RESNET registry will be essential to RESNET's relationship with the Appraisal Institute. Residential real estate appraisers will be dependent on the registry in crediting a home's HERS Index Score in the appraisal. The registry will also be invaluable to code officials to track and monitor compliance to the IECC verified by certified RESNET HERS Raters.
2. **Effective and Efficient Quality Assurance Oversight** – The end users of HERS ratings (builders, program sponsors, suppliers, etc.) rely on the national consistency of ratings. The RESNET Board has adopted an ambitious policy on enhancing the national consistency of HERS Index scores.

3. **Certified HERS Raters Verification of Compliance to the IECC** – HERS Raters have the technical knowledge, practical experience and tools to be the “go-to-option” for code officials for verification of compliance to the IECC. RESNET has entered into a dramatic collaboration with the International Code Council to position HERS Raters to meet this opportunity.
4. **Standards Development** – RESNET is recognized for the standards it develops and HERS credibility is based on the technical basis of its consensus based standards. The rating industry, home builders, utilities, program sponsors, code officials and other RESNET stakeholders depend on RESNET’s standards. All business models of the HERS industry are built on our standards.
5. **The RESNET Web Site** – RESNET’s web site is the face of RESNET. It is the touchstone for our industry. The rating industry relies on the site to find standards, interpretations, programs and policies. Consumers use the site to understand the HERS Index, find raters and RESNET Energy Smart Builders.
6. **Marketing and Advocacy** – Marketing is essential in educating consumers, builders, program sponsors, suppliers and stakeholders on the HERS Index and drive demand for RESNET professionals. RESNET has a representative in Washington that looks out for RESNET’s interests to the White House, Congress and federal agencies.
7. **Launching of the HERS<sub>H2O</sub> Water Efficiency Rating System** – After four years of work the ANSI RESNET-ICC Water Efficiency Rating Index Standard has been adopted. The RESNET HERS<sub>H2O</sub> water efficiency rating system is based on the ANSI standard. Certified RESNET HERS Raters will conduct the inspection and testing that will be fed into accredited RESNET HERS<sub>H2O</sub> rating software programs to calculated HERS<sub>H2O</sub> Index Scores.
8. **Annual RESNET Conference** – The RESNET Conference is vital to RESNET both in terms of its financial solvency, building cohesion in the industry and providing the cutting-edge information affecting HERS ratings.
9. **Administration and Management** – These activities are required to keep the organization operating.

## 2020 RESNET Priorities

### Priority A

*Enhancing the Transparency of HERS Ratings and Code Compliance: RESNET National Registry as a Tool for Quality Assurance and Research*

### Priority B

***Maintaining the Credibility of HERS Ratings and HERS Raters—Increasing the Accuracy and Consistency of HERS Ratings***

## **Priority C**

***Position HERS Raters to Building Code Officials and Builders to be the Credible Go-to-Method of Verification of Compliance to the IECC***

## **Priority D**

***Setting and Maintaining the RESNET Standards of Quality as the Gold Standard for Home Performance***

## **Priority E**

***Maintaining the RESNET Web Site - Our Face and Touchstone***

## **Priority F**

***Growing the Demand for HERS Rating Services through Marketing and Advocacy***

## **Priority G**

***Improving Home Performance through RESNET Water Efficiency Standard and HERSH2O Program Delivery***

## **Priority H**

***Building Cohesion in the HERS Industry through the RESNET Building Performance Conference***

## **Priority I**

***Maintaining RESNET Financial and Management Integrity and Sustainability***