

Setting the **Standards** for Home Energy Efficiency

# Minutes of RESNET Board Meeting September 6, 2018

#### Members Present

Jim Amorin Dave Bell **Emelie Cuppernell** Bob Eipert Philip Fairey Matt Gingrich David Goldstein Andrew Harris John Hensley **Roy Honican** Mark Johnson Cy Kilbourn Abe Kruger **Paulette McGhie** Chris McTaggart Curt Rich Nancy St. Hilaire Clayton Traylor

### Members Absent

Jacob Atalla David Beam

#### Staff Present

Steve Baden Scott Doyle Laurel Elam Cardice Howard Kathy Spigarelli

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by RESNET Board President Nancy St. Hilaire at 1:01 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

# Roll Call

Philip Fairey called the roll and a quorum was present.

# Approve Agenda

Nancy St. Hilaire proposed that the topic of ensuring a balance on the RESNET Board be moved before the discussion on the Leading Raters of America. Chris McTaggart made a motion to approve the amended draft agenda. Roy Honican seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

### **RESNET Anti-Trust Policy**

Curt Rich reviewed the conflict of interest policy for the board, which was previously sent to all members.

### Approval of Draft July 12, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

Philip Fairey made a motion to approve the July 12, 2018 minutes (Attachment A). Chris McTaggart seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

# **RESNET** Board Executive Committee Proposed Modifications to the Rating Provider and Software Rating Provider Agreements

Steve Baden reviewed the background of the revisions to the provider agreements. Mr. Baden and Mark Johnson will discuss any potential issues that could arise with the IECC.

Philip Fairey made a motion to approve adding "Shall ensure that its certified HERS raters will only use accredited RESNET Software Tools to produce a HERS Index Score;" to the Rating provider Agreement. Matt Gingrich seconded the motion. Motion approved by voice vote.

Philip Fairey made a motion to approve adding "Software Provider shall also not license a standalone software to calculate compliance to the International Energy Conservation Code's Energy Rating Index Performance Path to parties other than RESNET accredited Rating Providers" to the HERS Rating Software Provider agreement. David Goldstein seconded the motion.

Cy Kilbourn, Chris McTaggart and Andrew Harris made proposals that ended up amending the motion to read:

# Software Provider shall not license software that is represented as RESNET accredited to calculate compliance to the International Energy Conservation Code's Energy Rating Index Performance Path to parties other than RESNET accredited Rating Providers.

Philip Fairey and David Goldstein accepted the changes as friendly amendments to the motion. Motion approved by voice vote. Andrew Harris abstained.

Clayton Traylor suggested that RESNET staff send a FAQ to explain the revisions to the software provider agreement.

# **RESNET Executive Committee Proposal on Ensuring Balance of Provider Representation on RESNET Board**

Nancy St Hilaire and Steve Baden provided the background on the executive committee's proposal on the balance of provider representation on the RESNET Board.

An informal poll on the proposal was taken of Provider representatives. Dave, Emelie, John, Nancy, Paulette and Philip were in favor and Chris was opposed.

Roy Honican made a motion to approve the executive committee proposal on provider representation on the RESNET Board. Philip Fairey seconded the motion. The motion was tabled by the Chair until after the discussion of a proposed action plan on the LRA Request for Qualifications as discussed below.

# Leading Raters of America (LRA) Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Rating Certification Body – Nancy St. Hilaire

Nancy St Hilaire provided background on the formation of the Leading Raters of America.

Clayton Traylor stated that although the Leading Raters of America and the Leading Builders of America have similar names, the Leading Builders of America had nothing to do with the formation of the LRA and is not affiliated with the LRA organization.

Steve Baden presented a proposed action plan for the Leading Raters of America Request for Qualifications.

The proposed plan of action included:

That RESNET submit a response to the LRA's Letter of Interest but not necessarily a Statement of Qualifications. The reason for not submitting a response to the Statement of Qualifications at this time is that the members of LRA have over a decade of experience with RESNET as accredited Rating Providers and have conducted hundreds of thousands of ratings following RESNET's standards. Further, RESNET intends to engage the 14 largest providers in a dialogue that may result in there being no need to submit a Statement of Qualification.

The elements of the RESNET Letter of Interest would include:

- LRA Scope of Services appears to be seeking a national trade association
- RESNET is not a trade association
- The RESNET Board and staff recognize the importance of the large volume Rating Providers and understand that they have different business models and needs
- The RESNET Board has tasked the RESNET Board Executive Committee to enter into a dialogue with the top 14 largest Rating Providers who provided 58% of HERS ratings in 2017 with the following goals:
  - Explain the activities that RESNET intends for growing industry and providing leadership in meeting the opportunities of the future while maintaining the credibility of HERS Ratings and creating a level playing field on which all Providers can fairly compete.
  - o Better understand of the issues confronted by large production Providers
  - o Identify issues that can constrain Rating Provider success
  - Propose changes to enhance rating quality and Provider success

In addition to submitting a Letter of Interest to LRA, RESNET would propose to take the following

additional actions:

- Approve Executive Committee Proposal to Ensure Balance of Provider representation on the RESNET Board
- Initiate RESNET Executive Committee Dialogue Task by authorizing RESNET Executive Director to enter informal discussions with members of the LRA and other large providers to better understand their concerns.

David Goldstein made a motion that RESNET submit a Letter of Interest to the Leading Raters of American but decide later whether RESNET should also submit a Statement of Qualifications. Philip Fairey seconded the motion.

Abe Kruger requested a quorum call. Philip Fairey called the roll and 16 members were present. A quorum was present.

Motion passed by voice vote. Dave Bell and Paulette McGhie abstained.

It was decided that due to the lateness of the hour that an electronic ballot of the Board would take place on the contents of the LRA Letter of Interest.

#### Motion on Ensuring Balance of Provider Representation on RESNET Board

Tabled until next meeting or will be sent via an electronic ballot

# Guidance to the RESNET SDC 300 on the Treatment of Renewable Energy Credits (RECS) in a HERS Rating

Tabled until next meeting or will be sent via an electronic ballot

#### **RESNET Executive Committee Recommendation on Scheduling Regular Board Meetings**

Tabled until next meeting or will be sent via an electronic ballot

# Motion to Revoke RESNET Executive Committee Guidance on Adoption of the 2018 IECC – Curt Rich

Tabled until next meeting or will be sent via an electronic ballot

#### **New Business**

There was no new business proposed by the board.

#### **Meeting Adjourns**

Roy Honican made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

# Respectfully Submitted,

Fairey, Secretary

# Attachment A



Setting the Standards for Home Energy Efficiency

# Draft Minutes of RESNET Board Meeting July 12, 2018

#### **Members Present**

Jim Amorin Jacob Atalla David Beam Dave Bell Philip Fairey Matt Gingrich Andrew Harris John Hensley Mark Johnson Cy Kilbourn Abe Kruger Paulette McGhie Chris McTaggart Nancy St. Hilaire Clayton Traylor

### **Members Absent**

Emelie Cuppernell Bob Eipert David Goldstein Roy Honican Curt Rich

# **Staff Present**

Steve Baden Emma Bennett Valerie Briggs Scott Doyle Laurel Elam Cardice Howard Ryan Meres Kathy Spigarelli

# Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by RESNET Board President Nancy St. Hilaire at 2:04 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

# Roll Call

Philip Fairey called the roll and a quorum was present.

### **Approve Agenda**

Jim Amorin made a motion to approve the draft agenda. Cy Kilbourn seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

## **RESNET Anti-Trust Policy**

Nancy St. Hilaire reviewed the anti-trust policy for the board, which was sent to all members with the meeting notice.

### Approval of Draft May 3, 2018 & June 4, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

Chris McTaggart made a motion to approve the May 3, 2018 and June 4, 2018, minutes. Mark Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

# Presentation on Analysis of Differences Between IECC R406 Compliance and ANSIRESNET-ICC Standard 301

Philip Fairey presented on analysis of differences between IECC R406 compliance and ANSI-RESNET-ICC standard 301. The analysis showed that changing the reference home to align with the 2018 IECC R406 ventilation specification would raise ERI scores by 2 to 10 points depending on climate zone. After presenting, Philip Fairey asked for questions.

Philip Fairey stated that this does not imply changes to the ERI/HERS index, but only applies to the ICC Compliance Score. Chris McTaggart and Andrew Harris posed a few questions which allowed Philip Fairey to explain the implications to RESNET and the HERS Index.

Clayton Traylor asked two questions to Philip:

- If a home received a HERS Index Score of 65 in 2015 and the energy performance has not changed will be receive a HERS Index Score of 65 this year? Philip answered yes.
- If a home built to the R406 compliance option in 2015 would its score change in 2018 because of the 2018 IECC change. Philip answered yes.

Steve Baden stated that the 2021 IECC Code Cycle will begin in January 2019. He stated that the RESNET Board will need to decide how it wants to address the R406.3 reference

home ventilation issue. Steve Baden stated that here are three options: 1) propose a change to the provisions of the 2021 IECC, 2) propose to change the 301 Standard to match the 2021 IECC or 3) do not propose change to either. The board will also have to decide if RESNET needs to have an educational effort to make the rest of the industry aware of this.

Steve requested that the board read the report that Philip provided, and address any questions directly to Philip or a follow up call can be scheduled to address inquiries if necessary. Afterwards, the Board can decide on the best route moving forward. Steve Baden stated that this is a complex issue that will take time to resolve.

# Approval of Draft Charter for the RESNET Board Standing Software Consistency Committee

Steve Baden presented the revised draft charter that was forwarded to the Board of Directors.

Dave Bell made a motion to approve the draft charter for RESNET Software Consistency Committee. Philip Fairey seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

# Appointment of Members of the RESNET Software Consistency Committee by the RESNET Board

Steve Baden stated that when the RESNET Board decided to form the Software Consistency Committee in February it specified that the committee would be composed of representatives of RESNET accredited HERS Software Providers and two at large subject matter experts. Steve proposed the following individuals be appointed to the committee by the Board: Martha Brook (California Energy Commission), Ethan Croteau (Wrightsoft), Philip Fairey (FSEC), Scott Horowitz (National Renewable Energy Laboratory), Cy Kilbourn (Ekotrope), and Amber Wood (NORESCO).

Philip Fairey asked why ICF was not included in the recommended committee membership. Steve Baden stated that they were not currently accredited by RESNET. If another software becomes accredited by RESNET, Steve Baden will submit a request to the RESNET Board to include additional member(s).

Jim Amorin made a motion to appoint Martha Brook (California Energy Commission), Ethan Croteau (Wrightsoft), Philip Fairey (FSEC), Scott Horowitz (National Renewable Energy Laboratory), Cy Kilbourn (Ekotrope), and Amber Wood (NORESCO) as members to the RESNET Software Consistency Committee. Chris McTaggart seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

# **Consideration of 2017 RESNET Financial Audit**

David Beam presented the Consideration of the 2017 RESNET Financial Audit.

The RESNET Financial Audit Committee was presented the audit by the auditor Kevin Fordyce. David reported that there were no findings on the audit which was a reflection on RESNET staff. The RESNET Financial Audit Committee voted unanimously to acknowledge receipt of the audit and forward it to the RESNET Board. The 2017 RESNET audit was previously sent to the RESNET Board as part of the notice of the meeting.

David Beam moved that the RESNET Board acknowledge receipt of the RESNET Financial Audit. Mark Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.

#### **New Business**

Christ McTaggart asked about the update of the Quality Assurance proposal from RESNET. Steve Baden stated that he will ask the RESNET QA team for a deadline for completion.

## **Meeting Adjourns**

Philip Fairey made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time.

Respecting Submitted, Philip Fairey, Secretary