

Mechanical Board of Appeals
Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2014

Board Members Present:

Dave Huston
Bret Brecke
Russ Allen

Board Members Absent:

Brian Joyner

Also Present:

Dennis Hasenbank, Skogman Construction Co of IA	Kevin Ciabatti, Building Services Director
Bob Vancura, Skogman Construction Co of IA	Lyn Wedemeier, Plans Examiner
Paul Sabotta, Iltens Inc.	Randy Croft, Chief Mechanical Inspector
Vance McKinnon, Fire Marshall	Duncan McCallum, Plans Examination Coordinator
Steve Dunham, Fire Captain	Dawn Kolosik, Recording Secretary

Board Chair Dave Huston brought the meeting to order at 1:09 PM. Minutes from the previous meeting held on December 4, 2013, were reviewed. Motion made to approve the meeting minutes was made by Bret Brecke, seconded by Paul Sabotta (since he was a member at that time). Motion carried.

An appeal had been filed by Skogman Commercial on behalf of Kids Inc Day-Care regarding the modification/interpretation of Mechanical Code specifically as it pertains to grease over the electrical (not gas) stove consistent with EPA Test -202 and not exceed the 5 mg/m³ Standard.

Dennis Hasenbank stated the appeal is regarding a Type II hood. He stated they don't believe they have a lot of grease production and the daily menu will be identical to what is being made at the Kids Inc Coralville facility. Photos were provided showing the setup currently being utilized. It was stated that seven other states (North Carolina, Michigan, California, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Virginia) have reviewed tests and looked at conditions, stating the Standard had been met. This is the same Standard Skogman Construction is wanting to use. Dennis stated Skogman was not able to find a lab which can measure grease release when cooking simple foods such as macaroni and cheese, pizza, etc.

A weekly menu of what is currently being served at the Kids Inc Coralville day-care was provided. Of the last 132 meals, seven meals constituted use of a stove top. Ideally, one to two meals per week are prepared (about 5%) on the stovetop. Dennis feels this is within the 5 mg Standard.

Paul Sabotta stated he had researched if any data was available; however, he was not able to find any.

Dave Huston asked if appellant is asking for a release in this specific situation. Dennis stated the use could possibly change under a different property owner and referenced the memo from Kory McNeal dated 10/28/14 which stated he would "require use of this space by my staff to be consistent with section 507.2.3 of the 2012 IMC and use a type II hood over this cooking space based on negligible grease measurements of less than 5.0 mg/m³." Bret Brecke voiced concern over the menu being changed tomorrow. Paul Sabotta noted the Kids Inc Marion location has a sign posted stating cooking of grease is not allowed.

Vance McKinnon stated the Fire Code indicates Type I grease system is required. If there is no stove top, this requirement is waived. Legally, this cannot be defended in a court of law. The Fire Department's standpoint is if grease is produced (laden vapors), a Type I hood is required. Fire Code does not state specification on any type of amount, but production of smoke or steam requires a Type I hood.

Bret Brecke voiced concerns regarding the safety of the children within the day-care if a grease fire were to occur with a Type II hood which would put liability on the Mechanical Board.

Russ Allen stated usage of residential-style equipment needs to match usage within that category which, with the amount of prepped meals, it is above the residential usage.

Vance McKinnon questioned where the empirical data is as it relates to the menu provided. Dennis Hasenbank stated testing had not been performed by them or any outside firm for this day-care. Paul Sabotta's empirical data is based off the pictures he provided at this meeting to the Board.

The appellants were excused allowing private discussion among Board members.

Steve Dunham stated the 5.0 mg/m³ in accordance with Code 710b is not the hood being put in making this appeal irrelevant.

It was also noted:

1. Not a fire-rated application for the hood supplied
2. Not using Turbo Chef which is listed for use without a hood; they are utilizing open cooktops
3. A commercial-rated hood is not being used

Russ Allen made a motion to reject the appeal based on the fact that they failed to substantiate their claim that they were in compliance with the Code. Bret Brecke seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Kevin Ciabatti informed the Board that 2015 Code process has started.

Bret Brecke made a motion to adjourn, Russ Allen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:25p.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Kolosik, Recording Secretary