

**OKLAHOMA UNIFORM BUILDING CODE COMMISSION**

**RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL AND SPA TECHNICAL CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**UNIFORM BUILDING CODE COMMISSION CONFERENCE ROOM**

**2401 NW 23<sup>RD</sup> STREET, SUITE 82**

**OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73107**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2025 – 9:00 A.M.**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jayne Austin (arrived at 9:06 a.m.), Todd Booze, Austin Horton, Bob Kolibas, Ryan Russell, Clayton Thomas and Michael Zimmerman

**ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Robin Allen, Rusty Britton and Caleb Lester

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

David Adcock (OUBCC Staff), Kathy Hehnlly (OUBCC Staff), Caitlin Redding Taylor (OUBCC Staff), and Jeff Birdwell (Zoe Pools)

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Horton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

Discussion and possible approval of November 3, 2025, technical review committee meeting minutes

MR. MICHAEL ZIMMERMAN MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY MR. RYAN RUSSELL TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 3, 2025, TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN

VOTING AYE:	Jayne Austin	Ryan Russell
	Todd Booze	Clayton Thomas
	Austin Horton	Michael Zimmerman
	Bob Kolibas	

VOTING NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

## Discussion, review and possible action on Chapter 1 of the 2024 edition of the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code® (ISPSC)

### Discussion, review and call for any comments regarding Chapter 1

#### Discussion on 2024 IRC® Preamble, Chapter 1 and Appendices examples

The committee discussed that Chapter 1 is adopted by the state in a limited manner and serves primarily as guidance and best practices rather than mandatory requirements. The committee discussed that the chapter establishes statewide minimums only to the extent they do not conflict with state law or the authority of local jurisdictions. It was noted that local jurisdictions retain discretion in administration, enforcement, and permitting practices.

There were concerns on Chapter 1 addressing construction documents and the potential implication that a registered design professional would be required for residential pool construction. The committee discussed current practices across jurisdictions, noting that many require only site plans showing pool location, setbacks, and basic information, with construction details addressed through inspections rather than engineered plans. It was emphasized that requiring engineering for all residential pools would significantly increase costs without clear benefit to public safety.

The committee discussed the importance of identifying gaps between current practices and code language, particularly where public safety was concerned, while avoiding unnecessary cost increases. It was clarified that adoption of Chapter 1 language does not mandate engineering unless otherwise required by state law or local jurisdictional authority. The committee agreed that further review of later chapters would better inform whether any amendments to Chapter 1 were necessary. The committee agreed to table approval of the chapter and revisit it after reviewing more chapters to better understand where engineering or design professional requirements may be identified.

#### Discussion and possible approval of Chapter 1

Approval of the chapter was tabled.

## Discussion, review and possible action on Chapter 2 of the 2024 edition of the ISPSC®

### Discussion, review and call for any comments regarding Chapter 2

It was noted that Chapter 2 was typically reviewed in conjunction with code changes and may require continual review as later chapters are discussed. The committee discussed differences between alterations, repairs, maintenance, resurfacing, replastering, and relining of pools. There were concerns that vague definitions could lead to inconsistent enforcement and disputes regarding whether existing pools must be brought into full compliance when routine maintenance occurred.

There was discussion that routine maintenance activities such as liner replacement, replastering, resurfacing, or tile replacement do not alter the design of a pool and should not be treated as alterations requiring full compliance with new construction standards. It was noted that Section 105.1 already addressed resurfacing and similar activities, but clarity could be improved. The committee discussed adding clarifying language to ensure that maintenance activities were clearly distinguished from alterations.

The committee discussed that any proposed definition changes affecting both residential and commercial pools would also be reviewed and voted on by the Commercial Swimming Pool and Spa Technical Committee. The committee agreed that clearer definitions would reduce future disputes and support consistent enforcement. The committee was informed of a new state code interpretation process limited to state-adopted amendments. It was noted that interpretation requests involving amendments would be referred back to the committee for input and could result in formal interpretations adopted by the Commission.

#### Discussion and possible approval of Chapter 2

Approval of the chapter was tabled.

#### Discussion, review and possible action on Chapter 3 of the 2024 edition of the ISPSC®

##### Discussion, review and call for any comments regarding Chapter 3

The committee reviewed Section 302.7 "Tests" and it was noted that compressed air testing has historically been used but presented safety risks and had resulted in injuries and litigation. The committee acknowledged that manufacturers and codes increasingly prohibited air testing and that water or vacuum testing was safer. There was discussion about trench inspection requirements and testing of pool piping prior to concealment. It was noted that trench inspections were not consistently performed in current practice but are important for quality control and public safety.

The committee reviewed Section 303.1.1 "Heaters" and noted that most modern pool heaters already comply with shutoff and safety requirements but the code language served to prevent use of non-compliant equipment. There was discussion about amending Section 303.1.2 "Time switches" to provide an exception stating that time switches were not required for residential pools. The committee noted that similar language had previously been removed from residential requirements under energy code amendments, and that requiring time switches for residential pools may not be appropriate.

The committee discussed Section 302.6 "Wastewater Discharge" and Section 321.1 "Backwash water or draining water". It was noted that residential pool discharge practices vary widely depending on sewer availability, septic systems, stormwater regulations, and local ordinances. The committee discussed that the code language provided flexibility by requiring approved points of discharge as determined by state or local authorities rather than mandating a single method. Concerns were raised regarding discharging chlorinated water into septic systems, storm drains, or surface waters. It was noted that Section 321.1 appropriately left the final determination of discharge methods to the authority having jurisdiction and that Section 302.6 primarily addressed backflow and cross contamination protection when discharging into building drainage systems.

The committee discussed entrapment safety and the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act, enacted in 2008 and requiring compliant drain covers and entrapment protection for public pools and spas, with significant safety implications for both public and residential pools. The committee discussed injury and fatality data related to suction entrapment and acknowledged that resurfacing or interior work may present an opportunity to address non-compliant drains. There was discussion about whether code amendments should clarify when entrapment

protection upgrades were required during work on existing pools, particularly during resurfacing or relining. It was noted that the issue intersected with federal law, state adoption, and permitting practices and would require careful drafting to avoid unintended consequences. The committee agreed that additional review and carefully worded proposals would be needed before making changes related to entrapment protection, definitions, or permitting thresholds. The committee acknowledged that clearer language would reduce disputes, improve safety, and provide consistency for inspectors, designers, and contractors.

The committee concluded that Chapter 2 definitions and portions of Chapter 3 would remain under review pending development of proposed amendments and further coordination with the commercial committee. The committee agreed to continue review of Chapter 3 at the next meeting.

Discussion and possible approval of Chapter 3

Approval of the chapter was tabled.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT: (11:55 A.M.)**

MR. MIKE ZIMMERMAN MADE A MOTION WITH A SECOND BY MR. RYAN RUSSELL TO ADJOURN

VOTING AYE:	Jayme Austin	Ryan Russell
	Todd Booze	Clayton Thomas
	Austin Horton	Michael Zimmerman
	Bob Kolibas	

VOTING NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Minutes approved in the regular meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

AUSTIN HORTON  
Austin Horton, Chairman  
Residential Swimming Pool and Spa Technical Code  
Review Committee

PREPARED BY: CAITLIN REDDING TAYLOR

Caitlin Redding Taylor,  
Residential Swimming Pool and Spa Technical Code Committee Secretary

*Official copy: Original with signature in office file.*