

Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules and
Executive Appointments

DATE: September 10, 2024

BY: Leslie Porter, Legislative Analyst

RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



LPRO
LEGISLATIVE POLICY
AND RESEARCH OFFICE

RESIDENTIAL AND MANUFACTURED STRUCTURES BOARD

The Governor has appointed the following individuals to the Residential and Manufactured Structures Board subject to Senate confirmation.¹

New Appointee

Chris Wong of Portland

Reappointee

James Austin of Mount Angel

Terms

Austin: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2027

Wong: October 1, 2024 – June 30, 2028

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 455.135 \(2023\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Not required.

Composition³

The board consist of 11 members, including:

- one residential structures construction contractor (FRY);
- one residential structures remodeling contractor (LETHIN);
- one contractor specializing in building multifamily housing three stories or less above grade (SAWYERS);
- one home designer or architect (KELSO);
- one building official (BLAIRE);
- one residential building trade subcontractor (TOVAR);
- one structural engineer (**WONG**);
- one representative of a utility or energy supplier (LUTTER);
- one manufactured dwellings manufacturer (**AUSTIN**);

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4, ORS 171.562 and 171.565 \(2023\)](#).

² [ORS 244.050 \(2023\)](#).

³ [ORS 455.135 to 455.146 \(2023\)](#); [ORS 182.100 \(2023\)](#) for affirmative action policy; [ORS 236.115 \(2023\)](#) for diversity criteria.

- one new manufactured dwellings seller or distributor (BARNES); and
- one public member who does not receive compensation from any interest represented on the board (KEMPER).

Members serve four-year terms, limited to two full terms. The Governor may remove a member for good cause, including three unexcused absences during any 12-month period. The board must meet at least twice per year.

Duties⁴

The board helps the Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Services (DCBS) administer the Low-Rise Residential Dwelling Program and Small Home Specialty Code. The board must:

- find that the added cost, if any, of any proposed rules, is necessary to the health and safety of the occupants or the public, or to conserve scarce resources;
- review and report recommendations and adoption of amendments to the Residential Specialty Code, Small Home Specialty Code, Manufactured Dwelling Installation Specialty Code, and Manufactured Dwelling and Parks Specialty Code;
- approve technical and scientific facts related to construction material, design, or method;
- approve alternative regulatory options for emerging technologies;
- receive and adjudicate appeals of suspected code violations, building official decisions, and municipal appeals board decisions;
- adopt rules the director considers necessary to interpret, harmonize, streamline, adjust, promote consistency within, reduce confusion regarding, administer, or enforce the state building code;
- adopt design and construction standards for mitigating radon levels in new residential buildings;
- adopt standards for determining whether the installation of a single electrical meter for all dwelling units in a multifamily residential building facilitates an overall reduction in electrical consumption by such units;
- select two members to serve on the Construction Industry Energy Board;
- consult with the director on alternative permit and inspection programs on the adoption of uniform energy conservation standards and the Reach Code; and
- advise the director on standards, qualifications, and training for building officials and inspectors.

⁴ [ORS 455.030 to 455.732 \(2023\)](#).



Residential and Manufactured Structures Board

Agency: **None**

Authorization: **ORS 455.135**

Min Members: **0** Max Members: **11**

Term Length: **4** Term Limit: **2**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Labor/Trades**

Board Admin: **Debra Woods**

Address:

Building Codes Division

PO Box 14470

Salem, OR 97309-0404

503-378-4130

Debra.j.woods@dcbs.oregon.gov

Current Appointments

Mr Fry, Richard "Rich" W Residential Structure Contractor Position Number: 1	Term(s): 7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027 9/23/2019 - 6/30/2023
Mr Lethin, Douglas T Remodeler Contractor Position Number: 2	Term(s): 7/1/2019 - 6/30/2023 7/2/2009 - 7/1/2013 11/1/2005 - 7/1/2009
Sawyers, Jason Multifamily Low Rise Builder Position Number: 3	Term(s): 2/16/2024 - 6/30/2027
Kelso, Abraham Home Designer or Architect Position Number: 4	Term(s): 6/5/2024 - 6/30/2028
Blaire, Sean Building Official Position Number: 5	Term(s): 10/5/2023 - 6/30/2027
Mr Tovar, Richard "Rich" T Residential Building Trade Sub-Contractor Position Number: 6	Term(s): 9/23/2019 - 6/30/2023
Wong, Chris Structural Engineer Position Number: 7	Term(s): 10/1/2024 - 6/30/2028
Lutter, Matthew Utility/Energy Supplier Position Number: 8	Term(s): 9/28/2022 - 6/30/2026

Ms Kemper, Emily R

Public Member

Position Number: **9**

Term(s):

7/1/2015 - 6/30/2019

12/1/2011 - 6/30/2015

Austin, James "Jim" M

Manufacturer

Position Number: **10**

Term(s):

7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027

11/25/2019 - 6/30/2023

Mr Barnes, Forrest

Dealer

Position Number: **11**

Term(s):

7/1/2021 - 6/30/2025

11/17/2017 - 6/30/2021

Vacant Positions
