



Mechanical Plumbing and Solar Board Draft MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
October 17, 2012**

The Mechanical Plumbing and Solar Board convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 17, 2012 at the One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, 3rd Floor, Conference Room 325.

Chair Jerry Garza called the Board Meeting to order at 1:46 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Jerry Garza, Stephen Cox, Michael Nail, Thomas Combs, Paul Hovey, William Harris, and Nick Dawson.

Staff Members in Attendance: Dan McNabb, Joe Parker, Chap Thornton, Julie Kirby, Leon Barba, Tony Hernandez, Daryl Slusher, Tony Canales, Danny Lytle, Robert Stefani, Don Pederson, Allen Smith, Tina Bui, Monty Lowell, and Cory Harmon.

1. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION** – Ron Waley, Sierra Club Conservation Committee, spoke on promoting water recycling. Karen Ascock, citizen, supporting use of greywater.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – The minutes from the meeting of July 24, 2012 were approved on Board Member Thomas Comb’s motion and Steve Cox’s second for a 7-0 vote.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. **Election of Officers** – Board Member Thomas Combs made a motion to reelect Jerry Garza as Chair and Stephen Cox as Vice-Chair, second by Board Member Nail for a 7-0 vote.
 - b. **Adopt Annual Board Report** – was withdrawn by staff.

4. DISCUSSION:

Dan McNabb provided an overview of the 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) draft local amendment. In response to Resolution 20120126-047, the Austin Water Utility (AWU) outlined in Memo to Council twelve greywater issues. The published 2012 UPC currently covers eight of the twelve issues, and AWU and the Building Inspections staff of the Planning Department worked closely for months to incorporate the greywater issues in the draft local amendment. AWU hired a consultant to study auxiliary water, so the recommendations for auxiliary water will be recommended for adoption in the future.

The Board recommended the following changes:

Section 103.2.1.7 Keep this section. Add the word “responsible” master plumber to every reference in the draft ordinance.

Section 411.6.1 Keep this section on shower drains. Add that it applies to I occupancies.

Table 4-1.1 Update either the chart or add new section with changes.

Section 501.1.2 Add Energy Code Rules reference language to water heating.

Section 507.1.1 Move this section to the Mechanical Code.

Section 509.4 Add an amendment to eliminate tank type water heaters installed in attic. (San Antonio adopted this issue and may have language

Section 601.1	Board would like the City to consider allowing rainwater systems for potable water to connect to the City's public drinking water system.
Chapter 6	Board would like to add that Cooling Towers are allowed air gaps when external to the footprint of the tower.
Section 710.2	Board would like to add an exception for one- and two-Family stating that pumped discharge may not be placed in the building footprint.
Chapter 16	Board Member Combs suggested that homestead permits do not require professional designs for auxiliary water systems.

The next Board meeting will be set for 2 weeks to continue review of the draft UPC ordinance and discuss the draft UMC ordinance.

5. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michael Nail and was seconded by Paul Hovey.
The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.