



**Mechanical Plumbing and Solar Board  
Draft MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
December 19, 2012**

The Mechanical Plumbing and Solar Board convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at City Hall, 201 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, 1st Floor, Boards & Commission Room.

Chair Jerry Garza called the Meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

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

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Dan McNabb, Joe Parker, Chap Thornton, Julie Kirby, Leon Barba, Barry Boehl, Michael Husted, John Umphress, Daryl Slusher, Tony Canales, Robert Stefani, Adam Smith, Danny Lytle, and Tina Bui.

**1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION – None**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – The minutes from the meeting of October 30, 2012 was approved on a motion from Board Member Cox second by Board Member Combs for a 7-0 Vote. The minutes from the meeting of November 14, 2012 was approved on a motion from Board Member Hovey second by Board Member Harris for a 7-0 vote.

**3. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**a. 2012 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC)** – The Board held a public hearing for the UMC and Joe Parker presented an overview of the significant changes to the draft mechanical code ordinance. Board Member Nail made a motion to approve the mechanical Code ordinance with no changes second by Board Member Combs for a 7-0 vote.

**b. 2012 Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC)** - The Board held a public hearing for the UPC.

**Speaker** -Stephen Levy proposed a change to the revised Table 422. After discussion staff adjusted the water closet requirements for structures over 5,000 SF for B Type occupancies.

**Speaker** –Harry Savio of HBA has concerns about limitation of water heaters in residential attics.

Chap Thornton presented an overview of the significant changes to the draft plumbing code ordinance.

Dan McNabb and Daryl Slusher discussed the auxiliary water and gray water language.

After discussion the Board directed staff to make the following changes to the “*Laundry to Landscape*” gray water systems including:

- 1) this system will require a permit;
- 2) Amend Section 103.1.3 to add an exception allowing Homeowners to pull the plumbing permit and install “*Laundry to Landscape*” systems;
- 3) Revise definition for 203.1 Alternative water source: A pressurized water supply from a source other than the City’s potable water supply. “A gravity gray water system is also an alternate water source”;

- 4) Delete 1602.16.3 (1)(a) requiring registration with AWU;
- 5) Delete 1602.16.3 (1)(e) requiring energy efficient washing machines;
- 6) Add new section to 1602.16.3 (1) An inspection will be required for every permit. AWU will perform one follow up inspection, at no cost to the owner, after first year to ensure system continues to meet code requirements, prohibiting backflow issues, and AWU reserves the right to future random inspections. AWU suggested language, "An inspection will be required as part of permit approval, then within one year of permit approval, to ensure the system is meeting code requirements."

Board Member Combs made a motion to approve the Plumbing Code ordinance with changes to Table 422 and the "Laundry to Landscape" sections, second by Board Member Combs for a 7-0 vote.

**c. 2012 Intl Energy Conservation Code (IECC)**

Michael Husted and John Umphress of Austin Energy presented the draft Energy Code ordinance. After discussion the Board directed staff to make the following changes:

- C404.8 - Add exception from R403.4.3 and the following language to that section: electric water heaters resistance with less than 7kilowatts.
- R403.2.2 - keep the exception, so leakage test is not required.
- R403.4.3 - make the following change 2012

Board Member Combs made a motion to approve the Energy Code ordinance as amended second by Board Member Cox for a 7-0 vote.

**5. ADJOURN**

The Board wished Bill Harris a happy birthday, then a Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Michael Nail and was seconded by Paul Hovey. The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.