



**Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals
APPROVED MINUTES**

**Board Meeting
October 25, 2017**

The Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals convened in a Board meeting on October 25, 2017 at One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, 3rd Floor, Room 300, Austin, Texas.

Chair Haught called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Frank Haught, Aubrey Brasfield, Alan Schumann, Ben Abzug, Darryl Pruett, and Ben Hammer.

Board Members Not in Attendance: Matt Hart, Alicia Jones, and Peiter Sybesma,.

Staff in Attendance: Julie Kirby (DSD), Richard Anderson (DSD), Jose Roig (DSD), Doug Votra(DSD), Michael Husted (AE), Joe White (AFD), and Mark Villareal(AFD).

1. **Citizen Communications:** None.
2. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
 - a. **Discuss Roberts Rules of Order process.** There was a brief discussion.
 - b. **Discuss nomination and elect Chair.** Vice Chair Brasfield made a motion to nominate Haught as Chair second by Pruett for a 6-0 vote.
 - c. **Annual Board Schedule.** Board Member Pruett made a motion to approve as written second by Schumann for a 6-0 vote.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The April 26, 2017 minutes were approved as written on Board Member Schumann's motion second by Pruett for a 6-0 vote.
4. **CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING**
 - a. **Appeal of Administrative Decision for a new project at 709 East Howard Lane, Austin TX to appeal the requirement for day lighting (use of skylights) for the construction of a beverage warehouse.**
 - Jose Roig, BO presented an overview of the appeal.
 - Appellant Sandy Epstein, Architect, gave an overview and explained his client has 11 similar warehouses across the US with installed ESFR heads and without heat and smoke vents. He believes the vents and skylights could cause the ESFR system to malfunction. Epstein also submitted an Alternative Method of Compliance which installed glass wall blocks for additional natural lighting and increasing the daylight zone required by the Energy Code.
 - Michael Husted, Austin Energy, explained that the Fire Code speaks to heat vents and not skylights. Skylights are currently required by the Energy Code for large box structures(ie. large groceries) to increase natural lighting and reduce energy. Doug Votra, Chief Building Inspector clarified it is approximately 150 skylights.
 - Board Member Schumann made a motion to Deny the appeal because the Board can not waive an Energy Code requirement second by Haught for a 6-0 vote.
5. **Future Agenda Items:**
6. **ADJOURN** – Chair Haught adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.