

Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals APPROVED MINUTES

Board Meeting May 23, 2018

The Building and Fire Code Board of Appeals convened in a Board meeting on May 23, 2018 at One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Road, 3rd Floor, Room 300, Austin, Texas.

Chair Haught called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Frank Haught, Aubrey Brasfield, Ben Abzug, Darryl Pruett, Ben Hammer, Alicia Jones and Pieter Sybesman.

Board Members Not in Attendance: Matt Hart, Alan Schumann, and Bobby Johns.

Staff in Attendance: Rick Arzola (DSD), Richard Anderson (DSD), Jose Roig (DSD), Joe White (AFD), and Mark Baker (AFD), Justice Johns (AFD), Carl Wren (DSD)

- 1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: David Glenn with HBA
- **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The Oct 25, 2017 minutes were approved as written by Board Member Brasfield motion second by Pruett for a 6-0 vote.

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

- a. **Discuss nomination and elect Chair.** Vice Chair Brasfield made a motion to nominate Haught as Chair second by Sybesman for a 6-0 vote.
- b. **Discuss nomination and elect Vice Chair.** Board member Pruett made a motion to nominate Brasfield as Vice Chair, second by Chair Haught for a 6-0 vote.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- **a. Annual Permit Program:** Richard Anderson with DSD explains to the board the Annual Permit Program (APP) qualifications and its procedures. Though Chair Haught felt the board was in favor of the program, board member Pruett was concerned of the cost of the program to those address that would be applying. Staff member Wren (DSD) explained the cost of a single permit would cost more and that the Annual permit program would benefit in cost for those applying.
- **b. Wildfire Urban Interface:** AFD staff Mark Baker is proposing an amendment to the Land Development Code (LDC) to add a division titled Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Mr. Baker and AFD staff are also proposing new technical codes for "retrofitting" of homes in the locations of Travis County where wildfires are prone in the current greenbelts. Such homes that are suggested ignition resistant include ember resistant vents, fire resistant roofing and external sprinklers. Also to manage vegetation within the nearby structures. Currently 26% of existing structures are subject to wildfire. David Glenn with HBA is requesting a work group study to compose amendments to mitigate the loss of life. Board recommends to not have a work group but rather Mr. Baker and AFD staff to meet with stakeholders and submit a draft ordinance for the boards review.
- **5. ADJOURN** Chair Haught made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:03 p.m. Vice Chair Brasfield second the motion. Motion passed 6-0.