



**Electric Board
APPROVED MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING
JULY 17, 2019**

The Electric Board convened in a Board Meeting on July 17, 2019 at Development Service Department, 5202 E. Ben White, Room 122.

Board Chair Flores called the Board Meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Delwin Goss, Gabe Flores, Nicole Stasek, Michael King, Robert Schmidt, Mark Weaver, Rogelio Wallace and Ben Brenneman

Members Not in Attendance: David Dixon, Miguel Suazo and Randy Pomikahl

Staff in Attendance: Rick Arzola (DSD), Eric Zimmerman (DSD), Carl Thompson (DSD)

- 1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** David Johnson
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from the June 19, 2019 meeting was approved as written. Board member Schmidt made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Vice Chair Goss second the motion, motion passed 8-0.
- 3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
 - a. Executive Liaison Update-** DSD Staff informs the board that no replacement for Executive Liaison has been made. Staff has informed the clerk office that Richard Anderson has resigned his post as Executive Liaison of Building Inspections. Clerk office is currently looking for open dates for Executive Training. Staff has informed the board that Eric Zimmerman of Residential Inspections and Marty Starrett of Commercial Electrical Inspections will fulfill the duties of Executive Liaison as soon as training is complete.
 - b. Austin Criteria Manual Update:** Eric Zimmerman informs the board that the next quarterly scheduled meeting with Austin Energy is Friday July 26. At last workgroup meeting both AE and DSD, both started to “define the point of service and point out some of the issues and conflicts” within the criteria and code. AE Rep, Michael Pittman indicated that they were going thru their ordinance and hoping for some presentation on the 26th. The goal is to establish the point of service, criteria on the utility side of that point of service and code and served on the low side of that point of service. Board members made comments that they were not aware of these types of meetings and therefore did not have input into these discussions. The goal is to establish where that utility start and stop point is located and regulations on the utility side of that vs regulations on premise wiring side of that. There is no jurisdiction over metering equipment, it is solely with utility. House Bill 2439 could effect it.
 - c. Work Group Update:** David Johnson updates the board that the work group got together on June 26 and reviewed the history that took place on the 2014 ordinance to the adoption of 2017 code. Including the state legislature laws on not charging license fee and City of Austin removing the contractor registration. Work group also confirmed all minutes on the website were accurate in regards of the board requests for registration to be put back on the ordinance and that DSD Commercial

Electrical supervisor will be the lead person in working with the service center and the law department for putting the registration back into the ordinance as it has been requested for some time now.

Eric Zimmerman with Residential Electrical inspections relays a message on Marty's behalf that on June 26 he met with the work group to go over the final language of contractor registration rule. Then preceded to the Development Service Department for approval where now the department will not precede the contractor registration but will focus on House Bill 2439 as its first priority as it impacts local codes. Department wants to wait to next ordinance cycle for this to put into code instead of trying to introduce a new rule. Currently Marty is unable to proceed with rule process pending departmental approval.

Staff recommends a possible work group in October for 2020 Codes.

DSD informs the board that HB 2439, was signed by the governor and becomes effective September 1, 2019. It will put restrictions on products, materials and methods in construction of residential or commercial structures. Therefore municipalities cannot prohibit, limit directly or indirectly the use of installation of a building product or material in construction, renovation, maintenance or alteration of a residential/commercial property, if has been approved by a national model code.

David Johnson tells the board based upon the message of HB 2439, "we cannot write anything greater than what is required, or less" meaning electricians would need to follow National Standard Electrical Code and NESC.

- d. Determination of the Sovereign Board and what it means** – DSD staff updates the board that the Electrical Board is a sovereign board and its decisions should be delivered untouched. Citizen Johnson recalls to the board that staff with the city clerk office informed Johnson that if the situation is a safety issue, board would not have to go to council.

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- a.** Update on House Bill 2439
- b.** Executive Liaison Update
- c.** Update on Austin Criteria Manual
- d.** Report from Work Group
- e.** Update on Permit Fees-Fee Schedule
- f.** Revamping on Trade only permits-on what qualifies as quick turnaround-Mitchell T
- g.** DSD Propose ESPA- Mitchell T

6. ADJOURN:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Board member Pomikahl and second by Goss for a 7-0 vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.