



**Electric Board
APPROVED MINUTES**

**REGULAR CALLED MEETING
NOV 17, 2020**

The Electric Board convened in a Regular Called Board Meeting on August 19, 2020 via Video Conference at 10:07 am.

Board Members in Attendance: Gabe Flores, Randy Pomikahl, Mark Weaver, Ben Brenneman, Rogelio Wallace, Derek LaRue and David Johnson

Members Not in Attendance: Delwin Goss, Nicole Stasek, David Adamson and Michael King

Staff in Attendance: Rick Arzola (DSD), Eric Zimmerman (DSD), Mitchell Tolbert (DSD) and Todd Wilcox (DSD).

1. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** As there were no Citizen Communication being allowed for this type of video conference meeting.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from the August 19, 2020 regular called meeting was approved as written. Board member Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Board member Weaver second the motion, motion passed 6-0. Wallace was absent on the vote.
- 3 **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION-**
2021 Board Schedule- Board member Johnson made a motion to approve the 2021 Schedule. Board member Weaver, seconded the motion. Motion passes 7-0. Board member Wallace joined the meeting after the Approval of Minutes
- 4 **DISCUSSION**
 - a. **Update on Criteria Manual-** Residential Electrical Supervisor Eric Zimmerman updated the board that **Development Service Department (DSD)** met with Austin Energy at the end of October to discuss some policies that were not finished at the end of July. One of the focal points was the Electric Service Planning Application (ESPA) on how it was delaying permits and that how DSD would help out with these delays and designs. Workgroups will be created among the two to work out the issues. As far as the point of service, DSD staff felt confident that it will not happen at this time but did rule out that it come back up in the future.
 - b. **Inspection Update on 2020 Code-** Inspections and Plan Review staff went into discussion to form ideas on how they were going to interpret parts of the 2020 NEC and how to get those interpretations out to the public. One items that were discussed is 210.8 E-GFCI Protection. Receptacles for equipment requiring servicing. Which references 10.63-HVAC equipment, and the other is Article 230.71- which requires the 6-Handle rule in order to use handles as a means of disconnect for service. The second item is modular metering centers. That if someone was operating a modular meter center it would have to come with a main breaker disconnect or some other service disconnect.
 - c. **Tentative Interim Agreement-** Staff member Zimmerman updated that he has not heard anything from the code panel. But Legal Department did say, that if the TIA was adopted we would recognize as part of the publish code even if the state did not recognize it. Zimmerman did say that “until a signed document has been returned back from legal and signed by the Building Official, we will exempt that portion of the TIA approval”.

- d. **DSD Permit Program-** DSD Commercial Manager of Plan Review Mitchell Tolbert gave two updates to the board on the DSD permit program. First, DSD and Austin Fire Dept. (AFD) have agreed that after concerns with Light Emitting Diode (LED) retrofit lighting in commercial buildings, that a license Electrical contractor would provide sealed engineer drawings that would confirm that LED lighting worked as successfully and effective as the original lighting in place. Second, the Service Center (formally Permit Office) has a new manager, and plan review is working with her diligently and brining her to update and hopefully expediting the permit process quicker and effective.
- e. **COVID Update-** Staff member Zimmerman did mention that building inspections are performing occupied home inspections in occupied spaces. Precautionary measure are being taken place and if Residential homeowners are uncomfortable with home inspections, we are to assist and seek other means to perform that inspection which will include video inspection or find another time to do the proper inspection at a later date, even if the inspections office had to extend the life of the permit for another 180 days.

5 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Discussion: Criteria Manual Update
- b. Discussion: Inspections Update on 2020 Code
- c. Discussion: Update on Tentative Interim Agreement
- d. Discussion: DSD Permit Program
- e. Discussion: COVID Update
- f. Discussion Electrical Board Attendance

6. ADJOURN: Board member Pomikahl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0. Meeting was adjourned at 10:37 am.