



**Electric Board
APPROVED MINUTES**

**REGULAR CALLED MEETING
December 15, 2021**

The Electric Board convened in a Regular Called Board Meeting on December 15, 2021 at the Permitting Development Center at 10:19 am.

Board Members in Attendance: Christian Spies, Rogelio Wallace, David Johnson, Ben Brenneman, Michael King, Delwin Goss and Randy Pomikahl

Members Not in Attendance: Gabe Flores, Nicole Stasek and David Deshaine;

Staff in Attendance: Rick Arzola (DSD), Eric Zimmerman (DSD), Marty Starrett (DSD)

1. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:** There was no registration of citizens to speak at this Electrical Board.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from the September 15, 2021 regular called meeting was approved. Board member Pomikahl made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Board member Goss second the motion, and the motion passed 7-0.
3. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION-** 2022 Electrical Board Schedule- Electrical Board made a motion to approve the 2020 Board schedule. Vice Chair member Johnson made the motion to approve the schedule as written, board member Pomikahl second the motion. Motion pass 7-0.
4. **DISCUSSION**
 - a. **IBC Code Changes in reference to Electrical-** Comm. Electrical Supervisor Marty Starrett commented that he and Mitchell Tolbert attended the ICC hearings on 2024 IBC Code cycle that were voted on in October but have not received the new edition. As far as the 2021 IBC, a reference was added on egress in reference to the NEC on exit requirements in electrical rooms and including hardware requirements.
Vice Chairman Johnson ask a question if the Energy Code falls under the IEC. Staff replies that the energy code is the IECC and that the IBC may or may not have a portion of the energy code but not as compared to the IRC. So as the Electrical Board looks into the 2023 NEC ordinance, Vice Chair Johnson ask staff if the electrical board should be making notations referring to those different codes that could affect electrical, staff replied that in the 2020 code, guideline and standards were set and if there are other additional standards in relation to electrical it would be a good thought to consider. Currently there are parts of the Energy code that is being argued by DSD along with House Bill 2439.
 - b. **Austin Energy Criteria Manual-** Marty Starrett provided very little update from the quarterly meeting with Austin Energy and that there were no significant changes from those meetings that took place in September but discussion took place on the single point of service with multiple services at properties.
Limited discussion on metering but individuals with Austin Energy were absent, so those discussions took a back seat and there minor discussion on Energy.
 - c. **Meter Disconnect location within Site- Language meaning-** Staff Marty Starrett updated the board that the City ordinance allows the main disconnect to be inside buildings with exterior door of 20ft travel but AE in their criteria list that their

meter and disconnect should be located in a common location. Enforcement has begun with AE with properties that do not have meter and the disconnect in common locations as there is some projects around town that have the meter at the transformer and the main disconnect in the main building. There is quite a confusion of AE interpretation and the Electrical Board is requesting a member from Austin Energy to be present at the next scheduled regular meeting to provide interpretation

- d. **Inspection Update on 2020 Code-** As far as inspections, Commercial Electrical Supervisor Marty Starrett expressed no significant issues under the 2020 code nor any electrical hang ups as far excessive delays in inspections. Residential Division Manager Eric Zimmerman also had no hang ups on the 2020 Electrical Code but is experiencing some delays as 5 vacancies within the residential side has provided some carryovers of inspections that is roughly 2 days behind. He did provide that some training time for his inspectors and the Thanksgiving holidays has created a larger backlog but have slowly caught up some time to be roughly 2 days behind.
- e. **DSD Permit Program-** Few board members expressed their discontent on how the service center is operating and request a Manager or Supervisor of the Service Center to speak with board on how the permit process works and how to obtain a permit and or to provide instructions on how to obtain a permit using the city portal system.
- f. **Solar Systems for Apartments.** No discussion took place on this issue as staff from Development Services was absent to provide a discussion.
- g. **Qualification of Combination Inspector.** Division Manager of Residential Building Inspections Eric Zimmerman provided the board with what are the requirements of a combination Inspector, must have a Texas State Board Of Plumber Examiner license for plumbing inspector and must attain this license by attending classes of Water Supply protection and Backflow prevention training and will be required to pass a written and practical exam to attain these licenses. Must pass an ICC exam on P1 for residential plumbing and must have 200 hours on the job supervision by a licensed plumbing inspector. Also required to hold an ICC Residential Building inspector B1 Certification, this exam 60 questions, 2 hours and covers the first 10 chapters of the IRC as well as an ICC Residential Electrical inspector E1 certification. This exam mirrors the B1 and covers the residential portions of the National Electric Code. It is designed for services 400 amps or less and is focused on only just the residential portion.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. IBC Changes in relation to Electrical with IEC and IECC
- b. Austin Energy Criteria Manual
- c. Disconnect Locations
- d. Residential and Commercial Electrical Inspection update
- e. DSD Permit Process with the Service Center
- f. Update on Plan Review

6. ADJOURN: Vice Chair Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board member Wallace seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0. Meeting was adjourned at 11:21 am.