

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
BOARD OF ELECTRICAL APPEALS**

September 10, 2013 - 3:00 p.m.

**METROPOLITAN AREA BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT
SEDGWICK COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING
1144 SOUTH SENECA
BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM**

Members: Cole Hawkins, Mike Kilian, Richard “Butch” Kretchmar, John Murrell, Tony Naylor, Ernie Nelson, Brad Ragland

Present: Hawkins, Kretchmar, Naylor (via conference call), Ragland

Staff Present: Tom Kerschen, Chris Nordick, Bud Lett, Elaine Hammons (MABCD); Justin Waggoner (Sedgwick County Law Dept)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ragland at 3:04 p.m.

Board Member Hawkins made a motion to approve the August 13, 2013, minutes. Board Member Naylor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

There was no one present to speak on the Public Agenda.

The recent examination results from Prometric and ICC for electrical examinations administered by their office for Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department approved applicants were presented to the Board. The results were as follows:

APPLICANT NAME	APPLICANT NUMBER	EXAMINATION CLASSIFICATION	EXAMINATION RESULT
Sidney Brown	9264	Master Elec	Failed
John Cushenbery	7168	Master Elec	Failed
Jeremy Grantham	2833	Master Elec	Failed
Steve Kingsley	5985	Master Elec	Failed
Jacob Sharp	1447	Master Elec	Passed
Austin Snook	6043	Master Elec	Failed
Randy Wertenberger	1468	Master Elec	Failed
Joshua Baldrige	2303	Journeyman Elec	Failed
Jason Gehrer	7368	Journeyman Elec	Failed
Andrew Picek	5813	Journeyman Elec	Passed
Raymond Pitcher	3554	Journeyman Elec	Failed

Four (4) Master and two (2) Journeyman Electrician applications were reviewed for approval to be administered the appropriate examination for certification. The results were as follows:

NAME	NUMBER	CLASSIFICATION	ACTION
Royce Ramsey	3499	Master Elec	<u>Approved</u>
Aaron Raymon	8228	Master Elec	<u>Approved</u>
Leslie Waller	4739	Master Elec	<u>Approved</u>
Sidney Brown	9264	Master Elec	<u>Approved</u>
Corey Donohue	3334	Journeyman Elec	<u>Approved</u>
Charles Prior Jr	2344	Journeyman Elec	<u>Approved</u>

There were two (2) new Electrical Contractor Licenses issued:

COMPANY NAME	QUALIFIED PERSON
TTI Electric Service (McPherson)	Thomas Thall
SJ Electric (Louisburg)	Chris Richardson

Unfinished Business

In regard to the questions raised by John Belford, Belford Electric, Inc., on the Public Agenda portion of the August 13, 2013, meeting, Mr. Kerschen researched the electrical code and also contacted other NEC authorities. The consensus was that since the code specified between major and minor repair garages and in doing so changed the area classifications, the wiring in the garage in question would be considered in an unclassified location so that the electrical under the floor would be unclassified as long as there is no pit in garage. The garage, which is under construction for which Mr. Belford made the inquiry, did not require a variance due to its unclassified status.

The Board resumed the discussion of Sec. 4.2.230 of the Unified Code, which covers the installation of PTAC units. If installed within the City of Wichita, the PTAC unit has to be hard-wired if it is the primary heat source in a dwelling unit. This requirement came about partially due to a fire in 2006 at a local hotel where it was determined that the fire started because cords were replaced on the PTAC units by personnel who were not professional electricians. In 2011 there was another fire in a local hotel and it was determined the fire started where the PTAC units cord plugged into the wall. The manufacturers of PTAC units make hardwire kits for replacing the cords and directly wiring to the building wiring.

In 2011 a request for variance was presented for a hotel where the factory hardwire kits couldn't reach all the way to the power source. They requested to be allowed to have an electrical contractor use field wiring approved by the NEC to hard wire the units. The sitting Board at that time granted a variance, with specific conditions, as requested by the licensed electrical contractor making the modifications on the PTAC units.

It was also discovered that there were property owners who wanted to use PTAC units to heat their rental properties. The mechanical code states that portable units cannot be used as the primary heat. The Mechanical Board ruled these units are considered portable because they are cord and plug connected.

Mr. Kerschen provided documentation on the recalls of PTAC units and the documentation on a lawsuit over faulty PTAC unit cords.

Board Member Naylor made a motion that where a heating unit is installed for the unit or space intended for human occupancy per the requirements set forth in Article 5, the heating unit shall be directly wired into the building wiring with a disconnecting means installed in a readily accessible location within sight from the heating unit and this requirement should be throughout all MABCD jurisdiction. Board Member Kretchmar seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Waggoner briefly gave an overview of the requirements for the License Suspension Hearing Procedures. He explained that the Board must give due process to licensees if there is a hearing on a contractor's license. All appeals of Board decisions go to the District Court who will review the Board's process and make a determination on whether the proper procedures were observed. Two other trade boards have adopted the procedures as outlined on the handout distributed by Mr. Waggoner.

Board Member Hawkins made a motion to accept the procedures as submitted by Mr. Waggoner. Board

Member Naylor seconded the motion. The motion passed.

As a matter of consistency, Mr. Waggoner explained, the Director of MABCD asks that the boards have the same policy with respect to the acceptance of an inactive license status or waiver of requirements for licensure. All boards will meet jointly in January 2014 to resolve some of the differing policy issues.

New Business

The 2012 Fire Code was passed by the Board of County Commissioners in the week prior to the Board meeting. The new code will be in effect for Sedgwick County by the end of the week. The new code will require that a CO2 detector be in a residential occupancy.

The renewal forms for trade licenses and certificates will be mailed out within the next two weeks.

The 2014 NEC will come out in October.

With no other business to conduct, Board Member Kretchmar made a motion to adjourn. Board Member Hawkins seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.