

METROPOLITAN AREA BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT (MABCD)

BOARD OF APPEALS OF REFRIGERATION, AIR CONDITIONING, WARM AIR HEATING and BOILERS

Minutes

July 3rd, 2025

Present: Jesse Kealy, Teresa Jordan, William J. Loewenstein, Scott E. Smith

Absent: Randy Freeman, Luke Parthemer, Dave Lyons

Staff: Stoney Nethercot, w/MABCD

Guest: Randy Holm, Casey Sage, Michael Grizzard

Vice Chairman Jesse Kealy called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Board Member Scott Smith made a motion to approve the May 1st, 2025 minutes. Board Member William Loewenstein seconded the motion. Motion carried (4 – 0).

Public Agenda:

Casey Sage and Michael Grizzard with Five Star Mechanical requested a variance to allow a mini spilt in a plenum return. Discussions led to the exiting plenum and that there were no clear pictures of the existing fire damper nor the rest of the plenum space. Board member Teresa Jordan made a motion to deny the request at this time. Motion carried (4 – 0).

Old Business:

UBTC - Article V:

Board agreed to bring this item back to the next meeting because of the time. – No Action

A2L Pipe Identification:

Mr. Nethercot handed out copies of a Moratorium for section 1109.2.7 of the 2024 IMC, as it refers to refrigerant pipe identification. Board then discussed the fact that manufactures do not appear to have anything on the market yet to mark/identify refrigerant lines per code. Board member William Loewenstein made a motion to approve the moratorium and visit it again during the 2027 IMC review. Board member Scott Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried (4 – 0).

New Business:

ICC International Code Council Trade Exams:

Mr. Nethercot gave the board a brief overview of his trip to Birmingham Alabama to serve on a committee for updating their journeyman/master exams from the 2018 to the 2021 editions. He stated that the committee reviewed 1,778 questions in order to delete outdated questions and focus more on current practices related to the newer codes. He also said that this ended up being mostly a review of current questions and was asked to come back later this year to start work on new questions for future exams. – No Action

(DOE) - Department of Energy:

Mr. Nethercot handed out flyers to the board that said the DOE recently released a new document for residential, non-weatherized gas furnaces that goes into effect at the end of 2028. The document would require newly manufactured, indoor residential gas furnaces to have a minimum annual fuel efficiency (AFUE) of 95%. Discussion led to this being proposed in the past and never going into effect. No Action

MABCD Updates:

Brief discussion on how Andover inspections were going at this time. – No Action

Board Member William Loewenstein motioned to adjourn the meeting, Board Member Dave Lyons seconded the motion - Motion carried (6-0).

Respectfully Submitted,
Stoney Nethercot
Secretary, Board of Mechanical Appeals.