



## **Meeting Minutes**

**October 3, 2024**

The Kent County Board of Electrical Examiners met on Thursday, October 3, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in the County Commissioners' Hearing Room, 400 High Street, Chestertown, Maryland. The following members were in attendance: Victor Shepard, Acting Chair, and William Baldwin, Member. Also, present were Bill Mackey, Director; Bryan Foreman, Chief Code Enforcement Officer; Mike O'Neil, Code Enforcement Officer, Craig Busick, MDIA inspector, and Beth Grieb, Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. The August 1, 2024, minutes were reviewed by the board members. Victor Shepard made a motion to approve the minutes, and Bill Baldwin seconded the motion. The August 1, 2024, minutes were approved.

### Discussion of Proposed Construction Trades Board

The County Commissioners of Kent are in favor of a Construction Trades Board. The Board of Electrical Examiners reviewed and discussed the proposed draft Code Home Rule Bill creating the Construction Trades Board. Kent County modeled the proposed Construction Trades Board from Talbot County's Construction Trades Board.

Page 13 of the proposed bill contains the version that is being proposed for Kent County. This version contains the changes requested by the Board of Electrical Examiners at the last meeting. The proposed Construction Trades Board would also serve as the Board of Appeals for the building code. Page 7 contains a specific chart from the building code and copied from Queen Anne's County regarding local building code requirements such as snow loads. The State of Maryland requested that this chart be adopted by Kent County. Page 6 of the proposed bill includes the exemption of Solar APP+ from the electrical code when there is a conflict created by the State requirement to use the online web application. Discussion of how the Solar App+ works for permitting of residential roof top solar panels ensued. Regarding State reciprocity of electrical licenses, only the State can grant state reciprocity.

Page 12 of the proposed bill contains Exceptions (192-44) of the bill which should be removed per the recommendation of the MDIA building inspector, Craig Busick. These exceptions are already in the electrical code book, and the electrical code book exceptions are more specific. It is suggested to include a surveyor on the Construction Trades Board. The County Commissioners would appoint the members of the Construction Trades Board. The Board of Electrical Examiners may choose to provide suggestions of appointees to the County Commissioners due to the expertise and knowledge needed to be a member of the proposed Construction Trades Board. Members of the proposed Kent County Construction Trades Board can be re-appointed. Quarterly meetings with the Construction Trades Board are expected.

Victor Shepard and Bill Baldwin recommend the proposal of the draft of the bill. The County Attorney also received the bill for review.

This bill will most likely be introduced to the County Commissioners on December 3, 2024, depending on the meeting schedule. The public hearing for the bill will probably occur in January 2025 with adoption of the bill

at the end of January 2025. The legislative cycle requires three readings. The Electrical Board will receive the final version for review since there isn't an Electrical Board meeting until January 2025.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With there being no further business, Victor Shepard motioned to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

/s/ Victor Shepard  
Victor Shepard, Acting Chair

/s/ Beth Grieb  
Beth Grieb, Clerk

/bkg