



## Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2024

The Kent County Board of Electrical Examiners met on Thursday, August 1, 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 May 2, 2024, minutes were reviewed by the board members. Bill Mackey asked if there has been an update to the MUELEC meeting. Nothing new was reported. Queen Anne's County adopted the 2023 NEC on August 1, 2024. Victor Shepard made a motion to approve the May 2, 2024, minutes, and Bill Baldwin seconded the motion. The May 2, 2024, minutes were approved.

### Discuss Roof Top Solar Permits (residential only)

The Maryland General Assembly passed a bill to streamline residential rooftop solar panel permit processing. With all necessary information submitted and verified, the permit is issued upon application. Craig B., MDIA inspector, asked "how will the construction plans be reviewed?" With the state permit software, Artificial Intelligence (AI) will review the plans. MDIA will perform the inspections. Our plan is to create parallel processing. Discussion of how to collect the electrical/building inspection fee, type of inspections needed, and applicable codes ensued. The implementation of this process is August 2025. More guidance is forthcoming.

On another note, community solar is another avenue for energy. However, community solar depends on the transfer lines of the power companies and the construction of substations.

Lastly, the County Commissioners of Kent are in favor of an all-trades board. The creation of this board is in process.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

With there being no further business, Bill B. motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Victor S. seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

/s/ Victor Shepard

Victor Shepard, Acting Chair

/s/ Beth Grieb

Beth Grieb, Clerk

/bkg