



Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2024

The Kent County Board of Electrical Examiners met on Thursday, March 7, 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; Craig Busick, MDIA inspector, and Beth Grieb, Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. The January 4, 2024, minutes were reviewed by the board members. These minutes state that the electrical board will meet on the second Thursday of the month, March 14th. However, we are meeting on the first Thursday of the month, March 7th. The board members do not have a preference for the date of the meetings. Beth Grieb, clerk, suggested that the meetings continue to be held the first Thursday of the month until the creation of the new "all trades" board. The January 4, 2024, minutes were adopted.

"All Trades" Board Creation

Bill Mackey distributed a draft of changes to Chapter 3 which is building construction and Chapter 192 part 2 which is the electrical board. In total, five (5) chapters of the public laws will be amended. Caroline County's all construction trades board bill was provided as a model. After reviewing Caroline County's construction trades board bill, Kent County's "all trades" board would need the following changes, revisions:

*Section 88-20 B. (2) HVAC journeyman should be master.

*Seven (7) board members consisting of two (2) master electricians, one (1) or two (2) master plumber(s), one (1) HVAC, or multi-discipline member, one (1) or two (2) general licensed home improvement contractor(s), one (1) architect, surveyor, or design professional, and possibly the MDIA inspector.

The board should have a minimum of 7 or maximum of 9 members.

The county commissioners appoint the board members.

*A committee and term limits will not be needed.

Duties of the board

*Advise planning staff of code changes

*Provide a voice for all trades; not only electricians

General Discussion

Is a letter of good standing needed from the county when states reciprocate master electrician licenses? Bill will contact the Maryland Dept. of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR) for their requirement.

An in-plant electrical license is not permitted anymore. Bryan Foreman will contact Angelica Nurseries, Dixon, Chesapeake Farms (formerly known as Remington Farms), and Georgetown Yacht Basin to let them know that electrical work must be performed by a master electrician who is registered with Kent County. The master electrician must apply for an electrical inspection through Middle Department Inspection Agency. (MDIA)

Kent County homeowner plumber licenses are not permitted.

Building permits should not be issued with the electrician, plumber or HVAC listed as “TBD.” The electrician must be registered with Kent County as a master electrician, and the plumber must be licensed with Kent County as a master plumber.

Every three years, the county is evaluated in our building processes and record-keeping. Insurance rates for county citizens are based on the county’s performance during this evaluation.

House Bill 830 (Electric Vehicle Charging) was discussed. Many questions ensued.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 2nd at 8:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

/s/ Victor Shephard
Victor Shepard, Acting Chair

/s/ Beth Grieb
Beth Grieb, Clerk

/bkg