

Minutes
ELECTRICAL CODE BOARD OF APPEALS
Building Services Division
2 PM, March 19, 2014
Greene Square Conference Room, City Services Center
500 15th Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA

Board Members Present: Erik Munson, Chair; TJ Meiners; Shane Novak; Jim Spicer

Board Member Absent: Scott Saylor; Vic Brown; mark Robinson

Also Present: Ray Nees, Dave Rickels, Mike Lough, Rich Good, Trevor Tharp, Jennifer Canaday

Prior to the meeting being opened, recording secretary Jennifer Canaday confirmed that the two positions open on the Board for the coming year require to be filled by a member of the Fire Department and a practicing electrical engineer. Current board members are encouraged to reapply. Application information will be posted on the Electrical Board webpage on or near April 1, 2014.

On March 19, 2014 at 2:00 PM, Board Chairman Erik Munson convened the Board meeting.

1. Chairman Munson reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. TJ Meiners motioned to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as written. Jim Spicer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. A discussion was held regarding the definition of "routine maintenance," 34.03, and exemption of said maintenance. The Board agreed at this time to not take official action, but to finalize the wording of this section of the code at the time that the 2014 Code Adoption takes place. For the time being, the City Electrical Inspectors will operate under the new definition as an office policy, with the understanding that they are authorized by the Board to exercise their best judgment in applying the intent of this part of the code. TJ Meiners made a motion to approve the language of the definition as drafted by Erik Munson with one revision as follows:

m) Routine Maintenance means the repair or replacement, by a licensed, insured electrical contractor of faulty existing electrical apparatus or equipment including but not limited to wires, cables, switches, receptacles, outlets, fuses, circuit breakers and fixtures, of the same size and type for which no changes in wiring are made, but does not include any new electrical installation or the expansion or extension of any circuit. Replacement of circuit breakers limited to 120/208 – less than 250 volts single phase not exceeding 30 amps.

Jim Spicer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. A page titled "Top 12 Noteworthy Changes for the 2014 National Electrical Code (NEC) was briefly reviewed. No action taken. TJ Meiners noted for the record that a state meeting will be held Tuesday, March 25, 2014, at 9 AM in Room 125 of the Dept. of Public Safety Building, to discuss changes the State Electrical Board is considering for this year's code adoption. The Public is encouraged to attend. The "Top 12" page is attached.

4. A list of items presented by the Cedar Rapids Electrical Inspectors was discussed informally by the Board. No action was taken at this time. This list is attached. Topics considered included the following:

a. Requiring hard wiring of smoke detectors on services changes.

- b. Requiring a job invoice for permit fees
- c. Double permit fees for work performed without a permit
- d. Changing the reinspect fee from \$25 to \$50
- e. Requiring some type of permanent addressing label or placard to areas to be inspected for service to signs, cable, traffic lights, where addressing is often unclear
- f. Including detached garages of new SFD construction on the original building permit, rather than having a separate permit
- g. Requiring full roof and at least plastic on windows/doors for weather protection prior to rough in electrical inspections
- h. Allowing homeowners to decide whether or not they want outlets in an Ezy Breeze porch
- i. Remove homeowner test and not allow homeowners to do their own work.

Jim Spicer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, TJ Meiners seconded the motion, meeting adjourned at 3:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Canaday
Recording Secretary