



North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Electrical Advisory Board

Tuesday December 13, 2016

9:30A.M. to 12:00P.M.

Metroplex Conference Room, CPII

616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas 76011

Chair: Gary Jones International Association of Electrical Inspectors, Texas Chapter
Vice Chair: Rick Ripley City of Arlington

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Gary Jones, International Association of Electrical Inspectors (Texas Chapter) and Chair, introduced the new Vice Chair, Rick Ripley, City of Arlington. The chair then asked members and guests to introduce themselves.

2. Summary for January 19, 2016 EAB meeting

Actions from the Regional Codes Coordinating Committee (RCCC) regarding ONCOR'S Electrical Service Guidelines concerning 3 phase metering and equipment.

Board appointment from the RCCC meeting on January 25, 2016.

James Hathorn for Robert Chatham, City of Irving
Robert Chatham for J. Paul Coker, City of Mansfield
Jeff McCabe for Larry Heckler, City of Dallas
Chris Valtierra for Ronnie Roberts, City of Fort Worth
Rodney Patterson for Kurt Hansen, City of Denton
Ismael "Izzy" Rivera, City of Benbrook
Rex Stewart representing ONCOR

The chair briefly discussed the summary notes from the last meeting on January 19, 2016 and informed the group that if any individuals were interested in becoming voting members of the Electrical Advisory Board (EAB), they could submit a nomination form to Cassidy Campbell, North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) at ccampbell@nctcog.org, for consideration.

3. 2017 National Electrical Code. Discussion and chapter assignments for reviewing the 2017 National Electrical Code. Three committees, each providing recommendation to the EAB.

The chair provided the group with an overview of the process the EAB has utilized to review the National Electrical Code (NEC) in the past for developing regional recommended amendments (i.e. assigning chapters to several different working groups and then reporting findings and suggestions to the EAB). The chair added that this process was efficient and successful and suggested that the same process be followed again for reviewing the 2017 NEC. The chair then assigned the three working group leaders chapters to review and analyze. The group leaders and chapter assignments are as follows:

James Hathorn, City of Irving – Chapters 1 and 2
Matt Squire, City of Richardson – Chapters 3 and 4
Chris Valtierra, City of Fort Worth – Chapters 5 and 6

The chair made a motion to approve the selection of the individuals listed above as the chairs of the respective working groups. Bill McGovern, Electric Solutions Code Services, LLC, seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

After making the chapter assignments, the chair opened up the discussion to allow the group to list any topics in addition to the chapter reviews that they would like to see addressed by the working groups. The additional topics that will be covered by the working groups are as follows:

James Hathorn – (1) implications of using reconditioned electrical equipment and ensuring the proper procedures are followed; (2) changes to the codes as they relate to grounding electrodes in certain proximity to swimming pools. Mr. Hathorn will be presenting his group's findings at the next EAB meeting, scheduled for January 24, 2017.

Matt Squire – (1) recessed luminaires, insulation and convertible insulated contact (IC) rated fixtures versus non-IC rated fixtures; (2) relaxation of use of tray cables so contractors can use certain alternatives when needed.

Chris Valtierra – (1) selective coordination; (2) confusion regarding standards for international signage and how to address this issue; (3) receptacle in footprint of bathtub (safety concerns regarding use of electrical appliances near bathtubs since the codes don't specify distance requirements).

The chair notified the group that they need to have the suggested amendments to the NEC prepared for the Regional Codes Coordinating Committee (RCCC) by March 2017 for review and approval so that entities would be able to adopt the regional recommended amendments in September 2017 if they so desire.

4. Position Paper on Tightening Torque.

2017 National Electrical Code section # 110.14 Electrical Connections (D) Installation.

The chair requested that the group work with James Hathorn to develop a position paper on the 2017 NEC Section #110.14 Electrical Connections (D) Installation.

5. Review of Current Amendments. North Central Texas Council of Governments Recommended Amendments to the National Electrical Code.

The chair provided a brief overview of the purpose of the NEC amendments and the group reviewed the current (i.e. 2014) NEC regional recommended amendments document together. The group discussed some of the past recommended amendments and how changes to the 2017 NEC might impact some of these recommended amendments.

INFORMATION ITEMS

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

6. Future Agenda Items.

At the next meeting, the nomination forms of individuals who wish to be voting members of the EAB will be reviewed and considered.

7. Roundtable Topics/Other Business. Electrical Advisory Board members and NCTCOG staff may share additional items of interest as time allows.

Chris Valtierra discussed the current issues regarding aluminum to copper connections in

residential single family homes.

Bill McGovern announced that in partnership with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the International Code Council (ICC), the International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAIE), will be offering free solar training in 2017 primarily focused on plans examiners and inspectors for residential buildings. More details are coming soon and will be sent out as he receives them.

- 8. Schedule for the Next Electrical Advisory Board Meeting.** The next Electrical Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2017.

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Asher Hallman by phone at (817) 695-9231 or by email at ahallman@nctcog.org 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.

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