

MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM

**MECHANICAL COMPETENCY BOARD
MINUTES
January 25, 2017**

A meeting of the Mechanical Competency Board was held January 25, 2017, 10:00 a.m., at the Okaloosa County Administrative Building, 1250 Eglin Parkway N., first floor Commissioner's Chambers, Shalimar, Florida. Board members in attendance were Michael Johnson, David Gaillard, James Walker, Jr. and Lee Bowen. Consumer representatives in attendance was Todd McGirr. Lee Jackson joined the meeting in progress. Roger Casey and Bill Byerley were not present.

Growth Management Staff in attendance were Renee Lucas, Licensing Specialist and Teresa Mullins, Administrative Assistant II. Assistant County Attorney Kerry Parsons was also present.

Due to a recording failure, the minutes reflect the notes taken during the meeting by the Recording Secretary.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairman Todd McGirr called the meeting to order.

A. Roll Call

Teresa Mullins conducted roll call.

II. ACKNOWLEDGE GUESTS

Vice-Chairman McGirr welcomed those attending the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF: November 16, 2016

Motion to approve the minutes made by David Galliard; second by Lee Bowen; approved unanimously.

IV. OPEN TO PUBLIC (For any item not Quasi-Judicial on this Agenda)

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Lucas reminded the Board that a question came up at the last meeting regarding EPA cards. Ms. Lucas stated that after the meeting she looked at the applicant application and added a question to the list of those already appearing which states:

*If applying for a Class "A", Class "B" or Master Mechanical license, do you currently hold an EPA card allowing you to handle refrigerant.
Yes__ No__.*

Ms. Lucas noted that the proposed change has been reviewed by legal staff and will be included on the application from this date forward. Ms. Lucas stated that Mr. Roger Casey has provided staff with a list of locations where an applicant can apply for an EPA card and read the list provided into the record. Ms. Lucas asked the Board to provide any others that they may have and this list will then be included in the Class “A”, Class “B” and Master Mechanical application packets.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Swearing in Applicants

Ms. Mullins swore in the applicants.

b. Candidates for Testing Approval:

1. James Ben McCullough – Class B Air Conditioning

Mr. Ben McCullough was present to answer questions from the Board.

Vice-Chairman McGirr asked Mr. McCullough to provide the Board with his background and experience.

Mr. McCullough stated that he is seeking a Class “B” Air Conditioning Contractor’s license, noting that his father started McCullough Plumbing Electrical and Heating, Inc. in 1971. Mr. McCullough further stated that he has worked in his father’s business since 1986, beginning primarily with Electrical work, and adding on Plumbing and Mechanical as time went by.

The Board had no questions for Mr. McCullough.

Mr. David Galliard suggested to Mr. McCullough that he might be a bit more specific and thorough as to his experience when filling out his State application.

A brief discussion ensued.

Motion to approve made by David Galliard; Second by Lee Bowen; approved unanimously.

c. Purged Contractor:

1. John S. Arzaga – CCI Mechanical LLC

Ms. Lucas informed the Board that Mr. John S. Arzaga took and passed the Class “A” Air Conditioning exam on August 19, 1995. Ms. Lucas noted that at the time that Mr. Arzaga took his examination Okaloosa County did not require the Business and Law exam. Ms. Lucas further noted that Okaloosa County did not add the requirement for the Business and Law exam until October of 1999. Ms. Lucas informed the Board that Mr. Arzaga was licensed with Okaloosa County from 1995 until June 30, 2012. Ms. Lucas stated that Mr. Arzaga’s Competency Card was purged on July 1, 2014 after 2 years of non-renewal. Ms. Lucas further stated that, per staff’s verification via the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation’s (DBPR’s) website, Mr. Arzaga’s State Registered Class “A” Air Conditioning Contractor’s license is current and active and will expire on August 31, 2017. Ms. Lucas stated that, per a statement from Mr. Arzaga, he has been working as a project manager in air conditioning construction with

CCI Alliance of Companies in Shalimar. Ms. Lucas continued with Mr. Arzaga's statement, stating that the company has been working on projects for the surrounding Military Installations, and since he has not been pulling permits on his own behalf outside of CCI, he inadvertently allowed his Okaloosa County Competency Card to lapse and ultimately be purged. Ms. Lucas reminded the Board of the provisions of the Okaloosa County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, Article VIII, Division 3, Section 6-318 Expiration, Renewal and Retired Certificates: (g) which states:

The Board may give special consideration in purged license cases concerning family illness, military deployment, and other circumstances as the Board deems appropriate.

Ms. Lucas stated that staff is requesting, should the Board decide to reinstate Mr. Arzaga's Competency Card, that all back fees and penalties, totaling \$900.00 be paid and that a payment deadline be included as part of the Board's motion. Ms. Lucas further stated that Mr. Arzaga is present to answer questions from the Board. Ms. Lucas noted that the \$900.00 requested by staff will update Mr. Arzaga until June 30, 2017.

Mr. James Walker asked staff if it would be to Mr. Arzaga's benefit for the Board to require him to take the Business and Law exam.

Mr. Lee Jackson arrived during the meeting in progress.

Ms. Lucas informed the Board that, should the Board reinstate Mr. Arzaga's Competency Card, he would be able to pull permits only in Okaloosa County, as all of the reciprocal Counties require the Business and Law exam. Ms. Lucas further stated that it is within this Board's scope to require Mr. Arzaga to take and pass the Business and Law exam should the Board deem it necessary.

Mr. John Arzaga addressed the Board, stating that he wants to be able to pull permits in Okaloosa County as CCI works on all of the local Military bases. Mr. Arzaga further stated that he sold his business to CCI in 2012 and continued working, in much the same capacity as he had before the sale. Mr. Arzaga stated that he overlooked the renewal of his Competency Card until recently.

Mr. Galliard asked Mr. Arzaga if he was current with the State, including all of his continuing education.

Mr. Arzaga stated that he is current and is actually a Continuing Education Instructor for the State. Mr. Arzaga further stated that he is a qualifier for CCI.

A brief discussion ensued.

Motion to give Mr. Arzaga until June 1, 2017 to take and pass the Business and Law exam and pay the required fees to the County made by David Galliard; second by James Walker; approved unanimously.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Lucas informed the Board that only those present can be nominated as Chairman or Vice-Chairman; however, staff is in receipt of written consent from Mr. Roger Casey to

allow his nomination for office in his absence, and, further, that if nominated he will accept the nomination.

a. Chairman/Vice-Chairman Election

1. Chairman:

Nomination of Roger Casey to continue as Chairman made by Lee Bowen; nomination seconded by David Galliard. Per his letter to staff, Mr. Casey accepted the nomination.

Nomination of Todd McGirr as Chairman made by James Walker; nomination seconded by Michael Johnson. Mr. McGirr accepted the nomination

There being no further nominations, Vice-Chairman McGirr stated that nominations were closed.

Motion to vote by written ballot made by Lee Bowen; second by James Walker; approved unanimously.

Assistant County Attorney Kerry Parsons read the votes cast into the official record and declared that Mr. Roger Casey has been elected Chairman.

2. Vice-Chairman

Nomination of Todd McGirr to continue to serve as Vice-Chairman made by James Walker; nomination seconded by Lee Bowen. Mr. McGirr accepted the nomination, and there being no further nominations, and nominations being duly closed, was elected unanimously.

b. Term Renewals

1. Roger Casey

Ms. Lucas informed the Board that Mr. Casey agreed to serve another 3 year term on the Board in an email sent to staff.

2. David Galliard

Mr. Galliard agreed to serve another 3 year term on the Board.

3. Lee Jackson

Mr. Jackson agreed to serve another 3 year term on the Board.

4. Todd McGirr

Mr. McGirr agreed to serve another 3 year term on the Board.

A brief discussion ensued.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Lee Bowen; seconded by Michael Johnson; approved unanimously.

Prepared by: *Teresa A. Mullins*
Teresa Mullins, Administrative Assistant II
1.30.17