

**Construction Licensing Board
Pinellas County
July 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

The Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board (PCCLB) met in regular session at 1:33 PM on this date in the Magnolia Room at the Pinellas County Extension Office, 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida.

Present

Alan Holderith, Jr., Chair, General Contractor
Mike Kelly, Vice-Chair, Pool Contractor
Dave Eldridge, Residential Contractor
Douglas Erwin, Electrical Contractor
Kevin Garriott, North County Building Official
Jason Holloway, Consumer Representative
James “Arry” Housh, Roofing Contractor
Marina Kron, Class A HVAC Contractor
William Palmer, Beach Community Building Official
Lawrence Schear, Consumer Representative
Evelyn Spencer, Pinellas County Building Official (late arrival)
Don Tyre, South County Building Official
John Wear, Plumbing Contractor

Not Present

James Millican, Fire Official
Michael Sofarelli, Architect

Others Present

Michelle Krickovic, Director, Contractor Licensing Department
Ashley Paulino, Senior Office Specialist – Governance, Contractor Licensing Department
Jacina Parson, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Sarah Rathke, Board Reporter
Other interested individuals

All documents provided to the Clerk’s Office have been made a part of the record.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Holderith called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

Chair Holderith led the Pledge of Allegiance; whereupon, Ms. Krickovic conducted a roll call of the members and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Ms. Spencer arrived at 1:36 PM.

INTRODUCTION OF CONTRACTOR LICENSING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT STAFF

Ms. Krickovic introduced staff members in attendance.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Chair Holderith welcomed new Board members, Dave Eldridge and Lawrence Schear; whereupon, both members provided information regarding their backgrounds.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Garriott, seconded by Mr. Holloway and carried unanimously, the minutes of the May 17, 2021 meeting were approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Holderith indicated that supporting documentation for the following Consent Agenda items is included in the agenda packet; and that there were no expired permit violations for this reporting cycle:

- Special Magistrate Hearing Minutes: May 3, May 24, and June 7, 2021
- Examination Committee Reports: April – June 2021
- Board of Adjustment and Appeals for the Florida Building Code Minutes: April 20, 2021
- Expired Permit Violations

Mr. Kelly moved, seconded by Mr. Tyre and carried unanimously, that the Consent Agenda items be approved.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Local Technical Amendments

FLOOD ORDINANCE CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

Ms. Krickovic indicated that the proposed ordinance was heard and passed unanimously by the Board of Adjustment and Appeals (BOAA) for the Florida Building Code at a public hearing today; that the ordinance and associated local technical amendments are being presented for the Board's review; and that Scott Crawford with the City of St. Petersburg is present to answer questions.

Responding to a comment by Chair Holderith, Ms. Krickovic confirmed that following approval of a local technical amendment at the BOAA level, the Board reviews it for potential adoption; and that upon Board adoption, the amendment is registered with the Florida Building Commission and would represent a content-specific local technical amendment to the Florida Building Code.

Mr. Tyre moved, seconded by Mr. Kelly and carried unanimously, that the City of St. Petersburg flood ordinance and local technical amendments be approved.

FLORIDA BUILDING CODE (FBC) SECTION 3109 COASTAL CONSTRUCTION CODE

Ms. Krickovic related that FBC Section 3109 was heard by the BOAA for the Florida Building Code at a public hearing today; and that it passed unanimously and is recommended for adoption. She explained that approval by the Board would allow its adoption into the seventh edition of the FBC, noting that it will replace a local technical amendment which sunsetted with expiration of the sixth edition. Referencing the document included in the agenda packet, she noted that changes to the section have been highlighted for the Board's review.

Mr. Tyre moved, seconded by Mr. Holloway and carried unanimously, that FBC Section 3109 be adopted as recommended by the BOAA.

Ms. Krickovic noted that a typographical error was made on the agenda and confirmed that the correct section number is 3109.

FLOOD ORDINANCE CITY OF OLDSMAR

Ms. Krickovic introduced the item and indicated that it pertains to a series of local technical amendments for the City of Oldsmar; and that they were adopted by the BOAA today.

City of Oldsmar Planning and Redevelopment Director Tatiana Childress provided background information related to the proposed amendments, noting that most of the amendments and ordinance before the Board today have been previously approved, but were not placed into the 2017 version of the FBC; and that placement requires them to be reintroduced. She indicated that one additional amendment is in response to Federal Emergency Management Agency map updates, which are scheduled for adoption on August 24, 2021.

Responding to a query by Mr. Tyre, Ms. Childress confirmed that the 15-year cumulative cost period related to the Substantial Improvement section of the local technical amendment has been in place since 2013.

Mr. Holloway moved, seconded by Mr. Tyre and carried unanimously, that the amendments and ordinance be approved.

Ms. Krickovic stated that the approved amendments will be filed with the Florida Building Commission immediately.

REGULAR AGENDA

Board Member Terms Expiring September 30, 2021

Ms. Krickovic referred to the agenda packet and provided the names and seats of the members whose terms are expiring and information regarding the process for those who would like to be reappointed, including the application deadline of August 17, 2021.

Responding to queries by the members, Mr. Krickovic indicated that there is a two-term limit for Board members; that an interim period must occur before reapplying after two terms; that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will conduct a vote on applications which will have been vetted for eligibility by the Contractor Licensing Department; and that while Building Officials must reapply when the term is due for renewal, a vote would not be required by the BCC unless there is more than one person applying for a Building Official seat.

Board of Adjustment and Appeals and Examination Committee Vacancies

At the request of Chair Holderith, Ms. Krickovic detailed the following board and examination vacancies:

- The Mechanical, Plumbing, and Gas BOAA has vacancies for a plumbing contractor and a natural gas contractor.

- The Electrical BOAA has vacancies for an electrical engineer and a building industry representative.
- The Plumbing Examination Committee has vacancies for two plumbing contractors.
- Recommendation for an irrigation contractor for the Ad Hoc Examination Committee would be helpful for the future.

Board of Adjustment and Appeals and Examination Committee Appointments

Ms. Krickovic announced the two appointments listed below:

- Scott Crawford – representing the Building Official on the Building Examination Committee
- Chuck Goldsmith – representing the Registered Architect on the BOAA for the Florida Building Code

Report – Insurance Violation Fee Waivers

Ms. Krickovic reported that under the authority granted to her by the Board, the fees assessed to the contractors listed below have been waived due to a clerical error and compassionate discretion, respectively:

- Jose A. Olivera – I-EC13006029
- David F. Ramsey – I-CGC10310

Report – Collections Write-Down

Referencing the report in the agenda packet, Ms. Krickovic noted that it is provided in order to demonstrate continued transparency and accountability; and that it reflects instances where the department will no longer pursue collection of outstanding fines due to statute of limitations or other reasons; whereupon, she indicated that an increase of these instances is due to the efforts of the Collection Specialist hired in January.

In response to a query by Mr. Kelly, Ms. Krickovic indicated that the most frequent administrative error encountered in the Collection Specialist's review involves a lack of timely information from contractors' insurance providers. She also noted that staff is working with a Special Magistrate team to ensure adherence to internal processes when cases are dismissed.

Director's Report

Ms. Krickovic provided information regarding the following topics:

- Passage of House Bill 735, effective July 1, 2023, its conflict with the Special Act and impact on the construction industry in Pinellas County
- Senate Bill 60, effective July 1, 2021, related to anonymous complaints
- Current organizational chart for the Contractor Licensing Department

Responding to comments and queries by the members regarding House Bill 735, Ms. Krickovic related that some local specialty licensing has been in effect in Pinellas County for more than 40 years; and that the department joined with the Florida Association of Counties to lobby against the passage of the bill; whereupon, Chair Holderith clarified that the County currently requires licensure for more trades than is required at the state level.

In response to queries by Chair Holderith and Mr. Holloway related to Senate Bill 60, Ms. Krickovic reported that approximately 25% of the complaints received are anonymous; and that she is not aware of the bill's intent or origin.

Investigations Update

No investigations update was provided.

Citizens to be Heard

Chair Holderith indicated that there are no citizens who wish to speak.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Garriott, seconded by Mr. Holloway and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM.