

The following Board members were present:

Clifford Barber
Bud Crisafulli
Ralph (RJ) Durham
Brain Fleis
David Foley
Albert Underwood

The following members of staff were present:

Justin Caron, Assistant County Attorney
Dawn Verostic Development Services Manager
Claudine Mickle, Development Services Assistant Manager
Katy Schindler, Development Services Supervisor
Cherronda Juitt, Development Services Supervisor
Misty Shirah, Development Services Certification Specialist

Call to Order:

Chair *Bud Crisafulli* called to order the October 19, 2022, Brevard County Contractors' Licensing Board meeting.

New Business:

Proposal to Meet the Requirements of HB735

Claudine Mickle introduced Billy Prasad to the Board, to review and discuss the legislative intent documents provided in the packet, as well as trades detailed on the enclosed spreadsheet to present to the Brevard County Board of County Commission.

Billy informed the Board that a response was drafted to pose minimal impact as possible focusing on the following four sections of the bill:

The licensing of occupations is expressly preempted to the State, and this section supersedes any local government licensing required. Billy expressed two exceptions, providing that existing regulations can continue until July 31, 2023. As well as any local government licensing of occupations authorized by law.

Grants the County authority to regulate trades that substantially correspond to job scopes of trades that the state regulates.

Requires the County to regulate aluminum and vinyl fencing only, of which would impact permitting requirements associated with other fencing materials to Business Tax Receipts.

Current analysis indicates we are preempted from continuing to license electrical contractors. We realize this is significant, and we also recognize some other counties have not done the same.

Billy acknowledged to the Board, the agenda item was written in such a way to keep the door open should staff identify a mechanism to continue to regulate the electrical trades. However, stated the analysis is, that it would be unlawful to do so.

The Board discussed the impacts presented in reference to how the county views HB 735. The Board requested to recommend to the County Commissioners to get clarification, to find a path for Brevard County to continue to register and license electrical, alarm contractors, as well as master electricians to be licensed by the County. In addition, to mirror the specialty contractor licenses that substantially correlate to the state regulated trades to maintain licensure of those trades as well.

Motion to approve the agreement with an additional request made by *Ralph Durham*. Second, *Brian Fleis*. Motion carried unanimously.

Applicants That Passed the GITS and Prov Exams

David Foley motioned to approve, second *Ralph Durham*. Motion carried unanimously.

Incoming Reciprocity Approval

David Foley motioned to approve, second *Brian Fleis*. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Speaking Session:

No public speakers.

Reports:

Claudine Mickle, Development Services Assistant Manager

Claudine informed the Board about an inquiry made by DBPR, seeking information the County has on General Contractor, Howard Benziger of Ben Kee Construction, Inc. She advised this was in response to a news report done by local media, where homeowners were inadvertently lienied for work completed on their properties. Claudine advised she made DBPR aware that Mr. Benziger's license record was under Probation Status with the County, and provided a copy of his Stipulated Agreement and Order.

The Board was reminded, Mr. Benziger failed to provide the monthly written status report that was requested of him at the previous meeting. The Board directed staff to remind him of the expectation and are expecting he provides a progress report when he appears at the November meeting.

The board discussed the terms of the Stipulated Agreement and Order, and ultimately requested to revert back to the regularly scheduled 3-month probationary appearance of Howard, and in addition, requested staff to officially notice Howard to appear at the next November 16, 2022 meeting.

David Foley motioned to approve, second Albert Underwood. Motion carried unanimously.

Justin Caron, Assistant County Attorney

No report.

Bud Crisafulli, Board Chair

No report.

Members of the Board

No report.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM