

**Minutes from the October 16, 2024
Brevard County Contractors' Licensing Board
Page 1**

The following Board members were present:

Cliff Barber
Bud Crisafulli
RJ Durham
David Foley
Patrick Ripton
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
Cherronda Washington, Development Services Supervisor
Tommy Latherow, Records Compliance Specialist
Marc Smith, Manager Contractor and Code Compliance Division
Denny Long, Supervisor Contractor and Code Compliance Division
Maggie Castellano, Contractor and Code Compliance Investigator
Ashton Styron, Contractor and Code Compliance Investigator

Call to Order:

Chair *Bud Crisafulli* called to order the October 16, 2024, Brevard County Contractors' Licensing Board meeting.

New Business:

Approval of Minutes:

RJ Durham motioned to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2024, Contractors' Licensing Board meeting, second *Albert Underwood*. Motion carried unanimously.

David Foley motioned to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2024, Contractors' Licensing Board meeting, second *RJ Durham*. Motion carried unanimously.

David Foley motioned to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2024, Contractors' Licensing Board meeting, second *Patrick Ripton*. Motion carried unanimously.

Personal Appearance:

Brandon Barfield requests the Board approve his exam application for HARV Limited Contractor

Brandon Barfield was present.

Claudine Mickle introduced the item and stated staff was unable to administratively approve the application due to lack of documented experience.

Mr. Barfield stated his HARV experience was from 2007 to 2014 and his submitted experience was a notarized document from his former manager at One Hour Air and Heat. He added he wanted to provide old W2 forms but was unable to secure records prior to 2017. In the time since Mr. Barfield had worked for Orlando Utilities Commission doing pipe work and general operations duties.

RJ Durham stated One Hour was a national firm, and asked Mr. Barfield about finding anyone who could vouch for the period of his work as testimony and provide pictures to serve as proof of experience. Mr. Barfield answered the franchise he worked for was bought out and the old owner had passed away so it was difficult to find someone to speak for him.

Albert Underwood asked if Mr. Barfield had taken any training seminars. Mr. Barfield responded he had taken a two-week relay training and some at ESCO for EPA his license. RJ Durham said these kinds of trainings along with the education can add up with work experience to help fulfil the requirements, but the Board would need more than what had been provided so far.

Claudine Mickle clarified the education is only considered to fulfil time requirements if it is related to the field being applied for. Mr. Barfield's degree is in Organizational Management and therefore not directly applicable to the experience requirement. Ms. Mickle further clarified David Cox was listed on the submitted Employer Experience Affidavit as the qualifier but was not licensed until 2012 and the form was not signed by Mr. Cox. Mr. Durham added he was familiar with how One Hour Air and Heat was structured with workers under licenses and that Mr. Cox was probably just the last person Mr. Barfield worked under, which Mr. Barfield affirmed. When

asked by the Board if Mr. Cox could speak to experience, Mr. Barfield was unsure but could try to reach out. Patrick Ripton additionally suggested trying the banks themselves for old paystub records.

RJ Durham motioned to table the application and allow Mr. Barfield to gather more documentation of his experience to provide at a later meeting, second *Albert Underwood*. Motion carried unanimously.

Ryan Morse requests the Board approve his exam application for Roofing Contractor

Ryan Morse was present.

Claudine Mickle introduced the item and stated staff was unable to administratively approve the application due to lack of documented experience.

Mr. Morse stated he was under the impression that a DUI misdemeanor charge he disclosed was a reason for scrutiny.

Mr. Morse spoke to his metal roofing experience for twenty years in Rochester, New York specializing in stone coated metal. He sold his business in 2018, moved to Florida, and has not been in the roofing business since then. Mr. Morse stated he and some partners are interested in developing a program to train new stone coated metal roof technicians. He clarified he is not really interested in other types of roofing that would be required for study under a roofing license.

Albert Underwood said the documented experience is the only issue with approving the application. Mr. Underwood said while a license would carry weight, there was the question of Mr. Morse even needing a license for what he proposed.

Speaking to the lack of documented experience, Claudine Mickle asked if New York required a license for roofing work, and Mr. Morse replied no.

David Foley asked Mr. Morse about experience with the various types of roofing. Mr. Foley added it was clear Mr. Morse was passionate about stone coated metal. Mr. Morse added he had already purchased commercial property to develop into a showroom and training facility for the program he and his partners wanted to start.

Patrick Ripton asked Mr. Morse about working in New York and the suppliers there as he was familiar with the area. Mr. Morse explained the areas and

noted he was the first stone coated metal roofer in the region and supplied directly from manufacturers, adding he still has contacts with those manufacturers.

RJ Durham said Mr. Morse needs to find people who can provide testimony to the work done for them. While what was submitted is good, it did not paint a complete picture of the criteria needed for a roofing license and was more in line with just being a manufacturer's representative. David Foley agreed to that sentiment.

Claudine Mickle stated Contractor Licensing does not regulate manufacturer's representatives.

The Board expressed it would not be required for Mr. Morse himself to have the license, but he would then need to work with other licensed contractors as part of the business. RJ Durham further cautioned against the temptation of having homeowners pull permits for contracted work.

Albert Underwood asked Mr. Morse to consider whether the licensing process was worth going through for his business. David Foley added that most of the sales representatives he personally deals with are not licensed.

RJ Durham motioned to table the application until Mr. Morse considers and provides more information, second *Albert Underwood*. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Jay R. Thakkar, Esq. regarding John Tutty, Roofing Contractor, J&J Roofing Solutions Inc, 19-RF-CT-00034

Jay Thakkar was present.

Mr. Thacker spoke to the served Notice of Hearing received by his client, John Tutty of J&J Roofing. Mr. Thacker provided details on the history of the previous charge referenced in the notice that was the concern. He stated he was present to propose a settlement of some kind of probation to the Board as the nature of the conviction was domestic and not related to business, and therefore the verbiage under Ordinance 22-534 Prohibited Activities would not apply.

Assistant County Attorney Justin Caron recounted staff presenting information from a report about the criminal charge at a previous Board meeting that led to the Board motioning to proceed with a Show Cause Hearing seeking license revocation. When Mr. Thacker contacted the county, he and Mr. Caron spoke and concluded to have Mr. Thacker speak to the

Board ahead of a Special Magistrate Hearing as what he would be presenting.

RJ Durham said he would be interested in having Mr. Tutty present as well. Mr. Thacker said Mr. Caron recommended he not bring Mr. Tutty at this point.

Claudine Mickle reminded the Board of the report that led to the decision to proceed with a Show Cause Hearing at a previous Board meeting. When asked if the report had anything to do with business, Ms. Mickle said not to staff's knowledge. RJ Durham added despite that, egregious acts can be put in front of the Board to remove licenses or recommend hearings and again stated he would like to have Mr. Tutty here to speak on the issue.

Mr. Caron stated because he would be prosecuting the case, the Board would need outside counsel. If Mr. Tutty had been present, he was concerned the Board meeting would essentially turn into a mini hearing with a conflict of interest.

Mr. Thacker provided some more detail on the case to the Board and expressed the nature of the charges being lowered at the State level spoke to the allegations and evidence not being substantial as to be egregious. He again referenced the verbiage of the violation cited under section 22-534. RJ Durham responded the Board has denied licensure before when deeming someone unsafe to the public.

The Board and Mr. Caron deliberated on what would happen if the issue was left to the Special Magistrate and agreed it would likely just end up in this situation back before the Board. The Board, Mr. Thacker, and Mr. Caron discussed their options moving forward.

RJ Durham motioned to table the issue and move the scheduled hearing to the next available hearing date to allow Mr. Thacker and Mr. Caron the opportunity to work out details of an agreement to present, second *Albert Underwood*. Motion carried unanimously.

Applicants That Passed the GITS and Prov Exams:

David Foley motioned to approve, second *Patrick Ripton*. Motion carried unanimously.

Reciprocity:

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

Citation Report:

RJ Durham asked staff if they were getting a good response from the citation notices. Maggie Castellano said typically yes, but no notice letters have been sent so far. The mention of the possibility seems to be working to encourage violators to pay their fines.

Public Speaking Session:

No public speakers.

Reports:**Dawn Verostic, Development Services Manager**

Claudine Mickle reported the Governor of Florida issued an Emergency Order allowing Division 1 contractors to perform reroofs and allowing electrical and alarm contractors to permit without a competency card for Brevard County. She added there had not been an influx of any of these contractors as Brevard did not suffer any high amounts of damage from the storms. The current order expires November 22, 2024.

Dawn Verostic informed the Board Misty Shirah, former Development Services Supervisor, had been promoted to a new role and would no longer be present at Board meetings.

Justin Caron, Assistant County Attorney

No report

Bud Crisafulli, Board Chair

No report

Members of the Board

No report

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM