



**Mechanical Plumbing and Solar Board  
Approved MINUTES**

**BOARD MEETING  
March 1, 2016**

The Mechanical Plumbing and Solar Board convened on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at the LRC Airport Facility, 2800 Spirit of Texas Drive, Austin, TX.

Robert Thornton, Chair, called the Meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

**Board Members in Attendance:** Joseph Bowie, Joseph Cooper, Stephen Cox, David Dixon, Jerry Garza, William Harris, Michael Lumbley, and Robert Thornton.

**Staff Members in Attendance:** Jose Roig, Julie Kirby, Trebor Brown, Adam Smith, Robert Stefani, and Steven Wheele.

1. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATION** – None
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes from the January 26, 2016 meeting was approved as written on a motion from Board Member Bowie second by Lumbley for an 8-0 vote.
3. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**
  - a. **Update on electronic plan review and electronic permitting via the City website.**
    - Staff provided an update on customer's ability to purchase permits online now. The City is currently transitioning to electronic plan review during April.
  - b. **Discussion on the adoption of the 2015 International Residential Code (IRC) for residential construction and plumbing based on Attorney General opinions.**
    - Board Chair Thornton provided an overview of the AG opinions. Mr. Roig explained that staff plans to adopt the IRC and use the plumbing section for residential, based on the State's use of the IRC for residential.
    - Board Member Cox made a motion to approve the adoption of the Uniform Plumbing Code with local amendments for "residential" plumbing, rather than adopting the Plumbing Code section from the 2015 International Residential Code (IRC), when the City adopts the 2015 IRC for residential construction, and submit a Board Recommendation to City Council, second by Cooper for an 8-0 vote.
  - c. **Board Recommendation for the adoption of either the 2015 Uniform (UMC, UPC) or 2015 International (IMC, IPC) as the Plumbing and Mechanical Codes.**
    - After discussion, Board Member Harris, Mechanical Engineer, supported the adoption of the 2015 UMC.
    - Board Member Garza made a motion to approve the adoption of the 2015 UMC and 2015 UPC for "commercial" plumbing and mechanical construction, rather than adopting the 2015 IMC and 2015 IPC Code's, and submit a Board Recommendation to City Council, second by Bowie for an 8-0 vote.
  - d. **Discussion over status of currently adopted 2006 Uniform Solar Energy Code.**
    - Board discussed that solar contractors are currently installing to the NEC. The Board would like a future agenda item on this, but would like to review the issue first.
4. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
  - Annual Board Report
  - Review draft code amendment for International Residential Code.
  - Review draft code amendment for the Plumbing and Mechanical Codes.
  - Discussion over status of currently adopted Solar Code.
5. **ADJOURN** - A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Thornton and the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.