

# CITY OF MARION

## MINUTES

Construction Codes Review Board

Tuesday, November 25, 2014

City Hall Conference Room 136

1. Call to order.  
The Construction Codes Review Board Meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman Dave Martin at 7:05 p.m.
2. Roll call.  
Members Present: Dave Martin, Maria Murphy, Richard Sundermeyer, John Bender, Jim McDonald, Larry Nessel, Jim Burm  
  
Members Absent: Jim Angerer, JR Blok, Kirk Skilling  
  
Staff Present: Building Dept: Ron Hoover, Gary Hansen, Jennifer Canaday  
  
Others Present: Don Hoskins, Devon Kelly
3. Approval of Minutes:  
Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. John Bender made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Jim Burm seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. Old Business:  
Ron Hoover informed the Board that Council approved adoption of the Fire, Mechanical and Plumbing ordinances at the November 20 Council Meeting. The Building Code is pending 3<sup>rd</sup> Ordinance reading at the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. This ordinance was amended with a clarification pertaining to townhouse separations, but Council approved this inclusion. There were no comments from the Public. All four codes will go into effect December 31, 2014. There was a brief discussion about the timing of adoption of the 2015 codes by other jurisdictions and the State. Hiawatha, Linn County, Cedar Rapids and the State all intend to have the 2015 Codes in place by July 2015.
5. New Business:  
An appeal was filed by David Weimer, DLR Group, appealing interpretation of NEC Section 400.8 prohibiting the use of flexible cords as proposed for use in the remodel of Linn Mar High School's Science room. There were no persons present at the hearing representing the appellant. Building Department Assistant Director Gary Hansen explained the proposed use by the design group and reviewed the Code section with the Board. His primary concern is that having a flexible cord in the area above the ceiling which is not visible creates a potential fire hazard if the cord frays. He listed several other options which he had given to the Design team. He also stated that Linn Mar Schools had attempted a previous implementation of this same use of flexible electrical cords coming through the ceiling, and the Marion Fire Department had denied the use at that time.

Board members expressed their concerns about this use creating a potential fire hazard, and additional concerns about the mechanism overheating above the ceiling were raised. Several alternative methods were proposed and discussed. Gary was asked whether the State Inspector would allow the school to use this interpretation of the NEC 400.8, and

Gary stated that he did not believe they would. Richard Sundermeyer made a motion to deny the appeal; Larry Nessel seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. City Attorney Don Hoskins introduced Devon Kelly. Devon has joined their law firm, Allen, Vernon & Hoskins, LLC. Devon will be assisting with City business in the future.
7. Larry Nessel moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Canaday  
Administrative Clerk, Building Department