

**MECHANICAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING FROM TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA**

WEB URL: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/132875677>

AUDIO DIAL IN NUMBER: 1-866-749-3129

MEETING ID / ACCESS CODE: 132-875-677

September 27, 2017

10:00 A.M.

Minutes

MECHANICAL TAC PRESENT:

Steve Bassett, Chairman
Oscar Calleja
Elizabeth Goll
Gary Griffin
Don Pittman

Larry Banks
Joseph Crum
Daniel Griffin
Alex Hernandez
Pete Quintela

MECHANICAL TAC NOT PRESENT

STAFF PRESENT:

Mo Madani
Justin Vogel
Jim Hammers
Marlita Peters

Thomas Campbell
Chris Howell
Norman Bellamy
Joe Bigelow

Welcome:

Time: 10:00 am

Ms. Peters welcomed everyone to the teleconference meeting of the Mechanical TAC.

Roll Call:

Ms. Peters performed roll call for the Mechanical TAC. A quorum was determined with **** members present.

Agenda Approval:

Mr. Pittman entered a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Mr. Crum seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9 to 0.

Approval of the Minutes from June 20, 2017

Mr. Quintela entered a motion to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2017 meeting as posted. Ms. Goll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9 to 0.

Mr. Gary Griffin joined the call at 10:05 a.m.

Consider and discuss the following Declaratory Statement: DS 2017-051 by Rhiannon Morris of Midway Services, Inc.

Ms. Morris, petitioner provided detail of her request.

Mr. Madani provided the background for DS 2017-051 combined with the following staff analysis offering two options to the TAC for consideration.

Staff Analysis:

Question: Are poly or brass water submeters installed in plenum-rated spaces required to comply with Chapter 602.2.1 which refers to testing and plenum requirements for building materials? In other words, must water submeters be plenum-rated?

Answer:

Option #1/Staff: Yes, as per Section 602.2.1 of the 5th Edition (2014) Florida Building Code, Mechanical, in order for the product in question to be installed in plenum-rated spaces, it must be noncombustible or it must be listed and labeled as having a flame spread index of not more than

Consider and discuss the following Declaratory Statement: DS 2017-051 by Rhiannon Morris of Midway Services, Inc. (cont.):

25 and a smoke-developed index of not more than 50 when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84 or UL 723.

Option #2/Petitioner: Petitioner respectfully believes the answer to the question outlined above is “No”. If the answer is “No,” then, by default, poly or brass water submeters installed in plenum-rated spaces are not required to comply with Chapter 602.2.1 or required to meet a maximum flame spread and smoke-developed index in accordance with ASTM E84 or UL 723 testing standards.

TAC questions and discussion:

Mr. Quintela asked if the petitioner if their questions had been posed to the local board.

Ms. Morris stated no, that she was advised that the best result in answering her question would be through a declaratory statement. She further stated she would be glad to pursue that direction if needed.

Mr. Quintela asked if this meter can be made of brass.

Ms. Morris stated yes low lead brass and does not contain any harmful material and there are no electronic components.

Mr. Quintela then asked why this cannot be installed in the closet.

Ms. Morris stated that the information being received back is that is it not plenum rated and it does not have anything on it that says that it is. She said they had cut open the meters to view but they still would not accept.

Mr. Madani said for clarification that noncombustible submeters is acceptable and the staff answer does cover this.

Ms. Morris stated that submeters are not tested according to ASTM.

Mr. Pittman stated this issue has gone up for discussion in Orlando on poly meters. He stated poly meters were not allowed as they did not meet plenum requirements. Mr. Pittman advised that South Florida is not the only area with these requirements.

Consider and discuss the following Declaratory Statement: DS 2017-051 by Rhiannon Morris of Midway Services, Inc. (cont.):

Ms. Morris stated that South Florida is the only jurisdiction where they have encountered this issue. She also stated they have done business in the Orlando area but had not encountered issues. Ms. Morris stated she would be interested in gaining more information on the accepted products in this area.

Mr. Crum stated he noted that there is wiring in the diagram.

Ms. Morris stated this is a wire from the meter to a sensor that sends signals to a data collection center in the club house.

Mr. Crum said the wire would have to be fire rated and the facing would have to be fire rated.

Mr. Gary Griffin spoke on the “no” answer stating if we were to approve that it is not required, we would be opening the door for contractors to install in the plenum. He said the local official would need to make the decision on combustible verses noncombustible.

Mr. Griffin said for clarification on why this product cannot be tested, because he feels this could be tested.

Ms. Morris explained that she had reached out to Exova on the ASTM-E84 and received a response stating they do not test this product and she was not sure on the UL 723.

Mr. Madani further explained there is no definition of the testing standards in the code on this.

Mr. Quintela stated that the plenum closet space must be fire rated and this covers wiring and he would recommend option #1.

Mr. Calleja can we answer poly verses brass questions separately?

Mr. Crum stated this cannot be done, cannot be discriminating on product material type.

Mr. Calleja asked if water heaters have to meet the same requirements.

Mr. Crum stated yes if they are in the same area. He stated this code section needs to be supplied to testers to allow testing to be offered. Mr. Crum said the other option is to place it in a metal enclosure.

Ms. Morris asked if there were other materials acceptable to enclose due to interruption of the signal.

Consider and discuss the following Declaratory Statement: DS 2017-051 by Rhiannon Morris of Midway Services, Inc. (cont.):

Mr. Madani stated there are options in the exceptions to Section 602.2.1 including gypsum board.

Ms. Morris stated that they would look into other options as the metal was heavy and expensive.

Public Comment: None

TAC Comment: None

Mr. Crum entered a motion to accept staff's recommendation which was option #1. Mr. Pittman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 10 to 0.

Final Roll Call:

Ms. Peters performed the final roll call all 10 members were remaining on the call.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.