



CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

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ELECTRICIANS EXAMINING BOARD

MINUTES March 3, 2025

The Regular Quarterly meeting of the City of Reading (COR) Electrical Examining Board was scheduled to be held in the 3rd Fl. Conference Rm, City Hall, on Monday, March 3, 2025, as mandated by COR Ordinance #56-2022 §180.1102.5 at 4:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Secretary Waldman at 4:30PM
PRESENT (5) Bryan Anderson, Ed Bernitsky, Tim Waldman, Todd Rathman, Tim Pelter
ABSENT (2) Geoff Litwin (Chairman), Jose Delfi
COR LIAISON - The COR does not currently have an Electrical Inspector on staff.
No City of Reading representative bothered to attend this meeting.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Bryan Anderson, second by Ed Bernitsky to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2024 meeting, and approve the notes taken at the December 9, 2024 meeting, where there wasn't a quorum.

APPLICANTS FOR TESTING/LICENSING: No City of Reading representative was in attendance; therefore, the Electrical Examining Board was not able to review any applications for electrical license testing, or any applications for reciprocal license issuance as per COR Ordinance #56-2022 §180.702.8

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The members that were present had a discussion regarding the fact that electrical trade licenses continue to be issued to applicants by the Building/Trades staff without any Electrical Examining Board review or approval.
The Board continues to be frustrated by the current administration's complete lack of regard for this board and its duties mandated by ordinance.

An excerpt from the COR ordinance is included at the end of this document.

Member Ed Bernitsky, who is the training director for IBEW Local 743, relayed his firsthand experience of how Building/Trades processes license applications VS the process that is required to be followed.
Note that all through the current process that the Building/Trades Division follows, the City of Reading Electrical Examining Board is NOT consulted at all.



THE WAY IT IS

- Candidates are instructed to schedule and take their respective examinations – WITHOUT BOARD APPROVAL
- Candidates present their application, their proof of their PASSING exam results, and appropriate fee to the Building/Trades office
- Building/Trades issues a license – WITHOUT BOARD APPROVAL

THE WAY IT SHOULD BE

- Candidates submit their license application with all proper education and work documentation, along with the proper fee to the Building/Trades office.
- A City of Reading Liaison brings each application to the next regularly scheduled Electrical Examining Board Meeting.
- The Electrical Examining Board reviews and approves each application and attaches a form signed by each Board member authorizing the candidate to take their exam.
- The candidate then schedules and takes the appropriate exam.
- Candidates bring their PASSING exam results to the Building/Trades office to be issued their license.

At no time in this process, does the City of Reading Electrical Examining Board have the opportunity to review whether a candidate has the proper education, and “on the job” hours to qualify to take the examination, let alone be issued a license.

THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE AND SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE!

Secretary Waldman reported that there has been no further progress from the Trades Working Group, but that he was informed that the new MD, and CD Director have renewed interest in moving forward with this group, and their concerns. He will await additional information.

NEW BUSINESS:

Secretary Waldman looked into the possibility of having Board members attend virtually if they could not attend in person.

The City Clerks’ office relayed that the room is capable of virtual attendance, but the attendees would need a City of Reading Issued laptop, which makes this option not viable.

ADJOURNMENT: The members that were present adjourned at 5:00PM

Next Meeting: Monday, June 16, 2025, at 4:30PM in the 3rd Fl. Conference Room of City Hall

Respectfully Submitted,



Timothy F. Waldman
Recording Secretary

Excerpt from City of Reading Electrical Ordinance

1101.1.1 Purpose. The Electrical Board shall:

1. Make recommendation concerning all reasonable rules and regulations pertaining to this code, including rules, procedures and regulation of examinations for all license applicants.
2. Shall review all applications for licenses and shall receive the results of all examinations administered from the City of Reading Electrical Inspector
3. It shall investigate and hear all written complaints against holders of such licenses and report to the Chief Building Official its findings and recommendations.
4. It shall investigate and hear all written appeals as per Section 1103 and report to the Chief Building Official its findings and recommendations.