

JULY 18, 2002

The regular meeting of the Santa Rosa County Fire Protection Board of Appeals was held July 18, 2002, at 5:30 p. m. in the Conference Room of the Santa Rosa County Building Inspection Department located at 6051 Old Bagdad Highway Room 202, Milton, FL 32583. Board members in attendance were Warren Morgan, Dusty Rhodes and Steve Rowell.

Building Inspection Department Staff in attendance were Tim Tolbert, Fire Official/Chief Plans Examiner; Tambre Weiland, Fire Safety Inspector; and Esna Cluck, Permit Analyst.
Mr. Tim Tolbert, Fire Official, called the meeting to order at 5:40 p. m.

Tolbert told the Board that the Chairman and Vice Chairman would not be present at the meeting and that a motion would need to be made and a second given to elect an Interim Chairman for this meeting. Rhodes made a motion that Morgan be Interim Chairman. Rowell gave a hasty second. Motion carried with 3 ayes.

Agenda approval:

Weiland asked the Board to amend the agenda with new business of variance requests prior to plan submittal. Rhodes made a motion to accept the agenda with the amendment. There was a second by Rowell. Motion carried with 3 ayes.

Approval of minutes:

Rowell made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 18, 2002, meeting with a second by Rhodes. Motion carried with 3 ayes.

Next meeting:

The next scheduled meeting is to be held on August 15, 2002, at 4:00 p.m.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

Fire Hydrant Variance Request:

Allentown Volunteer Fire Department

Tolbert gave a brief description of the building and the reason for the variance request. Tolbert stated that the Board had a copy of the application for appeal and also some fire flow calculations per NFPA 1142.

Damon Boutwell, Engineer, spoke as a representative of Allentown Volunteer Fire Department. Boutwell stated that there hydrant located approximately a quarter of a mile away from the proposed building. Boutwell also stated that the proposed building is to be constructed next to the existing Fire Department building and has been calculated as an exposure. Boutwell said the existing building is to be removed in the near future which would reduce the water load required. Boutwell told the Board that the use of the building is to store fire trucks and that in the future there are plans to include a meeting area inside the building. Boutwell referred to a letter from Mike Ward, Chief of Allentown Volunteer Fire Department, which documents the type of equipment the departments have and the amount of available water the fire departments can provide. Discussion ensued.

Steve Ward, Chairman of the Board for the Allentown Volunteer Fire Department, discussed some other hydrants that are closer to the proposed building. Discussion ensued.

Rowell made a motion to grant the variance request with a second by Rhodes. Motion carried with 3 ayes.

Sprinkler Requirement Variance Appeal:

Walgreen's (Tiger Point)

Tolbert gave a brief description of the building. Tolbert stated that this is a non-combustible, fully sprinklered building which has several combustible canopies that are separated from the interior of the building by twelve-inch masonry wall. Tolbert also stated that NFPA 13 gives no exception for that separation which in turn would require the canopies to be sprinklered. Tolbert explained that the variance is only for the canopies as the rest of the building is sprinklered and has a fire alarm. Discussion ensued.

Jay Larson, L. Pugh and Associates, stated that there is a wet pipe sprinkler system throughout the entire building other than the canopies. Larson stated that plans were submitted and approved without sprinkler heads in the canopies.

Weiland stated that these are pedestrian canopies other than the drive-thru canopy. Weiland stated that she had spoke with the owner of Walgreen's and they assured her there would be absolutely no storage or handling of any type of combustibles at any time. It is strictly decorative and to keep customers drive.

Larson stated that the other Walgreen's in this county do not have sprinkler heads in the canopies and neither does Eckerd's. Discussion ensued.

Rowell made a motion to grant the variance with a second by Rhodes. Motion carried with 3 ayes.

Variance requests made prior to plan submittal.

Weiland told the Board that people are calling us prior to submitting their plans and asking about the fire hydrant issues. Weiland said that people want to know their options or alternative methods prior to making big purchases for their projects. Weiland asked the Board to consider letting those people come to the Board prior to plan submittal. Tolbert suggested tabling the issue until the next meeting so that all Board members would be present. Discussion ensued.

Rowell made a motion to table the issue until the next meeting, with a second by Rhodes. Motion carried with 3 ayes.

At 5:56 p.m., Rhodes made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by Rowell.

Motion carried with 3 ayes.

