

Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals Meeting Minutes, January 8, 2026

Zoom Meeting Information:
<https://broward-org.zoomgov.com/j/1601587944>
Meeting ID: 160 158 7944

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Kamm called to order a published virtual meeting of the Broward County Board of Rules and Appeals at 7:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

R. Art Kamm, Chairman	Anthony Salgado
Edward Badiu	Scott Taggart
Gregg D'Attile	Robert Taylor
Peter Deveaugh	David Tringo
Jeff Falkanger	Dennis Ulmer
Michael Rada	Lynn Wolfson
Derek Wassink	

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. D'Attile made a motion to approve the agenda, and Mr. Wassink seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 13, 2025, Board Meeting

Mr. D'Attile made a motion, and Mr. Badiu seconded the motion, to approve the November 13, 2025, minutes as submitted. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (Except public hearing items on this agenda) - none

Public comments are limited to 3 minutes.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Certifications – Staff Recommended

BROWARD COUNTY, UNINCORPORATED

Cobblah, William Yiyi, Structural Inspector (120-Day Temporary)

TOWN OF DAVIE

Garcia, Nestor Uriel Jr., Electrical Inspector (Provisional)

Vezina, Mark K., Fire Plans Examiner

CITY OF DEERFIELD BEACH

Bruhn, Norman J., Building Official

Bruhn, Norman J., Chief Structural Inspector

Guanche, Steven, Chief Electrical Inspector

Merowitz, Michael P., Chief Mechanical Inspector

Merowitz, Michael P., Chief Plumbing Inspector

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

Matthews, Keenan, Structural Inspector (120-Day Temporary)

CITY OF HOLLYWOOD

Wood, Kenneth E., Structural Plans Examiner (Provisional)

CITY OF LAUDERHILL

Vandermeulen, Jack, Fire Inspector

VILLAGE OF LAZY LAKE

Reger, Timothy A., Chief Plumbing Inspector

CITY OF LIGHTHOUSE POINT

Brown, Michael, Fire Plans Examiner

CITY OF MIRAMAR

Friedman, Shawn, Fire Inspector

Harrell, Glenn L., Fire Plans Examiner

Huertas, Joseph, Fire Inspector

CITY OF PEMBROKE PARK

Escalante, Graciela M., Assistant Building Official

CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES

Madic, Nebojsa, Chief Structural Inspector

CITY OF SUNRISE

Pocknee, Clare, Fire Inspector

CITY OF WEST PARK

Cogdill, Daniel R., Chief Electrical Inspector

COUNTYWIDE

Faddis, Kevin, Electrical Plans Examiner

Forges, Bernard, Structural Plans Examiner

Jackson, Anthony, Electrical Plans Examiner

Kirkegaard, Randy Scott, Mechanical Plans Examiner

Lamberto, Angel, Plumbing Inspector

Rodriguez, Alberto C. Padro, Electrical Inspector

Rourke, Timothy John, Plumbing Plans Examiner

Ms. Wolfson made a motion, and Mr. Salgado seconded the motion to approve the certifications as recommended by staff. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

1. Appointment of Brian Epstein as the Chief Electrical Inspector for the City of Lauderhill, Florida Building Code, Broward County Administrative Amendments, 8th (2023) Edition, Section 104.3, Appointment of the Chief Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, and Structural Inspector Requires Board Approval for Chiefs Serving in More than Two (2) Jurisdictions

- a. Staff Report

Mr. Ken Castronovo, Chief Electrical Code Compliance Officer, reviewed the request before the Board as outlined in the agenda memorandum. He noted this would be Mr. Epstein's third chief position. The city managers of each of the three cities have provided their written consent.

- b. Board Questions - none
- c. Board Action

Mr. Deveaugh made a motion, and Mr. D'Attile seconded the motion to approve the item as presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

2. **First Reading of the Proposed Revision to the Florida Building Code, Broward County Administrative Amendments, 8th (2023) Edition, Chapter 1, Sections 104.1.1, Appointment of a Building Official, 104.2.1, Appointment of an Assistant Building Official, and 104.3, Appointment of the Chief Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing, and Structural Inspector, Relating to Obtaining Written Authorization from City Managers to Serve More than Two (2) Jurisdictions Prior to Applying for Board Consideration**

- a. Staff Report – Kenneth Castronovo

Dr. Ana Barbosa, Administrative Director, introduced the item. The amendment would clarify that, before a request is presented to the Board, the matter must be submitted to the city manager for approval.

- b. Board Questions – none
- c. Board Action

Mr. D'Attile made a motion to approve the revision on first reading as recommended, and Mr. Deveaugh seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. **First Reading of the Proposed Addition to the Florida Building Code, Broward County Administrative Amendments, 8th (2023) Edition, Chapter 1, Section 111, Certificates of Occupancy and Completion; Subsection 111.2, Line Item 13, and 111.5, Related to Permits Issued Under the Provisions of Florida Statute 553.791**

- a. Staff Report – Dr. Ana C. Barbosa

Dr. Ana Barbosa, Administrative Director, introduced the item. The amendment would provide a uniform statement in Certificates of Occupancy and Certificates of Completion stating to the certificate holder whether the plan review and inspection for the project were performed pursuant to Florida Statute 553.791. Yes-or-No checkboxes would also be added to indicate whether the plan review and inspections were conducted by a private provider.

- b. Board Questions

In response to Mr. D'Attile, Dr. Barbosa explained that the statute has changed. Contractors may use building departments or private providers; however, the building official is still responsible for either.

Mr. Deveaugh referred to 553.791(1)(b) and questioned if the building department cannot replicate plan review, how could they look at the deficiencies? He pointed out the potential for disagreement going forward. Under 553.791(1)(l)4(p), the building official must review any documents to determine whether the fee owner has secured all other government approvals required by law. He questioned whether the applicant would be required to first obtain approvals from other government departments, such as zoning, fire, or engineering.

- c. Board Action

Mr. Deveaugh made a motion to approve the revision on first reading as recommended, and Mr. D'Attile seconded the motion. The motion passed with one no vote.

4. **First Reading of the Proposed Revision to the Broward County Uniform Building Permit Application, related to the Owner's Authorization for a Contractor to use a Private Provider for Building Code Inspections and Plan Review Service, under the Provisions of Florida Statute 553.791(2)(a)**

a. Staff Report – Dr. Ana C. Barbosa

Dr. Ana Barbosa, Administrative Director, introduced the item. The purpose is uniformity countywide. The statute requires the fee owner to have a contract with the contractor; however, the building official may not request the contract. It is the contractor's responsibility to obtain the fee owner's authorization to use a private provider.

b. Board Questions

In response to Mr. D'Attile, Dr. Barbosa indicated that a contractor may use a private provider only with written authorization from the fee owner. Florida Statute 553.791(1)(l)4 lists the information required when a private provider is used, including notice to the building official. The fee owner is no longer required to secure a notarized signature. It provides uniformity county-wide.

c. Board Action

Mr. D'Attile made a motion to approve the revision on first reading as recommended, and Mr. Deveaugh seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. **2026 Board Nominations and Election of Officers**

Dr. Barbosa indicated that seated voting alternates this evening may vote but not make any nominations.

Mr. D'Attile nominated Mr. Deveaugh for the Chair position, and Mr. Rada seconded the nomination. There was unanimous agreement.

Mr. D'Attile nominated Mr. Badiu for the Vice Chair position, and Mr. Salgado seconded the nomination. There was unanimous agreement.

6. **Director's Report**

Dr. Barbosa mentioned the building recertification project for 2026-2027 that required everyone's participation.

7. **Attorney's Report**

Mr. Charles Kramer noted that the Board prevailed in the eighth legal proceeding filed by Mr. Jack Butler before the Florida Building Commission. The appeal time frame has lapsed.

8. **Committee Reports** - none

9. **General Board Member Discussion** - none

10. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.


Chairman