



# Inspections Department

## Electrical Contractor Registration

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Electrical Contractor License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Master Electrician Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Master Electrician License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a list of company journeyman electricians and residential wireman that will be working in the City of Lamesa to assist in license verification and a current certificate of insurance.

Annual Contractor Registration Fee: \$30.00

The vehicle(s) used by the company shall have signage in as required by Section 1305.166 of the Texas Occupations Code. Per city ordinance required signage will be verified at time of registration by the Inspections Department.

Contractors are responsible for familiarizing themselves and their employees with the local electrical ordinance and local amendments to the NEC.

Current Electrical Code adopted: NFPA 70 2014 Edition and Oncor Electrical Service Guidelines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Representative Signature

# City of Lamesa Electrical Code

## Division 4 Electrical Code

### **Sec. 3.03.151 Scope**

All electrical work performed within the city shall be performed in conformity with the provisions of this article, and it is hereby declared to be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to perform any electrical work in violation of the provisions of this article.

### **Sec. 3.03.152 Definitions**

For the purposes of this article, the following words shall be defined as herein stated. In the event of a dispute as to the meaning on an application of any work, phrase, or descriptive term as used herein, a determination of the meaning by the board shall be conclusive on all parties. For the purpose of this article, the following words shall have the following meanings:

*Board.* The term “board” shall mean the Electrical Advisory and Appeals Board.

*Building official.* The person charged with the administration of this article.

*Direct supervision.* The continual oversight and control of electrical apprentices by a licensed residential wireman, for residential work only, a licensed journeyman electrician or a licensed master electrician, who shall be physically present at the jobsite or installation, at all times any electrical work is in progress. The term shall also mean the continual oversight and control of all journeyman electricians, residential wireman, and electrical apprentices by the master electrician, who shall personally direct day-to-day activities, work of the firm, prepare bids, enter into agreements or sign contracts and manage the firm’s financial affairs.

*Electrical apprentice.* An individual licensed as an apprentice who works under the direct supervision and orders of a master electrician, a journeyman electrician, or a residential wireman, and who is registered with the state.

*Electrical contractor.* A person or entity, licensed as an electrical contractor, that is in the business of performing “electrical contracting” as defined by Texas Occupations Code, section 1305.002(5).

*Electrical inspector.* The duly appointed electrical inspector of the city and all duly appointed assistant electrical inspectors.

*Electrical installation.* The installation of wiring, devices or equipment for the distribution, transmission or utilization of electrical energy.

*Electrical maintenance work.* The replacement or repair of existing electrical appurtenances, apparatus, equipment, machinery, or controls used in connection with the use of electrical energy in, on, outside, or attached to a building, residence, structure, property, or premises. All

replacements or repairs must be of at least the same rating and type as the existing installation. Any replacement or repair that shall be made to bring such work in compliance with applicable codes under Texas Occupations Code, chapter 1305. Electrical maintenance work does not include the installation of any new electrical appurtenances, apparatus, equipment, machinery, or controls beyond the scope of any existing electrical installation.

Fixture. A unit which supports a means of illumination.

General supervision. Exercise of oversight by a master electrician on behalf of any electrical contractor, or electrical sign contractor, or by a master sign electrician on behalf of an electrical sign contractor of performance by all classes of electrical licensees of electrical work bearing responsibility for the work's compliance with applicable codes under Texas Occupations Code, chapter 1305.

Journeyman electrician. A person who works for or under the supervision of or by the direction of a master electrician in the electrical trade, has passed a journeyman electrician examination approved by the state, and is qualified as provided in this article. Said journeyman electrician shall be physically present on the jobsite at all times electrical work is in progress and shall maintain continual oversight and control of all electrical apprentices.

Master electrician. Any person who holds himself/herself out to the public to do electrical work or to contract to do any or all kinds of electrical work stated in this article. A person who himself/herself or by the employment of journeyman electricians, restricted residential wiremen and/or apprentices performs the work of installing wires, conduits, apparatus, fixtures or other appliances for carrying or using electricity for light, heat, or other purposes whether the master electrician contracts to do the work personally or through others and is licensed as is provided in this article.

Master sign electrician. Any person who holds himself/herself out to the public to contract for himself/herself or by the employment of registered sign technicians and/or registered sign trainees to perform the work of manufacturing, installing, connecting, reconnecting, or servicing of electric signs, or any cold cathode or neon gas tubing, inside or outside, of whatever description or for any purpose and is licensed as provided in this article. This work shall not include extension of or additions to an existing branch circuit.

Maintenance electrician. One who is a full time employee of a company or business and whose duty is to maintain existing electrical installations, including all fixtures and appurtenances contained in a designated property building or buildings either: (1) owned by his employer; or (2) operated under a maintenance contract by his employer. A person holding this license shall not otherwise engage himself as a maintenance electrician on any buildings other than those designated on the maintenance license.

National Electrical Code. The current edition of the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70) as approved by the National Fire Protection Association and adopted by the city council.

Offer to perform. To make a written or oral proposal, to contract in writing or orally to perform electrical work or electrical sign work, or to advertise in any form through any medium that a person or business entity is an electrical contractor or electrical sign contractor, or that implies in any way that a person or business entity is available to contract for or perform electrical work or electrical sign work.

On-site supervision. A licensed individual other than an electrical apprentice must exercise the supervision of electrical work or electrical sign work. Continuous supervision of an electrical apprentice is not required, though the on-site supervising licensee is responsible for review and inspection of the electrical apprentice's work to ensure compliance with any applicable codes or standards.

Opening or outlet. The location where a ceiling light, bracket light, wall light, porch light, or a floodlight is to be mounted: also, any electrical consuming opening or outlet.

Residential appliance. A unit of electrical equipment that is designed and installed in a dwelling by direct connection to any existing electrical circuit to perform a specific function, such as a water heater, for example. The term does not include general use equipment, such as an electric motor, for example, that is not designed for a specific function.

Residential appliance installer. An individual, licensed as a residential appliance installer, who on behalf of a residential appliance installation contractor, performs electrical work that is limited to residential appliance installation as defined by Texas Occupations Code, section 1305.002(12-e).

Residential appliance installation contractor. A person or entity licensed as a residential appliance installation contractor, that is in the business of residential appliance installation as defined by Texas Occupations Code section 1305.002(12-d).

Residential wireman. An individual licensed as a residential wireman, who works under the general supervision of a master electrician on behalf of an electrical contractor, or employing governmental entity, while performing electrical work that is limited to electrical installations in single-family and multifamily dwellings not exceeding three stories, as defined by Texas Occupations Code, section 1305.02(13).

Sign electrician journeyman. One skilled and experienced in the physical labor involved in electrical installations of signs and who does or holds himself out as intending to do electrical installation and/or maintenance under the supervision of a master sign electrician and who holds a license issued under the provisions of this article. This definition does not include running lines or circuits from sign location to or into the building or load center.

Signs. Any physical device, panel, or installation attached to or located on a building or structure, used to display any message or communicate any thought or idea and which uses electricity for its intended operation.

### **Sec. 3.03.153    Applicability**

It shall be unlawful for any person to make any electrical installation or to make any alteration, repair or addition to an existing electrical installation except as provided in this article.

### **Sec. 3.03.154 Exemptions**

- (a) Traffic/signal work. The provisions of this article shall not apply to the fire, police or public safety installation, or other similar installations installed and maintained by the city or installed under contract by a private installer for a government agency.
- (b) Franchises. The provisions of this article shall not apply to electric light, heat and power companies, telephone and telegraph companies and cable television or other communication companies, operating under a city franchise or state or federal laws in the installation, maintenance, removal or repair of wires or other equipment used in connection with their business or plants.
- (c) Manufacturers of electrical equipment. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit manufacturers of electrical apparatus or equipment from carrying on reasonable electrical experiments with materials and products within the confines of their own premises and all installations therein, provided further that the electrical inspector may require the manufacturer to make whatever changes the inspector believes necessary for the protection of public life, welfare and property.
- (d) Street lighting. The provisions of this article shall not apply to installations in connection with the illumination of public streets, alleys or parkways by the city, the state highway department, the public electric utility company or federal highway agencies.

### **Sec. 3.03.155 Penalty**

- (a) Penalty. Any person or persons, who installs, or causes to be installed, maintains or causes to be maintained, electrical wiring, devices, or equipment used in connection with the installation or maintenance of electrical wiring, devices, and equipment in violation of the provisions of this article, or who fails to do any act required hereby, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided in [section 1.01.009](#) of this code, “general penalty; continuing violations.”
- (b) Liability of corporations, associations, officers, and agents. Violation of any of the terms or provisions of this article by any corporation or association shall be subject to the penalty provided in this section.
- (c) Revocation of registration. Conviction under the provisions of this article shall be deemed just cause for the revocation of any registration which such person may have or hold under the provisions of this article and examinations for reissue of such registration shall be at the discretion of the board.

(d) Enforcement. The building official, the electrical inspector, and their assistants shall be empowered to cause criminal charges to be filed in a court of competent jurisdiction consistent with the enforcement of this article.

### **Sec. 3.03.156 Electrical Inspector; Enforcement**

(a) Office created; assistant authorized. There is hereby created the office of the electrical inspector of the city, within which may be assistant electrical inspectors.

(b) Appointment. The electrical inspector and the assistant electrical inspectors shall be appointed by the building official with the approval of the city manager. The electrical inspector shall be under the administrative supervision of the building official.

(c) Enforcement. The building official, electrical inspector, and their designated representative shall be empowered to compel the suspension of any electrical installation being done in violation of this article.

### **Sec. 3.03.157 Right of entry; identification**

(a) Right of entry.

(1) Whenever necessary to make an inspection to enforce any of the provisions of this article or whenever the building official, the electrical inspector, or their designated representative has reasonable cause to believe that a condition exists in violation of the electrical code thus making such building or premises unsafe, dangerous, or hazardous, said official may enter such building or premises at all reasonable times to inspect same or perform any duty imposed upon the electrical inspector by this article. If such building or premises is occupied, there shall first be presented proper credentials and entry requested.

(2) If such building or premises is unoccupied, reasonable effort shall be made to locate the owner or other person having charge or control of the building or premises and request entry.

(3) If entry is refused, the building official, electrical inspector, or their designated representative shall have recourse to any remedy provided by law to secure entry.

(b) Identification. When on duty, the electrical inspector shall carry a means of identification furnished by the city and shall show same upon the request of any person at the jobsite.

### **Sec. 3.03.158 Liability for damages**

The building official, electrical inspector, or their designated representative charged with the enforcement of this article, acting in good faith and without malice in the discharge of their

duties, shall not thereby render themselves personally liable for any damage that may accrue to persons or property as a result of any act or omission in the discharge of their duties.

### **Sec. 3.03.159 Records**

(a) Required records. The electrical inspector shall keep or cause to be kept a written record of all of the following which are required to be issued or performed under the provisions of this article.

- (1) Permits.
- (2) Licenses.
- (3) Inspections.
- (4) Condemnations.

### **Sec. 3.03.160 Inspections generally**

The electrical inspector shall:

(1) Inspect all electrical installations which shall include alterations, repairs and additions, to assure compliance with the provisions of this article;

(a) There shall be a minimum of a rough-in inspection and a final inspection on such electrical installation. The owner whose installation is ready for inspection shall allow the electrical inspector's office twenty-four (24) hours, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays recognized by the city excepted, after notification to inspect before to work proceeds on the electrical installation.

(b) The licensed master electrician or homeowner shall be responsible for notifying the electrical inspector when the electrical installation is ready for rough-in inspection. An electrical installation shall be considered ready for rough-in inspection at such time as all raceways, panel board cabinets, service equipment, outlet boxes, junction boxes, conductors and conductor splices are installed and before concealment.

(e) Upon application of the master electrician or his authorized representative in charge of the project, the electrical inspector shall make a final inspection of the installation, and, if such work is found to comply with this article, a certificate of inspection shall be issued stating that the work has been done according to the provisions of this article and the rules governing the respective class to which it belongs. Such certificate shall not relieve the master electrician of responsibility for any defective work that may have been concealed or escaped the notice of the electrical inspector.

- (2) Make inspections of existing electrical installations when he reasonably believes they are unsafe, improper, and constitute a hazard to life or property;

**Sec. 3.03.161 Tags indicating approval or disapproval**

(a) At the completion of the initial or rough-in inspection, the electrical inspector or his deputy shall, if such installation is approved, cause a green “approval” tag to be affixed to a visible and accessible point on the electrical work approved. If such inspector determines that such installation is not acceptable, he shall affix to such electrical work, a red “violation” tag which shall have printed thereon in substance, a warning that the work or installation will not pass inspection, and that it is a violation of city ordinances to conceal or continue any of the electrical work until the installation is re-inspected and approved. If, upon re-inspection, the violation has been satisfactorily corrected, the electrical inspector shall then cause the red “violation” tag to be removed and the green “approval” tag to be affixed in its place. The same process shall be followed upon the final inspection, with a red “violation” tag to be affixed if the installation is not approved. Approval on final inspection, or final re-inspection, shall be denoted by placing a green “approval” tag on the approved installation. Whenever a red “violation” tag is affixed on the installation, at either the rough-in or final inspection, the electrical inspector shall note on the back of such tag the precise violation involved and such other factual information as the electrical inspector may feel necessary to inform the master electrician of the specific items that need to be corrected.

(b) No person, firm or corporation engaged in any work at the building site shall ever cause, allow or suffer electrical work to be covered over unless same bears an inspection tag showing final approval, nor shall any red, or green inspection tag be affixed to any electrical work by anyone other than the city’s electrical inspector or his deputies.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to remove, destroy or deface a red or green tag, or for a contractor or any other person to conceal any wiring or conduit which has not been approved as indicated by the presence of the inspection tag. The electrical inspector shall have the authority to require any person, firm or corporation to uncover any wiring or electrical equipment which has been concealed without the knowledge or permission of the electrical inspector.

**Sec. 3.03.162 Correction of unsafe, improper or unlawful installations**

(a) Notice. The electrical inspector shall, upon determining that an unsafe, improper or unlawful electrical installation exists, immediately notify the owner of the premises, his agent, or the electrician performing work in the premises. The notice shall be in writing, specifying the exact deficiency existing, and shall allow the parties a reasonable time, as determined by the electrical inspector, to correct the deficiency.

(b) Default (electricity ordered discontinued). If corrective action is not begun immediately or the deficiency is not corrected within the prescribed time, the electrical inspector shall, if he



believes public welfare endangered, in writing, order the electrical supply to the premises discontinued.

### **Sec. 3.03.163 Stop-work notice**

(a) Authority to stop work. The electrical inspector shall stop the installation, alteration, operation or repair of any electrical work on or in any premises when, in the inspector's opinion, the work is being done in a reckless, careless or unsafe manner or in a manner which violates the provisions of this article.

(b) Posting of notice. Upon determining that particular work should stop, the electrical inspector shall post a notice to that effect on the consumer's premises and thereafter no person shall proceed with the installation until the electrical inspector has cancelled the stop-work notice.

(c) Effect of posting red tag or card. The posting of a red tag or card on the premises shall constitute a stop-work notice, as stated on the red tag.

(d) Removing or damaging notice. It shall be a violation of this article to remove, deface, damage or mutilate, or conceal the stop-work notice.

### **Sec. 3.03.164 Electrical Advisory and Appeals Board**

#### **(a) Establishment; membership**

(1) The board shall be known as the City of Lamesa Electrical Advisory and Appeals Board and shall consist of nine (9) members with the following qualifications:

(a) One electrical contractor

(b) Two master electricians

(c) Two journeyman electrician

(d) One representative of the local Electric service provider

(e) One person who by experience has knowledge of the trade

(f) One citizen representative

(g) The city building official or authorized representative shall be an ex officio member and serve as secretary for the board without voting privileges.

(2) The members of the board shall be appointed by the city council and serve staggered terms of two (2) years. Vacancies occurring in the membership shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term, by the city council.

## **(b) Powers and duties; Appeals**

(1) Notice of appeal. The board shall require notice of appeal in writing stating grounds for appeal and other such matters. A person directly interested, affected, or aggrieved in decisions made by the building official or the building official's subordinates pertaining to the administration of this article may request an appeal of such decision before the board. The appellant and the building official, electrical inspector, or their designated representative shall be given reasonable notice of the time and place of appeal.

(2) Appeals from board's actions. Any action of the board may be appealed by a person directly interested, affected, or aggrieved in the action by written petition filed with the board and the city secretary within twenty-one (21) days of such action for a hearing before the city council.

(3) Advisory responsibility. The board shall submit to the city council such recommendation for the improvement and revision of the adopted codes as it may deem necessary and proper regarding new information, materials, methods, or techniques which will result in a better or more economical installation.

### **Sec. 3.03.165 General license requirements**

(a) A person, firm, or corporation shall not perform work requiring an electrical license under Title 8, Occupations Code, chapter 1305, and Title 16 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 73, except as provided by section 1305.003. A person, firm, or corporation may not perform or offer to perform electrical work or residential appliance installation unless the person or business holds an appropriate license issued or recognized under this article.

(b) A licensed applicant or licensee shall file with the city a completed certificate of insurance or other evidence satisfactory to the city when applying for initial and renewal licenses and any time requested by the city.

(c) Such applicant shall furnish the building official with a certificate of insurance on an industry standard certificate of insurance form with a thirty-day cancellation notice.

(d) The insurance policy shall include a provision that in the event such coverage is cancelled or reduced, the insurance company shall notify the building official prior to such cancellation or reduction in coverage.

### **Sec. 3.03.166 Licensed contractor's responsibilities**

(a) A person shall not engage in the business of electrical contracting without being licensed, insured, or bonded and registered in the manner required by this section as a licensed electrical contractor, licensed electrical sign contractor, or a licensed residential appliance installation contractor.

(b) Any person desiring to engage in the business of electrical contracting shall make application for registration and shall pay the \$30.00 annual registration fee at the office of the electrical inspector. This registration must include the name and license number of the person holding the master electrician's license, the name of the business and contractor license number under which work is to be performed, the street address, mailing address and permanent telephone number of the place of business, and the names and license number of all journeymen and residential wiremen employed by the firm.

(c) Upon application for registration, the electrical inspector shall verify the vehicle(s) used by the contractor has signage as required by Section 1305.166 of the Texas Occupations Code:

(1) The contractor shall display the business name and license number issued on each vehicle.

(2) The required information must be printed in letters and numbers at least two inches (2") high and in a color that contrasts with the color of the background surface.

(3) The required information must be permanently affixed in conspicuous places on both sides of the vehicle.

### **Sec. 3.03.167 Scope of license**

(a) The maintenance electrician's license shall not be construed in any way to allow the holder thereof to install any new circuit, outlet, or additions, or to perform any electrical work for which a permit is required, or to perform any work required by this article to be performed by a master electrician, master sign electrician, journeyman electrician or journeyman sign electrician.

(b) Every electrical apprentice shall undertake electrical work only when under the direct supervision of a master electrician, master sign electrician, journeyman electrician or journeyman sign electrician, or for residential installations by a residential wireman. Commercial installations shall require the direct supervision of no less than a journeyman electrician.

### **Sec. 3.03.168 Suspension or revocation of electrical registration**

(a) The board may request suspension of the registration of any electrician who has committed any of the following:

(1) The practice of any fraud or deceit in obtaining a permit or registration;

(2) Intentionally violating any provision of this article; or

(3) Any gross negligence, incompetency or misconduct in the performance of electrical work within the city.

(b) In considering charges under this article, the board shall proceed upon sworn information furnished by an official of the city, or by some person having knowledge of an alleged violation in the performance of electrical work. Such information shall be in writing and shall be duly verified by the person familiar with the allegations made. The board, if it deems the information sufficient to support further action on its part, shall issue an order setting the matter for hearing at a specified time and place and the secretary of the board, with the advice and counsel of the city attorney, shall cause a copy of the board's order and of the information to be personally served upon the electrician or by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least fifteen (15) days before the date set for the hearing.

### **Sec. 3.03.169 Application for permit; permit fees**

Applications for permits, either by phone or in person by the contractor, must be secured prior to commencement of any work. Contractors may pay in advance, or apply for an account to be paid once a month. Contractors will be billed monthly. If an approved contractor fails to pay his/her account within 15 days after the date of the billing statement, no permits can be issued to the contractor until the past-due account has been paid in full. Fees are as follows:

Electrical permits:

- (1) New commercial or residential construction\*: \$0.04 per sq. ft.
- (2) New construction, additions to existing buildings\*: \$0.04 per sq. ft.
- (3) Minimum permit fee: \$25.00.
- (4) Alterations to existing buildings (minimum permit fee): \$25.00.
  - (A) First 100 outlets: \$0.40 each.
  - (B) Additional outlets over 100: \$0.30 each.
- (5) Altering, change-out, or installation of meter loop: \$25.00.
- (6) Construction meter loop: \$25.00.
- (7) Sign connections: \$25.00.
- (8) Re-inspection or red tag fee: \$25.00.
- (9) Re-connection of service inspection: \$15.00
- (10) Any inspection not listed: \$25.00.

\*On any new construction, addition, or alteration the building wiring, meter loop and construction meter loop are separate permits.

**Sec. 3.0.170 Issuance and contents of permits**

- (a) Permits may be issued to applicants when;
  - (1) Arrangements for payment of fees have been made
  - (2) All license and bond requirements of the code have been complied with
  - (3) When the plans and specifications of the proposed electrical work have been approved
  - (4) The property will be actually used for the purposes for which the permit is made
- (b) The applicant shall state the kind of work to be done and the address of the building where the work is to be done. The building inspection personnel will issue a permit and such permit shall be without effect as to any work not therein described or as to any place other than described:
- (c) Permits issued to homeowners shall be valid only for work done at the residence occupied by the homeowner at the time the permit is issued. Permits for commercial buildings, leased or rented property, shall be issued only to an electrical contractor.
- (b) After first registering with the city and paying the registration fee, further applications may be made verbally by telephone by registered individuals with a valid charge account.
- (d) An application for a permit shall be considered permission from an authorized representative of the applicant to inspect the premises.
- (e) Falsification of an application for a permit by an electrical contractor, master electrician, or a homeowner shall be justification for the electrical inspector to refuse to issue a permit or to cancel a permit if one has been issued.

**Sec. 3.03.171 Approval of plans and specifications**

The plans and specifications of the electrical work of all new buildings or buildings to be remodeled in which electrical wires are to be installed will be submitted to the electrical inspector by the electrical contractor, owner, or architect for approval before the permit will be issued. All such plans shall specify the size of feeders and sub feeders and their length when there are more than four (4) branch circuits. When, according to such plans and specifications, the electrical work specified complies with the provisions of this article, the electrical inspector shall approve the plans and specifications therefor in writing. If any changes are required by the electrical inspector, he shall attach a list of such requirements to the plans or specifications. When such plans and specifications have been corrected, they shall be resubmitted for approval.

### **Sec. 3.03.172 Permit for temporary installations**

(a) When a permit to install work of a temporary character, for a time to be specified in such permit, and not in any case to exceed thirty (30) days, shall have been issued by the electrical inspector, strict compliance with the rules of permanent work will not be exacted, provided the character of the work is entirely safe for the period designated in the permit. No temporary work or alterations shall be allowed on live circuits unless protected by a proper switch and fuse.

(b) Should the temporary electrical installation be needed beyond the thirty-day period, subsequent permits may be issued. An inspection shall be made before the issuance of any subsequent permit, and each subsequent permit shall be for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days.

(c) Upon the expiration of a temporary permit, the holder thereof shall immediately discontinue the use of the temporary installation. All temporary wiring installed must be removed.

### **Sec. 3.03.173 Ready-built homes**

Where buildings are constructed in lumberyards or on premises within the city limits, other than where the building is on a permanent foundation, and where such building is to be moved into and located within the city limits, wiring installation shall be made by a bonded and licensed master electrician in conformity with this article, and permits shall be applied for.

### **Sec. 3.03.174 Emergency work**

In case of emergency necessitating immediate new wiring or repairs to electrical wiring at a time when the office of the electrical inspector is closed, the work may be carried out without first obtaining a permit. Thereafter, a written application shall be submitted to the electrical inspector for a permit during the next day that such office is open. Before the permit shall be issued, all requirements for its issuance must be complied with.

### **Sec. 3.03.175 Expiration of permit**

(a) Every permit shall expire by limitation and become null and void if the installation authorized by such permit is not commenced within ninety (90) days from the date of such permit or if the installation authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned, at any time after the work is commenced, for a period of sixty (60) days.

(b) Before such work can be recommenced, a new permit shall be obtained. The fee therefor shall be one-half (1/2) the amount paid for the original permit.

### **Sec. 3.03.176 Surrender of unused permit**

A master electrician or homeowner who has obtained an electrical permit shall surrender said permit to the electrical inspector within sixty (60) days of the issuing date of the permit to be eligible for a refund of the permit fee, provided no work has begun on the electrical installation.

### **Sec. 3.03.177 Electrical code adopted**

All installations hereafter installed within the corporate limits of the City shall be done in a good and workmanlike manner in accordance with the 2014 edition of the National Electrical Code, as adopted by the National Fire Protection Association, and said National Electrical Code and incorporated references and appendixes are made a part of this article, with the additions and deviations therefrom contained in this code.

**State law reference**—National Electrical Code adopted as municipal residential and commercial electrical code, V.T.C.A., Local Government Code, sec. 214.214.

### **Sec. 3.03.178 Local amendments to The National Electric Code**

#### **(1) Minimum size wire and use of aluminum conductors**

(a) Nothing less than No. 12 AWG copper wire will be permitted within the corporate limits of the city, with the following exceptions:

(1) That ground wire in nonmetallic cable shall be in accordance with the National Electrical Code; and

(2) For special circuits such as controls, public address systems, annunciators and signals, ordinary switch legs for lighting systems will not be construed as control wiring

(b) Use of aluminum conductors shall not be permitted for use in any structure within the city with the following exception:

(1) Aluminum underground feeders shall be allowed and will terminate at the first means of disconnect in the structure being served.

#### **(2) Wiring and meters in townhouses, apartments and condominiums**

(a) Wiring in townhouse units. In townhouse units separated by a two-hour firewall meeting building code requirements, type NM wiring methods may be used. All electrical wiring in common or party walls is to be placed in conduit. Electrical outlets, boxes and fixtures installed in common walls shall not be less than eighteen (18) inches apart horizontally or vertically.

(b) Wiring in apartment buildings. Apartment buildings of more than four (4) dwelling units shall have all wiring encased in approved raceways.

(c) Meters in apartment houses and condominiums. Apartment houses of more than five (5) individual dwelling units and residential condominiums shall be provided with individual metering devices to each dwelling.

**(3) Change in location or use of building**

(a) Change in location. Should any residence or building be moved from one location to another and should the wiring be nonconforming to the new location, the residence or building shall be rewired.

(b) Change in use. Should the occupancy of a residence be changed entirely from residential to another use, the wiring shall be made to conform to the requirements of the new use.

**(4) Service disconnects and service entrance wiring**

(a) Service disconnects. All residential services rated 200 amperes or less shall be equipped with disconnecting switches set on the exterior of buildings within 2 feet of the meter.

(b) Disconnect switches. Fusible disconnects shall not be permitted for use as a disconnecting means on residential services rated 200 amperes or less.

(c) Size of conductors, service. Minimum size of meter base and conductors for any service use shall be rated a minimum of 100 ampere, and the minimum size conductors shall be No. 4 copper from the point of the service entrance to main circuit breaker panel.

**Sec. 3.03.179 Fire damage**

(a) Inspection of premises. Where, in the opinion of the fire marshal or electrical inspector, a fire originated due to faulty electrical wiring, overloading of wiring or equipment or any unauthorized electrical installation, it shall be the duty of the electrical inspector to inspect the premises involved.

(b) Reconnection of service when lines cut for firefighting. Where lines or electrical services have been cut in the firefighting process, no electrical service shall be reinstated or reconnected until the premises conform to the provisions of this article.

(c) Authority to disconnect service where hazardous conditions exist. Where the lines have not been cut in the firefighting process, and the fire marshal or



electrical inspector deems such premises to be dangerous or hazardous to life and property, he shall order the electrical service to be disconnected immediately and remain disconnected until such defects have been corrected to the satisfaction of the electrical inspector.

**Sec. 3.03.180 Violations**

(a) Penalty. Any person or persons who offers to perform or who installs or causes to be installed, maintains or causes to be maintained, electric wiring, devices, or equipment used in connection with the installation of and/or maintenance of electric wiring, devices, and equipment in violation of the provisions of this article, or who fails to do any act required hereby shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided in [section 1.01.009](#), of this code. Each and every day of continuance thereof shall constitute a distinct and separate offense.

(b) Liability of corporations, associations, officers, and agents. Violation of any terms or provisions of this article by any corporation or association shall subject officers and agents of such corporation or association to the penalty provided in this section.

(c) Criminal charges. The building official, electrical inspector, or their designated representative is empowered to cause criminal charges to be filed in a court of competent jurisdiction consistent with the enforcement of this article.