

ORDINANCE NO. 98-9

AN ORDINANCE TO BE KNOWN AS THE HERNANDO COUNTY MECHANICAL CODE: PROVIDING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE, 1997 EDITION; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 1 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 3 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 5 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 6 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 15 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 16 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERANCE OF PARTS; PROVIDING FOR A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR VIOLATIONS, REMEDIES, AND PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA.

SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE, 1997 EDITION, AND APPENDIX A AS PROMULGATED BY SOUTHERN BUILDING CODE CONGRESS INTERNATIONAL, INC., PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATIONS TO CHAPTERS 1, 3, 5, 6, 15, 16

There is hereby adopted by the County of Hernando, Florida, for the purpose of establishing and prescribing rules and regulations for the installation of mechanical systems, including alterations, repairs, replacement, equipment, appliances, fixtures, fittings, and/or appurtenances thereto, including ventilation, heating, cooking, air conditioning and refrigeration systems, incinerators, and other energy-related systems, that certain mechanical code known as the Standard Mechanical Code, as recommended by the Southern Building Code Congress International, Inc., a non-profit and non-political servicing organization with its principal offices at Birmingham, Alabama, being particularly the 1997 Edition and Appendix A thereof. The same is hereby adopted and incorporated herein as fully as if set forth *in haec verba* except as noted elsewhere herein and from the date upon which this ordinance shall take effect, the provisions thereof shall be controlling in the installation of mechanical systems, including alterations, repairs, replacement, equipment, appliances, fixtures, fittings, and/or appurtenances thereto, including ventilation, heating, cooking, air conditioning and refrigeration systems, incinerators, and other energy-related systems within the unincorporated areas of the county.

SECTION 2. ADMINISTRATION

Chapter 1 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by amending Subsection 104.1.1, 104.2.1, and 105.6; deleting Subsection 104.7.2; and adding Subsection 104.6.1, 104.7.2E, and

105.6.2, as follows:

104.1.1 - When Required (Permits)

A permit shall be required for the replacement of any air handler, package unit, or condensing unit in or on an existing structure.

EXCEPTION: Permits shall not be required for the following mechanical work: (Refer to 1997 Edition of Standard Mechanical Code for items 1 - 7)

8. Any work of a casual, minor, or inconsequential nature, when the work is completed by the owner of a single family home or a mobile home, in which the owner resides and the aggregate cost for labor and material is less than \$500.00. This exemption does not apply if the construction, repair, remodeling or improvement is a part of a larger or major job.
9. Other small and inconsequential construction after reviewed by the Building Official and determined that work is exempt and written policy established.

104.2.1 - Requirements

When required by the Building Official, two or more copies of specifications, and drawings drawn to scale with sufficient clarity and detail to indicate the nature and character of the work shall accompany the application for a permit. Such drawings and specifications shall contain information, in the form of notes or otherwise, as to the quality of materials, where quality is essential to conformity with the technical codes. Such information shall be specific, and the technical codes shall not be cited as a whole or in part, nor shall the term "legal" or its equivalent be used, as a substitute for specific information. Plans shall include the following: foundation plan, floor plan, roof framing plan, typical wall sections, all elevations, electrical plan, mechanical layout, and plumbing layout. All information, drawings, specifications and accompanying data shall bear the name and signature of the person responsible for the design.

104.6.1

A permit issued shall be construed to be a license to proceed with the work and not as authority to violate, cancel, alter, or set aside any of the provisions of the technical codes, nor shall issuance of a permit prevent the building official from thereafter requiring a correction of errors in plans, construction, or violations of this code. Every permit issued shall become invalid unless the work authorized by such permit is commenced within 6 months after its issuance, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 6 months after the time the work is commenced. Any permit not valid is voided. Construction work which is not completed pursuant to a voided permit shall be re-permitted pursuant to this code and all work shall be ceased until the issuance of a new permit. One or more extensions of time, for periods not more than 90 days each, may be allowed for the permit. The extension shall be requested in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated. Extensions shall be in writing by the building official.

A permit shall be valid for a period not exceeding two (2) years from date of issuance. Any permit not finalized or voided within two (2) years from date of issuance is expired. Construction work which is not completed pursuant to an expired permit shall be re-permitted pursuant to this code and all work shall be ceased until the issuance of a new permit or renewal of the existing permit.

104.7.2.1

Any person who commences any work on a building, structure, electrical, gas, mechanical, or plumbing system before obtaining the necessary permit shall be subjected to a penalty of double (200%) the usual permit fee in addition to the required permit fees.

105.6 Required Inspections

Mechanical

1. **Rough Underground Inspection:** To be made after trenches or ditches are excavated, underground duct and fuel piping installed, and before any backfill is put in place.
2. **Rough-In Inspection:** To be made after the roof, framing, fire blocking and bracing are in place and all ducting, and other concealed components are complete, and prior to the installation of wall or ceiling membranes.
3. **Final Inspection:** To be made after the building is complete, the mechanical system is in place and properly connected, and the structure is ready for occupancy.

105.6.2 Failure to Call for Inspections

Any person found guilty of failure to call for any required inspections is subject to a fine and penalty as set forth in the Development Department Fee Schedule, which is adopted by the Board of County Commissioners by Resolution.

SECTION 3. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 3 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE

Chapter 3 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Subsections 304.3.2, 304.7.1.1, 304.8.4.1, and amending Subsection 303.3 as follows:

303.3.1

All units must be clearly marked showing total heat strip load, actual connected load, and model number of air handler with numbers a minimum of four (4) inches in height.

304.3.2

All condensing units or package units shall have a 3" slab underneath.

304.4.1.1

Air handling equipment installed shall be supported from the top of the roof trusses and shall not rest on the bottom chord of roof trusses. On conventional construction, the ceiling joist shall adequately handle the additional load.

Truss members and components shall not be cut, notched, spliced, or otherwise altered in any way without written concurrence and approval of the design engineer. No additional loading of any member (i.e., HVAC equipment, etc.) shall be permitted without such additional load being incorporated in the engineering design.

304.7.1.1

On roof-top units, when wood supports are used, they should be placed in approved pitch pans and installed to distribute equipment weight.

304.8.4.1

All horizontal condensate drains over occupied areas shall be insulated.

SECTION 4. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 5 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE

Chapter 5 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Subsections 501.3.1, 508.1.1, and 509.3.1, as follows:

501.3.1

The bathroom exhaust fan may terminate through ventilated soffits provided the exhaust outlet is fastened to a framing opening in the soffit material and is located at least 10 feet from any window, door, or air intake opening. The bathroom exhaust fan may terminate at the ridge vent provided the fan size is adequate for the length of duct installed.

508.1.1

Stationary outdoor or indoor down flow ranges must be installed to manufacturer's instructions.

509.3.1

When the dryer manufacturer is unknown and the duct length is greater than specified in 509.3.1, a booster fan may be utilized subject to the approval of the Building Official. The booster fan and system shall meet the following criteria:

1. Shall be accessible for repair and replacement;
2. The fan blade shall be of non-clogging design;
3. Shall be designed for the dryer operating temperature range;
4. Shall be designed for proper removal of heat, moisture and lint;
5. Shall operate when the dryer operates;
6. Other methods may be used per Subsection 102.7.

When more than one dryer utilizes a common exhaust system, the following criteria shall be used:

1. The common duct shall comply with Subsection 307.3 of the Standard Mechanical Code.
2. The fan motor and blade (and filter if used) shall comply to Section 307.4 of the Standard Mechanical Code.
3. The fan shall run any time one or more dryers are operating.
4. This system shall be designed for proper removal of heat, moisture and lint by a registered engineer, architect or mechanical contractor.

SECTION 5. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 6 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE

Chapter 6 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Subsections 604.1.1 as follows:

604.1.1

All ducts shall be constructed of iron, steel, aluminum, or other approved material. Loose fiber glass batt insulation shall not be installed in any recirculating air system.

SECTION 6. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 15 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE

Chapter 15 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Section 1504.1.1, 1504.1.2, and 1504.1.3, as follows:

1504.1.1

All solar systems shall be designed and installed according to the Florida Standard Practice for Design and Installation of Solar Domestic Water and Pool Heating Systems (FSEC-G p. 7-80, January 1985)

1504.1.2

All solar systems shall be certified by the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC), and each collector shall have the FSEC label properly affixed.

1504.1.3

All solar systems' application for permit shall be accompanied by the FSEC Information Sheet and FSEC Installation Sheet.

SECTION 7. MODIFICATION TO CHAPTER 16 OF THE STANDARD MECHANICAL CODE

Chapter 16 of the Standard Mechanical Code is hereby modified by adding Section 1601.1.1 as follows:

1601.1.1 - Exclusion of Standard Gas Code

All referenced standards concerning fuel gas which name the Standard Gas Code shall uniformly refer to NFPA 54 and NFPA 58 to the exclusion of the Standard Gas Code.

SECTION 8. SEVERANCE OF PARTS

Should any section, paragraph, sentence, phrase, clause or other part or provision of this ordinance be declared by any court to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part declared to be invalid.

SECTION 9. REPEALER CLAUSE

Upon the effective date of this ordinance, those previously enacted ordinances and amendments thereto which regulate the construction activities addressed by this ordinance, namely Hernando County Ordinance No. 95-21 and subsequent amendments thereto, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 10. VIOLATIONS, REMEDIES, AND PENALTIES

Any entity violating any provision of this ordinance shall be subject to the penalties provided for herein. The Director or his authorized representative shall issue notice to all entities violating any provision of this ordinance and shall order that such violations cease. Should any entity fail to comply with such notice, or order, the Governing Body or its authorized official may institute appropriate action to bring such entity before a court of law for adjudication. Any entity violating any provision of this ordinance shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined or imprisoned or both fined and imprisoned, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 125.69 of the Florida Statutes.

SECTION 11. INCLUSION IN THE CODE

It is the intention of the Board of County Commissioners of Hernando County, Florida, and it is hereby provided that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of Hernando County, Florida. To this end, the sections of this Ordinance may be renumbered or relettered to accomplish such intention, and that the word "**ordinance**" may be changed to "**section**", "**article**", or other appropriate designation.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

ADOPTED in Regular Session this 19th day of May, 1998, A.D.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA

Attest Michelle Hentsman,
KAREN NICOLAI, Clerk *Deputy*
Clerk

By Hannah M. Robinson
HANNAH M. ROBINSON, Chairwoman

