JUNE MEETING
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE 2017 NEC
BY DOUG SMITH

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Orem City
Council Chambers
56 N State Street
Orem, UT 84057
MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

By George Williams, 2nd Vice President

Membership of the Beehive Chapter, it’s that time of the year again. Your favorite time where somehow, you’re once again asked to do more with less. On top of you family vacations, Scout camps, fishing trips and everything else, we get to deal with an increased workload of seemingly ever-important tasks. Plan reviews, inspections, pre-construction meetings, and inevitably a visit from that same annoying lady who complains about her neighbor’s fence being too high (I hate that lady!). Then to make things worse, most of you are dealing with at least one senior member of your department retiring.

You probably feel like throwing your hands up in the air and moving to Cambodia. Don’t give up! You’ll make it through, it happens every year. Before you know it, we’ll be eating Thanksgiving dinner and wondering how we made it.

With this in mind I’ve formulated some tips and tricks. I hope these tips can help us make it through the gauntlet.

Take comfort in knowing we’re all in this together.
1. Bring a lunch
   Sometime the lunch hour can be your most productive hour. Don’t spend it at Arby’s or shooting the breeze, make it count.

2. Let it go to voice mail
   Don’t pick up every time your phone rings, you’ll never get anything done. Listen to your voicemails and prioritize who you call back, and when.

3. Delegate
   Utilize those around you. People feel empowered by responsibility. Make sure your whole staff is at least as busy as you are.

4. Group your work
   Responding to email is more efficient in blocks of time. The same is true with plan review and inspections. Don’t change gears every 20 min. Focus on one thing at a time.

5. Pool your skills
   Each member of the department has skills. When it’s crunch time, make sure everyone’s doing what they do best and most efficiently.
6. Ask for help early
Jurisdictions move slow. If you need help now, the time to ask was February. If you think you’ll need help in July, the time to ask is NOW!

7. Farm it out
You knew it was coming; sometimes a 3rd party can be a life-saver. Don’t try to be a super-hero, you have options.

8. Don’t sweat the small stuff
In a crisis focus on what matters most- Fire, Life Safety and Structural Integrity. Keep perspective, don’t get hung-up on what’s inconsequential.

9. Know who to trust
Not every contractor can be treated the same. Those that have never burned you can be trusted. Use your precious time where it will do the most good.

10. Breathe
The end of your rope, is the end of your rope. You can’t do more than give your best effort. If you burn out in July, it’s going to be a long summer. Keep yourself in check, sometimes it’s just ok to be behind schedule!
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HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

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