CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 11, 2024

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

REQUEST: APPOINTMENTS TO THE BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS

RECOMMENDATION:

Appoint John Greenwood, Lindsey Holt, and Nicholas Latkovic to the Building Board of Appeals for terms ending June 30, 2024.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Pursuant to Palm Desert Municipal Code Chapter 2.18, the Building Board of Appeals (Board) is charged with hearing appeals regarding the interpretation of the California Building Code, and condemnation and abatement of dangerous structures. The Board may ratify alternate materials and methods of construction that are not specifically recognized in the California Building Code. The Board is comprised of five members and their decisions are final unless appealed to the City Council. In the past 10 years, no appeals have been filed and therefore the Board has not met in the same period.

It is anticipated that an appeal may be filed soon requiring a hearing before the Board. Currently, two out of five members (Joseph Gaugush and Allan Levin) are appointed to the Board, which is less than a quorum. Due to the urgency of considering the anticipated appeal, staff reached out to the City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Boards and Commissions, consisting of Councilmember Kelly and Mayor Pro Tem Harnik, who expressed support for a proposal to waive interviews and appoint two members of the Planning Commission and one member of the Architectural Review Commission to serve shortened terms through June 30, 2024. If there are any delays in considering the appeal, the City Council may be requested to extend the appointments for an additional six months.

City staff reached out to several members of the Planning Commission and Architectural Review Commission to solicit volunteers to serve on the Board. John Greenwood and Lindsey Holt, of the Planning Commission, and Nicholas Latkovic, of the Architectural Review Commission, agreed to serve if appointed.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.