PostgreSQL is not prompting for password authentication

Issue

After installing PostgreSQL and trying to login to the database, the user is not being prompted for password authentication.

Environment

EZUA v1.5 configured with a PostgreSQL database

Cause

In this case, the problem was related to entries in the pg_hba.conf file. The pg_hba.conf file specifies peer or ident authentication. Those types don't use passwords, so it will not prompt for passwords. Changing the configuration file to use md5 instructs PostgreSQL to prompt for passwords. We need password-based authentication to connect to the UA resources.

Resolution

Switch to the postgres user from the EZUA master node:

```
# sudo su – postgres
Last login: Thu Nov 21 10:39:23 EST 2024 on pts/0
```

Navigate to the pg_hba.conf file:

```
[postgres ~]$ cd /var/lib/pgsql/data/
[postgres data]$ ls
base              pg_dynshmem    pg_notify      pg_stat_tmp    pg_wal                    postmaster
current_logfiles  pg_hba.conf    pg_replslot    pg_subtrans    pg_xact
global            pg_ident.conf  pg_serial      pg_tblspc      postgresql.auto.conf
log               pg_logical     pg_snapshots   pg_twophase    postgresql.conf
pg_commit_ts      pg_multixact   pg_stat        PG_VERSION     postmaster.opts
```

Edit the pg_hba.conf file and navigate to the below section:

```
# TYPE  DATABASE        USER            ADDRESS                 METHOD

# "local" is for Unix domain socket connections only
local   all             all                                     peer
# IPv4 local connections:
host    all             all             127.0.0.1/32            ident
# IPv6 local connections:
host    all             all             ::1/128                 ident
# Allow replication connections from localhost, by a user with the
# replication privilege.
local   replication     all                                     peer
host    replication     all             127.0.0.1/32            ident
host    replication     all             ::1/128                 ident
```

In the above, the Unix domain socket connection is using the "peer" method for authentication. Change this value "md5" which uses password

based authentication:

```
# TYPE  DATABASE        USER            ADDRESS                 METHOD

# "local" is for Unix domain socket connections only
local   all             all                                     md5
# IPv4 local connections:
host    all             all             127.0.0.1/32            ident
# IPv6 local connections:
host    all             all             ::1/128                 ident
# Allow replication connections from localhost, by a user with the
# replication privilege.
local   replication     all                                     peer
host    replication     all             127.0.0.1/32            ident
host    replication     all             ::1/128                 ident
```

After making the above changes, restart the postgres service:

```
$ sudo systemctl restart postgresql.service
$ sudo systemctl status postgresql.service
```

Verify that postgres is prompting for passwords:

```
[postgres data]$ sudo -u postgres psql
Password:
psql (10.23)
Type "help" for help.

postgres=# \d
              List of relations
 Schema |         Name         |   Type   |  Owner
--------+----------------------+----------+----------
 public | example_table        | table    | postgres
 public | example_table_id_seq | sequence | postgres
 public | t                    | table    | postgres
 public | temperatures         | table    | postgres
 public | temperatures_id_seq  | sequence | postgres
(5 rows)

postgres=#
```

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