

# ND STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, January 13, 2010

The North Dakota State Electrical Board meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by President James Schmidt at the office of the State Electrical Board, 1929 N. Washington Street, Bismarck, ND. Members present: Karen Karls, Ben Koppelman, Rodney Mayer and Earl Scherer. Also present was Donald Offerdahl, Executive Director.

President Schmidt asked for further Agenda items to appear at this meeting. Ben Koppelman requested that there be discussion on how they receive Agenda information for Board meetings. Rodney Mayer requested the subject of a town hall meeting to include inspectors. Don Offerdahl reported that he has information on Steven "Dusty" Rhodes doing electrical wiring, attendance at the NFPA 30(A) annual meeting, and the North Dakota Electrical Contractors' meeting March 4-5, 2010. There being no further Agenda items, it was motioned by Earl Scherer and seconded by Ben Koppelman that the Agenda, as amended, be approved. Motion carried.

Minutes were presented from the November 18, 2009 Board Meeting. Karen Karls stated that where it references administrative rules it currently says "state employees" and should read "State Electrical Board employees". Motioned by Karen Karls and seconded by Earl Scherer that the Minutes be approved as amended. Motion carried.

Minutes were presented from the December 21, 2009 Special Board Meeting. Motioned by Rodney Mayer and seconded by Ben Koppelman that the Minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Don Offerdahl presented to the Board the form used when oil fields have skids or building structures coming in from out of state. There was much discussion and several suggestions made on adding to the form. Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Earl Scherer that the form be approved as amended. Motion carried.

At 9:50 a.m., Bob Lulay and James Weight from the City of Jamestown, along with District 6 Inspector, David Paul, and Director of Inspections, Brad Steier, entered the meeting.

Discussion was held on the responsibility of the City of Jamestown in responding to e-mails from the State Electrical Board's office and inspections done in the City of Jamestown. Mr. Lulay indicated that he has been trying to catch up and indicated that no inspection stickers were left at the James River Correctional Center facility in the past, but have left inspection stickers at all other buildings that were inspected.

At 11:15 a.m., Bob Lulay, James Weight, David Paul and Brad Steier left the meeting.

At 11:30 a.m., James Anderson entered the meeting. Mr. Anderson had filed an application for a Journeyman license. It was indicated to him that more documentation is needed on where his practical experience was obtained in order to approve his application. Mr. Anderson indicated that he would get that information back to the State Electrical Board so that it could be approved.

At 11:45 a.m., James Anderson left the meeting.

The Board reviewed the monthly vouchers and financial reports. Motioned by Earl Scherer and seconded by Karen Karls that the monthly vouchers and financial reports be approved as presented. Motion carried.

District reports were presented to the Board by Don Offerdahl, including the 6-month and 12-month reports. The reports show that there has been an increase in electrical work during the last half of 2009 and that any future activities need to be watched closely in case there is a need for additional inspectors.

Certification of inspectors was discussed. After much discussion, Rodney Mayer motioned that the inspectors be reimbursed the cost of the first exam. Motion was seconded by Ben Koppelman. Motion carried.

Don updated the Board on Dwite Brew.

Don informed the Board that the matter involving Neil Markuson's corrections has been settled.

Don also indicated that JJ Lynn from the South Dakota Electrical Commission had called and indicated he could not make this meeting. President Schmidt stated that an invitation should be given for further meetings to attend.

Don reviewed the letters from Cavalier Rural Electric on lineman doing electrical work.

Don informed the Board of the letter and telephone call from Dakota Prairie Flour. He indicated that the request to have the facility be a Class II Division 1 area was up to the electrical engineer who is classifying the area.

Cease and desist letters were presented to the Board concerning Kyle Zastrow, Watertown, WI; Tom Melcher, Watertown, WI; Jason Squire, Watertown, WI; Marko Pobric, Williston, ND; Steve Faltersack, Watertown, WI; Marty Tetrault, Langdon, ND; Rich Vestal, Williston, ND; Mike Buss, Watertown, WI; and Stephen Hill, Bismarck, ND. Having received no communication, it was motioned by Earl Scherer and seconded by Ben Koppelman that cease and desist orders be sent to these individuals. Motion carried.

Sending documentation concerning agenda items to the Board electronically was discussed. Questions concerning what can and cannot be sent were brought up. This item is tabled until Special Assistant Attorney General Scott Porsborg can be present to give the Board legal advice.

Don Offerdahl presented reciprocal and exam applications to the Board. Vance Benoit's (of Lake Charles, LA) Application for a Journeyman License was presented. Motioned by Rodney Mayer and seconded by Earl Scherer to deny the Application. Motion carried.

Joseph Steffan's (of Lecompton, KS) Application for Journeyman License was presented. Motioned by Karen Karls and seconded by Earl Scherer to deny the Application. Motion carried.

Jeffrey Teague's (of Baker, MN) Application for Journeyman License was presented. More information is needed to determine approval of Application. This Application is tabled until the next Board meeting in March, 2010.

Barry Long's (of Baton Rouge, LA) Application for a Master License was presented. Motioned by Earl Scherer and seconded by Karen Karls to deny the Application. Motion carried.

James Youngblood's (of Carrollton, GA) Application for a Master License was presented. Motioned by Earl Scherer and seconded by Karen Karls to deny the Application. Motion carried.

Various letters and employment verifications from Mike Moser of James River Correction Center were presented to the Board concerning Reed Stewart. Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Earl Scherer to accept the 5,427 hours that Mr. Moser has verified. Motion carried.

Don reviewed with the Board the new website and software development. Don indicated that we are at the point where we are ready to add the long-awaited enhancements to the software program.

Don Offerdahl presented the remaining reciprocal and exam applications to the Board. Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Karen Karls that these applications as presented be approved. Motion carried.

Don reviewed the upcoming administrative rules and informed the Board that the 2011 NEC would require a neutral conductor to be available for electronic devices that need a neutral to operate. If a switch location has NM cable installed, the Board should review if there would be any additional inspections and what the rules would be in place for the inspectors to carry out rough-in inspections.

There being no further business, it was motioned by Earl Scherer and seconded by Karen Karls that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

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Date

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Date

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James Schmidt, PRESIDENT

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Karen Karls, SECRETARY