

# **NORTH DAKOTA STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

The North Dakota State Electrical Board meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Rodney Mayer at the office of the North Dakota State Electrical Board, 1929 N. Washington Street, Suite A-1, Bismarck, N.D. Members present: Tom Paulson, Mark Christopher, Brad Sylliaasen and Ben Koppelman. Also present: James Schmidt, Executive Director; Scott Halle, Training and Compliance Administrator; and Curt Kasper, NECA.

President Mayer asked for further Agenda items to appear at this meeting. Mr. Schmidt added an item related to the City of Bismarck permitting self-wiring in the city. President Mayer added an item regarding development of an application for contractors to have easier access to the e-Cert system.

President Mayer asked for any comments on the Consent Agenda items. Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Tom Paulson to approve the Consent Agenda items. Discussion of cease and desist items where a service was energized without warning and an unlicensed individual was shocked at a compressor station. Motion carried.

At 8:37 a.m., Kyle Beck entered the meeting.

The Board discussed the increase of attorney fees. Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Brad Sylliaasen to accept the new rate, but review each year. Motion carried.

Mr. Schmidt presented the past due correction policy. There was discussion on the pros and cons of having a policy for past due corrections. Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Tom Paulson to accept the policy as written.

At 9:00 a.m., Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General, entered the meeting.

Discussion continued on the past due correction policy. Suggestions were made about notification to owners about past due corrections on their property and what is the appropriate time to notify them. It was decided to continue with office practices and inform contractors that the owner will be informed if corrections are not completed in a timely fashion. Mr. Schmidt is to come up with a policy and this will be revisited at the next Board meeting. Ben Koppelman withdrew his motion to accept the policy and Tom Paulson withdrew his second.

At 9:13 a.m., Michael William Olson and Claire Christison entered the meeting.

Kyle Beck appeared before the Board to appeal his denial to take the Journeyman examination due to being convicted of felonies. Mr. Schmidt discussed the background of the policy and that these felonies were not disclosed previously. Board members discussed reasons why the Board is concerned about licensure of convicted felons and also asked for

more details about the incidents and total amounts involved. Board also asked about recommendations from employers and associates.

Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Tom Paulson to enter Executive Session. Motion carried.

At 9:49 a.m., all attendees left the meeting, and the Board entered into Executive Session.

At 10:00 a.m., it was motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Tom Paulson to end Executive Session. All attendees re-entered the meeting.

Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Mark Christopher to deny Kyle Beck's appeal due to dishonesty on his Journeyman application. Motion carried 3:1.

Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General, informed Kyle Beck of options available to him. Mr. Schmidt advised him to be honest and truthful in the future with these situations. Kyle Beck asked questions regarding future requests to the Board.

At 10:08 a.m., Kyle Beck left the meeting. The Board recessed for a short break.

At 10:13 a.m., the Board reconvened.

Michael William Olson appeared before the Board with Claire Christison to appeal his denial of an apprentice application as a convicted felon. Documents were distributed to the Board and introductions and background information were discussed. Board members questioned Mr. Olson about reasons for pursuing a license, his intentions for the future, and information about why he was convicted of a felony and how he arrived at this point in his life. Claire Christison spoke of her history with Mr. Olson and the employer's history with former inmates.

Motioned by Brad Sylliaasen and seconded by Mark Christopher to enter Executive Session for attorney consultation. Motion carried.

At 10:39 a.m., all attendees left the meeting, and the Board entered into Executive Session.

At 10:44 a.m., it was motioned by Mark Christopher and seconded by Brad Sylliaasen to end Executive Session. All attendees re-entered the meeting.

Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Brad Sylliaasen to approve the apprentice registration with a caution to be truthful with the Board in future interactions. Motion carried.

At 10:47 a.m., Michael William Olson and Claire Christison left the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt updated the Board on the Administrative Rules progress.

A Board Ethics Policy will be reviewed and any changes will be brought to the next Board meeting.

The Board reviewed a list of contractors not in compliance with requirements. Motioned by Mark Christopher and seconded by Tom Paulson that the following unlicensed contractors must appear before the Board at a regular meeting before their Master license can be renewed: Aric Caughey (M 3454), A & J Electric; Billy Jacobson (M 3036), Persevere LLC; John Jerke (M 2756), John's Electric; Lee Johnson (M 2191), Johnson Electric; Warren Jonasson (M 1855), Jonasson Electric; Terrence Kramer (M 0970), Kramer Electric; Blake Larsen (M 3024), Xtreme Electric; and Warren Stimson (M3636), NFL Electric. Motion carried.

At 10:56 a.m., Ben Koppelman left the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt informed the Board the City of Bismarck repealed an ordinance Tuesday evening which will allow self-wiring in the city. Mr. Schmidt indicated that City of Bismarck has requested the State Electrical Board's assistance with implementing this and that our office has agreed to help.

The Board reviewed the City Inspection Policy. The policy was updated for cities requesting inspection authority. The Board suggested that cities currently doing inspections should sign the updated policy as well.

A Power Limited Technician license was discussed and President Mayer requested that the committee meet at least one more time and possibly attend a future Board meeting as well to keep the process moving forward.

The Board reviewed the Journeyman Permit and discussed modifying the policy to allow the permit to be valid for more than 60 days in special circumstances approved by the Executive Director. Motioned by Brad Sylliaasen and seconded by Tom Paulson to accept a rewritten policy. Motion carried.

Mr. Schmidt provided an update on switching the server over to ITD.

Mr. Schmidt reviewed the CTE information. The CTE credentialing had lapsed due to lack of standards for them to base the credential on; however, they renewed the credential after being provided with a list of requirements for them to follow and this option is again available for providers.

President Mayer asked if an application could be developed to allow access to the e-Cert system via a cell phone. Mr. Schmidt will discuss this with programmers to find out if it is possible.

At 11:40 a.m., Scott Porsborg left the meeting.

Scott Halle provided an update on the 2017 CEU classes and numbers. Scott also discussed subjects that may be included in new classes.

At 11:55 a.m., Doug Grinde, Director of Inspections, entered the meeting.

Doug Grinde discussed reports on incoming/outgoing certificates along with active certificates by county.

At 12:06 p.m., Doug Grinde left the meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be March 21, 2018.

There being no further business, it was motioned by Tom Paulson and seconded by Brad Sylliaasen to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

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Date

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Date

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Rodney Mayer, PRESIDENT

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Tom Paulson, SECRETARY