

NORTH DAKOTA STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

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: Kyle Miller, Tom Paulson and Brad Sylliaasen. Also present: James Schmidt, Executive Director; Ashley Windhorst, Administrative Assistant; Curt Casper, NECA; Don Iverson, NEMA; and Tim McClintock, NFPA.

President Mayer asked for further Agenda items to appear at this meeting. There were no items added to the Agenda.

President Mayer asked for any comments on the Consent Agenda items. Motioned by Tom Paulson and seconded by Brad Sylliaasen to approve the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried.

Mr. Schmidt discussed NFPA 70 code panels. He's been asked by inspectors if they could serve on code panels in the future. Tim McClintock informed the Board the code panels meet twice during the code cycle which is every three years. NFPA also covers 80% of the major travel (airfare/hotel).

At 8:40 a.m. Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General, and Lyle Wergeland, Information Representative, entered the meeting.

Lyle Wergeland presented a list of comments he's received. He also provided a list of job/career fairs, conventions, and expos NDSEB could possibly have a presence at. Discussion of what Lyle's presentation should consist of and information to present if he attends job/career fairs, conventions or expos.

At 8:55 a.m. Lyle Wergeland left the meeting. Scott Halle, Training and Compliance Administrator, and Preston Wise, Special Assistant Attorney General, entered the meeting.

Scott Halle gave an update on the 2016 CEU classes. Discussion was had on class participation. 2017 CEU course applications are starting to come in for review and approval. Scott gave an update on the ND Chapter IAEI convention that was held October 20-21, 2016. Attendance was good and there were lots of presenters. He continues to answer code questions from contractors and inspectors and is also working on putting smaller classes together. The 2017 classes will be on the 2017 NEC changes.

Tim McClintock indicated that NFPA provides a one-day post-adoption training class for AHJs.

At 9:15 a.m., Scott Halle and Don Iverson left the meeting. Doug Grinde, Director of Inspections, and Ben Koppelman entered the meeting.

Doug Grinde went through the district map and reports showing certificate numbers per month. Older certificates continue to be cleaned up; the number was cut in half again after only one month. Skid structures were also discussed.

At 9:30 a.m., Doug Grinde left the meeting.

The Board discussed holding a special Board meeting December 14, 2016 to review administrative rules and public comments.

The 2017 Board calendar was reviewed. Motioned by Brad Sylliaasen and seconded by Ben Koppelman to approve the 2017 calendar. Motion carried.

Further discussion was had about the administrative rule process and proposed rules, along with exceptions to proposals.

Mr. Schmidt provided an update from NDPERS on the retirement for employees. NDPERS required a policy to be in place for an employee purchase program. The Board reviewed and approved the policy for an employee purchase program.

Motioned by Ben Koppelman to pay the buyout and employer taxes, but the employee would be responsible for their share of taxes. Motion failed due to lack of a second.

Motioned by Brad Sylliaasen and seconded by Kyle Miller to approve employee purchase program and give James Schmidt, Executive Director, authority to complete the transaction with the appropriate funds to buyout Jerome Brackin and Frederick Schrader for early retirement. Motion carried.

Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General, provided an update on the Davenport Group. Discussion was had on how to proceed.

At 10:45 a.m., Paula Glass, Office Manager, and Janel Redinger, Administrative Assistant, entered the meeting.

Further discussion was had about the Davenport Group program. Paula Glass, Janel Redinger and Ashley Windhorst all gave updates and concerns about the program status.

Motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Kyle Miller to request Jerry Davenport from the Davenport Group to attend the December, 2016 Board meeting to see where we are with the program. Discussion was had and the motion failed 3:1.

Motioned by Tom Paulson and seconded by Brad Sylliaasen to sever any future relation with the Davenport Group, authorize staff to engage/move forward with the procurement process for a new vendor and authorize Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General, to move forward with litigation with Davenport Group. Motion carried.

Mr. Schmidt gave an update on repairing the current reporting system and working with procurement on an RFP process.

At 11:45 a.m., Paula Glass and Janel Redinger left the meeting. Scott Halle entered the meeting.

Scott Halle reviewed an apprenticeship program that a contractor wants to administer to their employees. They're using the NCCER and provided documentation showing lesson plans, calendars, etc. Discussion was had on instructors being an outside source vs. an employee. Further discussion was had about accountability when individual companies have an apprenticeship program they want approved.

The next Board meeting will be a special meeting held on December 14, 2016.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be January 18, 2017.

There being no further business, it was motioned by Ben Koppelman and seconded by Brad Sylliaasen to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Rodney Mayer, PRESIDENT

Tom Paulson, SECRETARY