

NDSEB EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday August 23, 2022

The North Dakota State Electrical Board Education Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Executive Director James Schmidt. The meeting was held in the large conference room of the North Dakota State Electrical Board.

Committee members present: Ivan Mass – NDSCS Representative; Steve Mundahl – Journeyman Representative; James Schmidt – NDSEB Executive Director; Scott Halle – Training & Compliance Administrator; Committee members present via Teams: Brian Poykko – Professional Engineer Representative; Tim Pull – Master Electrician Representative; Jeff Kirstein – IEC Dakotas Representative.

The agenda was reviewed, and no additional items were added to the agenda.

The minutes from September 8, 2021 were approved by a motion from Steve Mundahl second by Ivan Maas.

Members present reviewed the committee members list and verified their contact information is current. Robert Arso has retired and resigned from the committee; his position does not require replacing as there still is a power limited electrician on the committee.

James Schmidt discussed scholarship disbursements to programs for enrolled students, Ivan Maas explained to group the two avenues for students at NDSCS and any confusion about approved programs has been corrected, all NDSCS Electrical Program students are currently eligible for scholarship funds.

Adam Kidwell – JATC Representative joined the meeting via Teams.

The related training policy was reviewed by the committee and no changes were suggested at this time. The approved providers list was reviewed by the committee and the comparison sheet, Adam Kidwell reported the JATC has added a math class to comply with the requirements. Scott Halle will follow up with Brian Fuder about motor controls component to Transformers Course.

Brian Fuder – NDSCS Outreach Representative joined the meeting via Teams.

Brian Fuder is working on adding additional motor controls component to their Transformers Course and will update their program numbers accordingly.

James Schmidt asked the committee if the Electrical Core Class Related Training Minimum Requirements is appropriate, all committee members agreed no adjustments currently needed.

Application received from Mike Holt Enterprises was reviewed by the committee, there was discussion that they are not an educator but instead a provider of material, the application

provided is for a provider of education. The quality of the material was discussed, and members felt that it is quality material, but questions were asked about the administration of the program as far as grading and attendance would be conducted. More discussion about application of Mike Holt program, they would need a program coordinator that would facilitate their classes for North Dakota students and an application from a North Dakota course sponsor would be needed. Any North Dakota contractor could use the Mike Holt materials for their program but they would have the burden of proving the material used will meet minimum requirements and providing instructors and classroom requirements before being approved. A subcommittee consisting of Tim Pull, Jeff Kirstein, Brian Fuder, and Scott Halle will follow up with Mike Holt Enterprises to determine what their intentions are. Ivan Maas made a motion to table the application from Mike Holt Enterprises until further information is determined, Adam Kidwell second and motion passed.

The Electrical Association program had been tentatively approved previously and they made the requested adjustments to their program last September, a motion to approve the program as amended was made by Ivan Maas, second by Steve Mundahl was passed.

The audit checklist was reviewed by the committee and timelines for audits was discussed, determined to wait before starting audits. Adam Kidwell suggested sending out letters to all providers with self-audit requests to all providers to see what feedback we receive, and to give providers a chance to review their own programs. James indicated that local electrical inspectors could stop by at program locations to see how classes are being conducted, and the NDSEB would be willing to visit with classes if programs are interested. Committee reviewed the apprenticeship related training course audit checklist, and all approve of it with no changes at this time.

James Schmidt asked committee if they had any suggestions to help with content in the newsletter, such as the previously discussed apprentice highlight story. If anyone comes up with ideas or content, please let James know as it is difficult to keep the newsletter interesting.

Committee spent some time discussing exam results and percentages of students passing their journeyman exam, looking at ways to improve the exams. Jeff Kirstein described a program in South Dakota where students in the prison system take related training classes and many do quite well. No additional inputs or suggestions were made at this time regarding any changes to the methods currently in use for examinations.

For future committee work the Mike Holt course application will be followed up when results are available from the subcommittee regarding their application, and the next meeting date will be determined then. Steve Mundahl asked for some clarification about what constitutes non-code subjects acceptable for continuing education credits, discussed 70E training, motors and motor controls, and electrical theory as some areas acceptable.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.