

ND State Electrical Board
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Find us at
www.ndseb.com

A Message From the Executive Director:



Happy Holidays to you all!

The NDSEB CEU classes continue to be a success. The class comment cards we

receive from the attendees are still very positive. I joked with instructor Jerry Brackin that he must be attaching \$20 bills to each of the comment cards he hands out to the students for all the excellent reviews he is getting!

We're working on next year's class format and we will keep the same class structure but the content will be on updated ND Wiring Standards and the 2014 NEC changes. Our new 2014 CEU class will begin in May and will be offered at the same 16 locations finishing up next December. Having Jerry on staff, we've just begun offering other non-CEU credit classes such as OSHA 10, 70E arc flash, scissor lift, forklift, boom lift trainings,

confined space and several others. If your company is working on projects that require the employees have these certifications, contact Jerry or myself in our office for more details. We are working on listing all available classes on our website in the near future so keep checking for new information.

License renewal time is right around the corner so remember to keep us informed of your most current e-mail and mailing address. When the license renewal notices were sent out, we got a lot of them back as "undeliverable" so let us know if your address changes.

I want to close with the following thought. The upcoming holidays are a time for family and friends to share, reflect and remember the good times we've had and plan the many more to come. So let's all have a safe and happy holiday season and don't forget

to be generous to those less fortunate than we are!

Be safe out there,
 James Schmidt



Ensuring Public Safety Since 1917

Connections

Issue 242
 December 2013

Board Holds Public Hearing on Proposed Changes

The North Dakota State Electrical Board held a public hearing to receive comments on proposed changes to the administrative rules concerning the North Dakota Laws, Rules and Wiring Standards on November 14, 2013 in the Red River Room of the State Capitol building.

There are 15 proposed changes, several of which were suggested in order to keep current with the 2014 National Electrical Code. Approx. 10 people attended the hearing and most of the proposed changes received no comments.

The proposed change that received the most input was allowing metal cable (MC) rated for the environment to be installed in hospitals, nursing homes, related patient care areas, places of assembly and dormitories in addition to metal raceways (Section 24-02-01-03(6) of the N.D. Wiring Standards).

The Board did not discuss the items or take action as the public hearing was meant to provide a means to



The North Dakota State Electrical Board held a public hearing on November 14, 2013 in the Red River Room of the State Capitol to receive testimony and comments on the proposed administrative rule changes. Pictured around the table starting at the left are Board Member Kyle Miller, Director of Inspections Lyle Wergeland, NDSEB Office Manager Paula Glass, Special Assistant Attorney General Scott Porsborg, Board President Earl Scherer, Board Vice President Rodney Mayer, Board Secretary Karen Karls, and NDSEB Executive Director James Schmidt.

receive comments on the proposed changes. Written comments would be allowed until November 25, 2013.

The next step in the process requires the Board to act on each proposal at its next meeting in January. The proposals

will then go to the Attorney General's Office for review and then onto the Legislative Council for their action.

The Board is still contemplating an enforcement date of either September

1, 2014 or January 1, 2015 for the approved changes. More information will be posted on the NDSEB website as updates come in. ☑



Rich Ross, President of Moorhead Electric in Fargo testified in support of the addition of MC cable to Section 24-02-01-03 of ND Wiring Standards.

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News & Notes from the NDSEB

New Districts and Inspectors

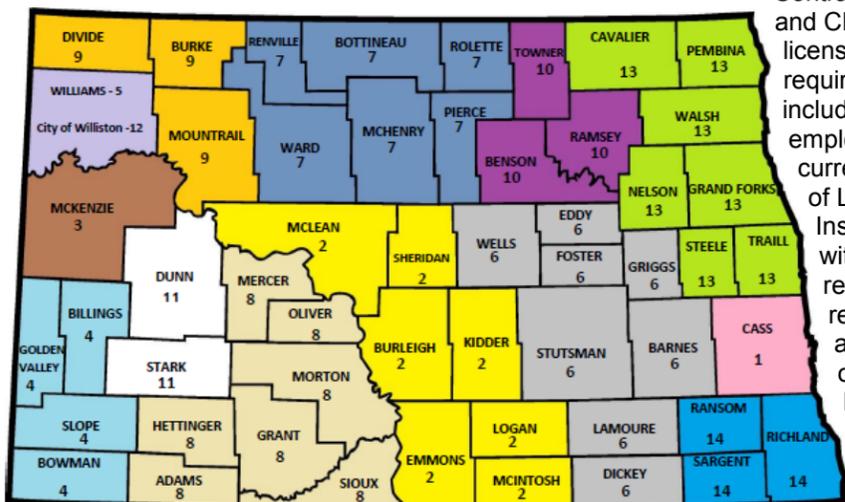
Our office has done some additional re-districting of inspectors and re-numbering of districts (see map below). We now have 14 districts, not including the cities of Bismarck, Minot, Grand Forks, and Fargo, who have their own city inspectors. We only had 8 districts just 2 years ago! Our website will always have the latest District Map as well as contact information for our electrical inspectors.

Welcome to Greg Rockstad who started work as our new District 5 (Williams County) electrical inspector on November 18th.

Registrations and License Renewals

Watch for the new postcard mailing of renewal reminders for registrations and licenses. The Apprentice registration reminders were mailed on December 2, 2013, as they expire January 31, 2014. Journeyman license reminders will be mailed out the 1st week of February; Masters and Class B license reminders will be mailed out 1st week in March.

All licensees are required to submit or have on file with our office 8 hours of continuing education prior to renewing. Note: Make sure the hours from the CEU class you are taking are recognized by our office.



Contracting Masters and Class B licensees are required to also include an employee list and current Certificate of Liability Insurance along with their license renewal. Also, remember that all individuals on your list have to be renewed **before your** license can

be renewed. All registrations and licenses can be renewed online from our website at <https://www.ndseb.com>.

Contractor Paperwork

A reminder to contracting electricians: Review your files for wiring certificates that have not yet been turned in where

- the job has started;
- need corrections to be completed,
- have fees to be paid,
- are older than 1 year and less than \$10,000 that may need a new wiring certificate.

If you're having trouble with paper wiring certificates and want to inquire about electronic wiring certificates (e-Cert system), contact our office.

To have an e-Cert account, download / complete the application and mail into our office for processing and assigning a login ID and password. The e-Cert system is an efficient way of managing your electrical work. The system allows you to issue wiring certificates, provides instant notification to power companies, receive and submit correction reports, and make payment on your certificates electronically. This system keeps your records for 7 years and you can access them at any time during that period to review as needed.

If you are currently using the e-Cert system and have unused paper wiring certificates, turn these back into our office for proper voiding. **The Board is considering making e-Certs mandatory in the near future so you may want to get up to speed before this happens.**

Bad Boys Caught

The Board wants to inform all that they are actively pursuing contractors/ electricians acting irresponsibly. There have been a few cases in the last year where the Board has revoked or placed on probation contractors that have not been filing wiring certificates or have claimed to complete corrections without actually performing them. Our inspectors have discovered these by doing re-inspections.

Remember that falsifying a legal document is a violation of ND Century

News & Notes from the NDSEB (continued)

Code Section 43-09-15: The state electrical board may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew any license based on these violations.

TO REITERATE: Section 24-02-01-02 (3): Master and class B electricians. A master or class B electrician may exercise . . . A master or class B electrician must be actively engaged in the supervision of every project certified under that electrician's license.

Inspection Fee Calculator

We have been receiving paper wiring certificates with inspection fees that

have been miscalculated. A fee calculator has been added under the "Inspections" tab on our website for your convenience. If you're having trouble with the calculations or want to double-check your math, please use this useful tool. If you're on the e-Cert system, the inspection fees are automatically calculated based on the job cost.

IAEI Western Section:

NDSEB Members Ben Koppleman and Karen Karls, along with Director of Inspections Lyle Wergeland and State Inspectors Mitch Feininger, Al Schrader, Rich Wolfe, Mike Lund, Zack Paetz, and Kendrick Kjorsvik attended the IAEI

Western Section meeting held in Colorado Springs, CO, this past October. The group is shown below discussing a presentation at one of the luncheon events.

Information on the 2014 NEC changes was presented at the conference. The attending inspectors shared the information at the October, 2013 NDSEB Inspectors' meeting. If you



would like a copy of the Analysis of Changes to the 2014 NEC, contact Lyle Wergeland at 701-328-9526.

Contracting Master Electricians:

ND Wiring Standards Section 24-02-01-02(3) states: A master or class B electrician shall notify the state electrical board office immediately upon changing from contracting status to non-contracting status for the shop or business they represent.

The Board wants to address Master electricians holding the contracting license as an employee of a firm. If you are contemplating leaving employment from that firm, YOU are legally responsible, not the firm, for any wiring certificates you have issued and all corrections associated with those certificates. Before you leave employment, you must contact this office to discuss your situation and how we can assist you in your transition.

Contractor Orientation

If you choose to engage in electrical contracting business (effective October 1, 2013) in North Dakota, orientation is now required and will be held at the NDSEB office in Bismarck. The orientation will include an administrative rules review. Contact our office for an appointment at 701-328-9522. ☺

Making A Connection: District 1 Inspector Josh Wilson

An inspector with the NDSEB for almost eight years, Josh Wilson graduated from West Fargo High School and also attended NDSCS. He previously worked at Moorhead Electric and has been the District 1 Inspector since 2005.

Married to his wife Jackie, Josh has two children - a 10 year-old daughter named Samantha and an 8-year-old son named Race.

What is your favorite part of your job? *Interacting with the guys in the field.*

Do you have a favorite memory or experience while working for the NDSEB? *I remember my first day being trained in by Rich Wolfe and we were coming across horrible self-wires and a couple of bad installations and I remember thinking to myself, "What in the hell did I get myself into?!" And Rich Wolfe told me not to worry, it gets better.*

Did you or do you have a mentor or a person that inspired you? *The Journeymen at Moorhead Electric who taught me as an apprentice.*

What are your hobbies? *I enjoy going to the lake, jet-skiing, water*

skiing, wake boarding, grilling out, and coaching my son's football team.

If you couldn't do your current job, what would you want to do instead? *I would love to be the most recent winner of the lottery.*

What's your favorite TV show? *Finding Bigfoot. We watch that show and laugh for an hour straight.*

The best movie of all time is . . . ? *Full Metal Jacket*



Who's your favorite superhero? *Captain America*

Safety Corner: Article 590 Temporary Power

Most electricians would agree we have the most technical job on a construction site. Electricians also have one of the most dangerous jobs on a construction site and an inordinate amount of responsibility. We are responsible for the safety of all workers as pertains to the use of electricity on construction sites. Proper bonding, grounding and GFCI protection are of paramount importance.

Article 590 of NEC is an extremely important tool, it sets the standards and requirements for the safe use of power and lights during construction. Most electricians check their "temporaries" in the shop before they go out on the job site. OSHA and NEC standards require

they be tested after installation and periodically thereafter. Art. 590.6B2 (a3) (b) state these requirements clearly.

What most electricians DON'T do is document the results of the periodic testing. The date, test results of GFCI testing (all OK or replaced/repared) and signature of the tester is required on all documentation. You may be asked for this documentation by the AHJ, not to mention this could become of vital legal importance in case of an electrical accident resulting in injury. ☺

