North Dakota State Electrical Board Minutes

September 23, 2026 Board Meeting

The North Dakota State Electrical Board meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Rodney Mayer at the Electrical Board office at 1929 N. Washington St., Ste A-1, Bismarck, North Dakota. Members Present: Rodney Mayer, Jesse Larson, James Brandenburg, Gerald "Poke" Buck, Christina Roemmich, and Dale Rubish. Also Present: James Schmidt, Executive Director; Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General; Anna Jellesed; Adam Kidwell, JATC; Brandon Mellem, ArchKey Parsons; and Blair Thoreson, Primacy Strategy Group.

Mayer reviewed the agenda and asks if anyone has anything to add. Schmidt adds 3 items: Jeff Pollard; Ross Meland; and Interstate Compact Discussion. Mayer asks for a Motion to approve the agenda as amended and to approve the consent agenda. Roemmich makes a Motion, Buck seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

(Allison and Janel enter the meeting)

Robert Tabler, Allison tells the Board about Robert Tabler, his Apprenticeship Application, and his criminal history. Porsborg talks to the Board about the statute regarding rehabilitation and gives legal advice to the Board in relation to applicants with felonies. Larson, Buck, and Rubish would deny Tabler's application with an invite to come before the Board in November, Roemmich and Brandenburg would approve the application. Larson makes a Motion to defer the decision on the application and invite the applicant to come before the Board at the November meeting. Rubish seconds. Motion passed on a 4-2 vote.

(Anthony Lordson enters meeting)

Antwan Alexander, Schmidt talks to the Board about Antwan Alexander, his Apprenticeship Application, and his criminal history. Allison gives additional information into his criminal past. Larson asks for clarification on the supervision of the applicant and whether the Board can rereview the application when the Apprentice applies to become a Journeyman. Roemmich talks about the number of felonies and would like to deny his application and ask that he come before the Board to discuss. Buck makes a Motion to defer the decision on the application and invite the applicant to come before the Board at the November meeting. Roemmich seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

(Christina Sambor, Attorney, enters meeting)

Luther Brumfield, Schmidt talks to the Board about Luther Brumfield, Application for Reciprocity re: his CO Journeyman's license, and his criminal history. Janel talks more on Brumfield's criminal charge from 2008. Brandenburg comments on Brumfield's work experience and the lack of hours. Janel talks about her review of reciprocity apps, looking mainly at the state of licensure and the hours completed. Roemmich makes a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Buck seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

(Doug enters meeting, Rich enters via phone)

Todd Volling (Todd via zoom, Attorney Christina Sambor present), Sambor introduces herself and her client Volling. Schmidt talks to the Board about Volling's lack of appearance at last meeting and continues with discussing Volling's work violations. Schmidt asks for Volling's input to the violations. Volling is from WI and holds his electrical licenses in that State. Volling describes his work for Steve's Electric at the Dollar General stores. Schmidt also talks about direct supervision per ND law. Rich talks about what he saw that constituted the violation. Schmidt asks Volling to explain his work in ND. Volling tells the Board about the issue with the Generator project and his ongoing relationship with Steve's Electric. Sambor asks for clarification and confirmation on the violations at the Dollar General and at the Generator site. Volling states that he doesn't have open certs in ND currently and nothing in the works to do work in ND in the near future. Volling would like to continue to hold a ND Master's electrical license and confirms his appearance on site for all certs going forward. Doug states that the Dollar General work has been taken care of and is not outstanding. Schmidt also confirms that the fees have been paid.

(Alex Martushev and Elizabeta Martushev enter meeting)

Doug researched Volling's open certificates and finds four open certs. Volling talks about the certs and the status of them. Schmidt talks to Volling about his Master's license and the expectations. Mayer discusses the cell tower certs being solely Volling's work and that the cell towers are large jobs and wants Volling to confirm that he will be present on the site for all future ND certs. Mayer talks about Master Electricians needing to know the status of every cert they pull. **Volling confirms his appearance at all open ND Certs going forward.** Doug talks about the work needed on the open certs to final them. Mayer asks that we discuss the status of these open certs at the November meeting. Mayer asks for clarification on Volling's contracted work, whether it is with Dollar General or with Steve's Electric. Volling confirms he is in contract with Steve's Electric for the Dollar General work. Mayer notes that Steve's Electric does not hold a Master's Electrician license in ND. Sambor asks for clarification on the certs. Porsborg describes the violation of 24.1-05-01-01(5). Volling states that he did not know about Steve's Electric's license status within ND. Schimdt wants Volling's open certs resolved and for the Board to discuss how to handle Volling's ND license. Mayer confirms that Volling has a Contractors license with the Secretary of State. The Board discusses the open certs and the request for an update needed by next meeting or the possibility of probation. Volling talks about the work he will put into his open certs. Schmidt and Volling agree that a report on the status of the four open certs is due by end of day on Friday (Sept. 25). Mayer asks that Volling be added to the November agenda.

(Christina Sambor leaves the meeting)

Alex Martushev (present), Schmidt tells the Board about Martushev's Application to Reciprocate his MN Master License down to a ND Journeyman. Also was discussed Martushev ND master license that was revoked a few years ago. Martushev talks about his past ND Master's electrician contracting license and his Journeyman Tim Krommenhoek's work (and lack of supervision of the apprentices), and his lack of certs being taken out. Schmidt talks about the money being used from the undertaking fund to clean up Martushev's open certs. (total of $1,903.53). Martushev talks about his 4 years of sobriety and his life being on the up and up. Martushev wants to work and

provide for his family. He is employed by Hanson Electric, Bemidji, MN and works in Solway, MN currently. Martushev has been getting calls about working at the data centers in Harwood and Ellendale and would like to reciprocate his MN Master license down to a ND Journeyman do work closer to home. Schmidt asks about his current licensure and confirms his past issues with the Board. Roemmich confirms continuing ed hours. Martushev states that he only wants a Journeyman's license in ND and Mayer wants confirmation that he will not request a Master's license in ND - discussion was held back and forth. Buck makes a Motion to approve Martushev's Application for Reciprocity for his Journeyman's license after he reimburse the undertaking fund and pay the $150 in outstanding cert fees, waiving the interest. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously. Schmidt and Janel confirm Martushev's contact information.

(Alex Martushev and Elizabeta Martushev leave the meeting)

The Board discusses Martushev's payment being made before his license is granted.

Board takes a break at 10:09 a.m.
Board reconvenes at 10:23 a.m.

Anthony Lordson (Present), Schmidt tells the Board about Lordson's Apprentice Application. Lordson talks about this opportunity. Lordson states that he lives in the Cando area and has parents and a nephew that live close. Lordson has done construction and mechanical work so he feels he has a handle on the work needed to be an electrician. Schmidt talks about the classes needed while being an Apprentice. Lordson states he is currently enrolled in the JATC program. Schmidt asks for clarification on his criminal past. Mayer asks about addiction and Lordson's sobriety status. Schmidt asks about Lordson's probation and parole and what that currently entails. Lordson states parole ends in 2029 and probation can end in one year if fees are paid and he is good. Roemmich makes a Motion to approve Lordson's Application for Apprenticeship. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

(Anthony Lordson leaves meeting)

William Callister, Schmidt tells the Board about Callister's Application for Reciprocal Journeyman's license from Idaho. Janel speaks on Callister's criminal history. Callister is married with 2 kids and working in Ellendale. Buck makes a Motion to Approve the Application. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Timothy Horn, Schmidt tells the Board about Horn's Application for Reciprocity of his Master's license in MN. Janel talks about his criminal past. Horn has held a MN Master's license since March of 2025. Roemmich makes a Motion to deny his application for reciprocity of his Master's license but offer reciprocity for his Journeyman's license instead, and invite him to appear before the Board in November. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Andrew Montano, Janel talks to the Board about his Application to reciprocate his Journeyman's license from CO. Janel also talks about his criminal history, sex offender registry, and the Board's previous denial of his Application due to a lack of the one year of minimum service. Montano has

held his Journeyman's license in CO since April of 2023. Buck makes a Motion to approve the reciprocity application. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Geoffrey Vandrovec, Allison tells the Board about Vandrovec's Application for Apprenticeship and criminal history. Schmidt asks Porsborg for legal advice as to Vandrovec's probation status until 2035. Rubish wants to deny the application. Buck makes note of the training needed while an apprentice. Roemmich makes note of his employment with ArchKey but wants him to visit with the Board regarding the Application. Brandenburg would approve. Larson says no. Brandenburg makes a Motion to Approve the Application. Roemmich seconds. Motion failed with a 3-3 vote. Porsborg advises the letter should state "defers decision pending appearance before the Board in November".

Scott Bakke, Schmidt talks to the Board about Bakke's Application for Apprenticeship. Allison talks about his criminal history. The Board discusses the letters received on his behalf. Larson asks about the jail time and his current probation status. The Board discussed its desire for Bakke to come before the Board. Roemmich makes a Motion to Approve his Application for Apprenticeship. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Charles Brown, Schmidt tells the Board about Brown's Application for Apprenticeship and his criminal history. Allison states the jail time was 4.5 years and he is on the sex offender registry. Buck makes a Motion to defer the decision on his Application and request his appearance before the Board at the November meeting. Rubish seconds. Motion passed unanimously. Schmidt asks Porsborg for clarification on the verbiage to be put into the letters to the Applicants. Porsborg explains the law to the Board.

Eric Johnson, Schmidt tells the Board about Johnson's Apprenticeship Application, criminal history, and current employment with Denny's Electric. Allison talks about his probation and parole status. Johnson was an Apprentice in ND from 2001-2021. The Board discusses his current incarceration. Rubish makes a motion to deny Johnson's Apprenticeship Application due to incarceration. Buck Seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Christopher Wuori, Schmidt tells the Board about Wuori's Apprenticeship Application, criminal history, and his employment with ArchKey. Allison states that his probation is unclear but looks like it is until 2028. Porsborg states that he was released from prison in July. Brandenburg makes a motion to approve Wuori's Apprenticeship Application. Rubish Seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayer asks the Board's decision on how to handle these felony applications in the future. Roemmich states that Schmidt continue to pare them down with his best judgment and bring before the Board the difficult ones.

Schmidt asks for clarification on the letter deferring a decision vs denying the application.

(Allison and Janel leave the meeting)

Jeff Pollard, Schmidt discusses Jeff Pollard's complaint on electrical jobsite supervision. He wanted the Schmidt to give legal advice on how to handle the situation with tracking ratios and supervision of Apprentices. Schmidt asked him to appear at the Board. Schmidt wanted the Board to have insight into this issue. Pollard did not appear.

Ross Meland, Schmidt discusses his communication with Meland. He is the Master Electrician with Elevate Electric, LLC out of West Fargo. Meland questioned the Board's denial of Austin Stanfill's application for a reciprocal license out of MN. Schmidt invited Meland, Austin, and Austin's father in law (an attorney) to appear at a Board meeting. Schmidt made note that Austin didn't appear before the Board after his denial at the September 2025 board meeting. Austin has gone to a local legislator, and that legislator is asking Schmidt for changes. Schmidt is going to send another letter to invite them all to appear at the November meeting.

Interstate Compact, Schmidt discussed that the Board needs to have an annual review of the interstate compacts per NDCC 43-51.1-03(6). The Board discussed and determined no interstate compact opportunities are available to the Board, but only reciprocity agreements, which the Board has endeavored to expand to the extent possible.

Office Updates, Schmidt talks about the procurement of the new reporting system and the continued assistance from ITD. Schmidt talks about credit card fees and how IMS uses Paymentus. It is set-up to have the user billed for the cc fees instead of NDSEB eating the cost. Schmidt asked the Board for its input on rolling out the new reporting system February 1, 2027. Schmidt discusses the status of the updated computers and the drawn-out process with Silicon-Plains. Next Wednesday will be the roll-out of the new domain and email addresses.

Schmidt wants everyone to take a look at the 2027 calendar and asks for approval. Larson asked that the September 22 meeting move to the 15th as he is gone. Everyone else was ok with the schedule. Roemmich makes a Motion to approve the 2027 calendar with the requested change. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

NDSCS in Wahpeton sent a letter about them discontinuing its use of the CIC building in Fargo for electrical classes.

Schmidt talked about his and Porsborg's visit with Victor Schock and Robert Frank both with Public Service Commission office and individuals from Basin Electric, Erin Fox Dukart, Chris Bauer and Trenton Schwahn regarding NDSEB inspections at the Bison powerplant. It was agreed and understood by all that the NDSEB inspection authority would not include the equipment used for power generation only or the control of power generation equipment only but all other electrical would be inspected by NDSEB staff and ensure licensed ND electricians were performing the work.

Conveyance, Schmidt set the fee to $100 for certificate of operation for conveyance equipment after their annual inspection.

Board takes a break at 12:20 p.m.
Board reconvenes at 12:33 p.m.

Jamie McLean, Mayer states that he didn't show for his 10:00am appearance before the board.

(Janel enters meeting)

Expired Contractors, Janel confirmed the three contractors and their information:

Daniel Huot – Inspections are done and no corrections are needed. Awaiting payment of fees and Huot is not responding with NDSEB.

Mike Olstad – 12 open certs with fees due. Olstad is the Master for Kohn Electric. Olstad has paid fees but not put money towards Certs. Corrections are not complete.

Mike Walen – Took over certs from David Haas and Big Horn- 1 open cert. Corrections are not complete, hasn't paid the fees, CEU hours are done, no contact with NDSEB.

Buck makes a Motion to not renew their Contracting license and must appear before the Board. Roemmich seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayer asks how many expired contractors we started with, Schmidt notes that there were 54 expired contractors in May and we are now down to 3. Mayer gives kudos to Janel.

Strickly Nguyen, Schmidt tells the Board about Nguyen's request for reciprocity from West Virgina. Schmidt invited him to attend the July Board meeting but he hasn't appeared. Schmidt will remove him from the agenda unless he hears from him again.

Professional Licensing Boards training seminar, Schmidt asks if any Board member wants to attend the training. Brandenburg asks about the requirement to attend. No members will attend.

Administrative Assistant, Schmidt tells about posting an Ad on August 11th for an Admin. assistant. Three applicants were received. Janel with follow up with them on outstanding information needed.

In addition to the full-time job posting, Schmidt wants to look for a temp employee to assist in the office. They have been working to put together a job posting for the temp agency. Looking at 3-4 hours per day. Janel states they take credit cards payments every day and it is time-consuming.

Williston Apartment, Schmidt talks about extensive water damage at a Williston Apartment complex. A good portion of the apartment building's roof caved in. Upon inspection by the City of Williston, who then contacted NDSEB, it was determined that the buildings power should be shut off. NDSEB requested MDU to shut off power to the building and a notice was given to the building owner. The owner is unsure whether they will rebuild.

Steve's Electric, Schmidt tells the Board about Steve's Electric and his work in ND. The civil matter is going to trial in February 2027, and Rich Krause and Schmidt will be deposed tomorrow in relation to the case.

(Janel leaves the meeting)

(Doug, Wolfe and Scott enter the meeting)

Wolfe talks about the Contractors meeting that was held. A full room was in attendance with a lot of questions. Created forms for licensing and implemented. 73 mechanics registered and 7 contractors. Completed test forms for inspections. Created a test exam for contracting mechanics.

Doug talks about total wiring certificates, which 4 districts that are really busy. Some certs were moved to different districts to help disperse the workload. He talks about the Grand Forks City certs incoming. Sent out 122 self-wire application letters since last meeting, 450 in total for the year; 204 self-wire permits for the year; and 534 certs done for MHA.

Scott talks about continuing ed with increased numbers in classes. 54 registered in Grand Forks and 92 in Fargo. Ramada damage has put the classes on hold at that facility so they will continue holding the CEU classes at the Baymont. There were complaints about the food at the continuing ed classes in Minot. Proctored exams are going well. Working on getting the exam question bank up to 26.

(Doug, Clark and Scott leave the meeting)

Schmidt asks Porsborg about Elevator licensing and offering a limited license. Porsborg confirms that statute doesn't allow it so "no". Also conveyance on federal property is exempt from NDSEB inspections.

Mayer states the next Board meeting is November 18th.

Roemmich makes a Motion to adjourn. Brandenburg seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Date _____ Date _____

_____ _____

Rodney Mayer, President James Brandenburg, Secretary