

# **NORTH DAKOTA STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

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, Paul Durbin, and Christina Roemmich. Also present: James Schmidt, Executive Director; Ashley Windhorst, Assistant to Executive Director; Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General; Curt Kasper, NECA; Adam Kidwell, Dakotas JATC; and Clay Nagel, IBEW.

President Mayer asked for further Agenda items to appear at this meeting. Mr. Schmidt added front office remodel, administrative rules, HVAC companies installing class 2 & 3 communication wiring, Richard Simon, and PLE application. It was motioned by Tom Paulson and seconded by Christina Roemmich to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Motion carried.

At 8:35 a.m., Doug Grinde and Scott Halle entered the meeting.

Doug Grinde discussed skid inspections and indicated all skids have been looked at. Doug also reviewed the active certificate numbers, completed received numbers, incoming certificate numbers. Doug also reviewed the correction report and past due correction processes.

Scott Halle discussed the NDSEB CEU classes. 17 have been completed and two additional classes were added which will take place in February. Scott has began working on venues for 2021 CEU classes. Scott and Ashley Windhorst went to West Fargo last week to do a video shoot on the light project for Marketplace for Kids. Scott continues to review CEU classes and has been contacted by out of state apprenticeship programs and is waiting for additional documentation to review.

Mr. Schmidt discussed the requirements of administrative rule 24.1-06-03-01(7)(e) which requires metal raceways or metal clad cable (type MC) rated for the environment shall be installed in dormitories designed to house more than sixteen people. Discussion was had on dormitories being exempt from this requirement. Motioned by Mark Christopher and seconded by Tom Paulson to endorse the Executive Director to use discretion to make exceptions to the dormitory wiring methods in section 24-1-06-03-01(7)(e). Discussion about the difference of a dormitory versus a hotel. Motion carried.

Mr. Schmidt received an email from a HVAC company asking about installing class 2 or 3 communication control wiring for HVAC equipment. Requirement of licensure was discussed, and it was determined that communication cable will need to continue to be installed by a licensed electrician.

At 9:42 a.m., Doug Grinde and Scott Halle left the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt presented a request received from Richard Simon. Mr. Simon holds a Master license and wants to renew this year without CEU credits. He does not use his license, just wants to keep it. The requirement of having CEUS's to renew is in Statue 43-09-15.1 so the Board cannot make an exception to his request.

Mr. Schmidt presented the first PLE application which was received last week. The Board discussed whether the application is going to be accepted as a tradesman certificate. Board voted 3:2 to have applicant take the exam.

Mr. Schmidt and Ashley Windhorst attended the NECA/IBEW meeting January 12, 2021 to answer questions they had. HB 1473 was brought up at the meeting as well which is a legislative bill to require Master license numbers to be part of advertising (which failed), self-wires and unlisted equipment were also discussed.

At 10:15 a.m., the Board recessed for a short break.

At 10:30 a.m., the Board reconvened.

Mr. Schmidt discussed the electrical exams which are now on the 2020 NEC.

Mr. Schmidt indicated Tim Allard was served a notice for license revocation, so the case is now closed.

The Board discussed coal mine experience. Mr. Schmidt had received an email from Senator Dever inquiring about coal mine licensure. Mr. Schmidt sent more information for him to review, including NDCC 43-09-26 which exempts coal mines. Mr. Schmidt and Senator Dever discussed the topic again; however, at this time, NDSEB has not received an application yet from the individual that's been contacting them.

Mr. Schmidt indicated the 1<sup>st</sup> semester scholarship applications have been completed and funds have been distributed. A 2<sup>nd</sup> semester application has been received and is being reviewed.

Mr. Schmidt discussed legislation activity and bills NDSEB is currently monitoring. Mr. Schmidt testified in a neutral position the hearing for HB 1473 which is to put the master license number on contractor advertising.

Mr. Schmidt provided an update on the inspection at Roger Rasch's residence. An administrative search warrant was issued. NDSEB had 24 hours to complete the inspection, so Inspector Rich Wolfe, Doug Grinde, and James Schmidt met with the Mercer County Sheriff's office. Four law enforcement escorted them to the residence to complete the inspection.

Mr. Schmidt presented an appeal request from Dylan Gross. His application was denied because his experience was gained in less than 3 years. The requirement is part of Statue so the Board cannot make an exception.

Mr. Schmidt indicated the NECA contractors expressed interest in NDSEB advertising to educate consumers on the importance of hiring licensed contractors. The industry feels there would be more impact coming from the Board versus specific organizations in the industry. Discussion had on the effectiveness, cost, and involvement of advertising. The Board decided advertising would be a good idea and would like input from NECA. Discussion was had on the effectiveness of radio advertising versus newspapers.

Mr. Schmidt presented and discussed a proposal to remodel the front office. Two walls would be removed which would open the front office area and provide more space. The Board discussed and suggested looking at other furniture (modular) so it may be customized or changed if needed. Motioned by Christina Roemmich and seconded by Mark Christopher to give the Executive Director authority to move forward with a front office remodel. Motion carried.

At 11:35 a.m., the Board recessed for a short break.

At 11:50 a.m., the Board reconvened.

Mr. Schmidt presented a draft agenda for an Education Committee Organizational meeting. The agenda was reviewed and discussed.

At 12:00 p.m., Adam Kidwell left the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt reviewed the 2021-2022 proposed budget. Mr. Schmidt reviewed and explained the employee evaluation process. The proposed budget was reviewed. The budget and wages will be reviewed at the March meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be March 24, 2021.

There being no further business, it was motioned by Tom Paulson and seconded by Christina Roemmich to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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Rodney Mayer, PRESIDENT

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Christina Roemmich, SECRETARY