

NDSEB EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

The North Dakota State Electrical Board Education Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Executive Director, James Schmidt. The meeting was held at the conference room of the North Dakota State Electrical Board.

Committee members present Christian Opp – Apprentice Educator Representative; Jeff Kirstein – IEC Dakotas Representative; Brian Poykko – Professional Engineer Representative; Steve Mundahl – Journeyman Representative; Adam Kidwell – JATC Representative; Ivan Maas – NDSCS Representative; Tim Pull – Master Electrician Representative; James Schmidt – NDSEB Executive Director; and Scott Halle – NDSEB Training & Compliance Administrator.

Brian Fuder with NDSCS was contacted via telephone and indicated he will be available all day by telephone for any needed questions.

The agenda was reviewed and asked for any additional agenda items. Hibbing Community College transcript from Adam Kidwell was added for discussion.

The June 16, 2021 NDSEB Education Advisory Committee Meeting minutes were approved by a motion from Brian Poykko second by Steve Mundahl.

Committee started review process for related training providers.

JATC application materials reviewed, discussion was held on math requirement being less than core minimum Adam stated it will be adjusted for next year's curriculum. Committee agreed approve program based on intended adjustment.

ABC of Minnesota application materials reviewed, they have indicated no one is currently set up as a provider, they informed Mr. Schmidt that if anyone indicates starting an apprenticeship program, they will be informed of NDSEB requirements for program approval. Committee indicated materials look good, but program and instructors would need to be certified before program would be approved.

IEC application materials were reviewed, Jeff Kirstein told committee that they were able to adjust curriculum and modify 4th year materials to increase NEC content before start of school this year. Jeff will submit remaining instructor applications that are missing, and Committee agreed to approve program based on receipt of instructor materials.

Online course attendance was discussed by group highlighting methods used to verify attendance of participants and suitable programs. Also, discussion was had about exam results and what issues applicants are having with passing the journeyman's exam, Christian Opp discussed

Codeology method of learning to use the NEC and how it can help students become more comfortable working with the code book.

NDSCS application materials were reviewed and Brian Fuder from NDSCS was called and joined meeting via telephone, Brian discussed how the programs progress either online or through correspondence. James Schmidt asked about program demographics and Brian indicated their programs get a broad cross-section of students, and that they are held to a four-year program for completion. Committee also discussed exams being proctored and they are currently not at this time, Committee recommended that a proctored final exam be included and the hours for motor controls be increased to meet core requirements in the transformers field of study and to approve program with these changes to be implemented.

Mike Holt submitted course materials, but no curriculum application or instructors were submitted to committee.

Electrical Association application materials were reviewed by committee, course material for Theory, Laws & Rules, Material Identification, Mathematics, and transformers are less than core minimums, and requirement for proctoring exams using Webex format was discussed. Scott Halle will call Mike Miller with Electrical Association to discuss these items next week and to inform him must contain North Dakota content in Laws & Rules component. Committee agreed that program would be suitable for approval with changes.

Discussed program approval and denial letters and decided some changes are needed to be worked out regarding language, this process can be done by email.

Reviewed the audit checklist and approved for now with minor changes, this will be an agenda item to work on at future meetings.

Future committee work discussion about CEU class follow-up and suitable subjects for related training, after discussion decided to handle applications for related training on a case-by-case basis.

Steve Mundahl asked James how the committee can help the board with education issues, discussion held about different ways of communicating and encouraging apprentices. Committee members will select apprentices for recognition in the newsletter, and possibly some type of tool sponsorship could be developed as a method help with expenses of learning the trade. Also discussion was held on the Education Committee coming up with educational article items in future editions of the newsletter.

Committee discussed transcript from Hibbing community College, program is recognized by Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry, but this student did not complete the program to earn a two-year electrical degree.

Jeff Kirstein asked about background of 2000 hour credit for accrued time granted to college graduates. The 2,000 hours of work experience are granted based those contact hours from a two-year degree college program.

Next meeting date to be announced.

The being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.