

NORTH DAKOTA STATE ELECTRICAL BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

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, Administrative Assistant; Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General; Austin Lafferty, Special Assistant Attorney General; Curt Kasper, NECA; Clay Nagel, IBEW; and Adam Kidwell, Dakotas JATC.

President Mayer asked for further Agenda items to appear at this meeting. Mr. Schmidt added Marketplace for Kids, ND IAEL, NDSCS scholarship, and tuition reimbursement. It was motioned by Tom Paulson and seconded by Paul Durbin to approve the Agenda and Consent Agenda. In discussion, Mr. Schmidt indicated the majority of the cease & desists were a result of unsupervised apprentices. Motion carried.

Mr. Schmidt indicated there is no new information on the code-making panels at this time.

Mr. Schmidt discussed a temporary inspector position. There is an abundance of out-of-state skid structures outstanding. It would be ideal to designate an inspector to inspect and find these skid structures. The Board gave Mr. Schmidt the ok to move forward in finding a temporary inspector to work on cleaning up the skid structure issues.

Mr. Schmidt presented a new agency organizational chart to reflect the new structure and addition of an Assistant to the Executive Director. The Board will review the updated organizational chart and new job description at the November meeting.

Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General, provided an update on Adam Zurcher appealing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). The hearing was completed on August 21, 2019; however, the ALJ has not given an opinion. The Board will review and discuss at a future meeting once the ALJ opinion is received.

At 8:50 a.m., Brody Kosior entered the meeting.

Brody Kosior appeared before the Board to appeal the denial of his Journeyman exam application. His application was denied due to experience in Canada. He would like the opportunity to take the ND Journeyman exam. Motioned by Tom Paulson and seconded by Mark Christopher to allow Brody to take the Journeyman Placement exam. Motion carried.

At 8:57 a.m., Brody Kosior left the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt provided an update on ITD and the reporting system. ITD started transitioning the emails. The email phase should be completed in October when the inspectors are in the office. The reporting system updates were completed on Monday.

Mr. Schmidt discussed Jason Parsons. Mr. Parsons was placed on probation and had signed his Probation Agreement in April 2019. NDSEB Inspector Richard Krause found more jobs that did not have certificates on them. Some of the corrections on these jobs were significant as well. Mr. Parsons has been given several opportunities in the past to clear up matters and issue certificates for past jobs he did not submit. The Board will invite Mr. Parsons to appear at the November meeting.

Mr. Schmidt indicated that Brady Martz will be at the office next week to conduct the two-year audit for the Board. Paula Glass, Ashley Windhorst, and Janel Redinger will all be working with Brady Martz during the audit process.

Mr. Schmidt discussed Tim Allard who is a ND Journeyman electrician that was contracting work. Mr. Allard completed several jobs at the Dunseith School over the last several years. The matter was turned over to the Rolette County States Attorney's office to prosecute Tim Allard for contracting without a ND Master electrician's license.

At 9:25 a.m., Rafael Carrillo entered the meeting.

Rafael Carrillo appeared before the Board to appeal his denied Journeyman application. His electrical experience and training he provided was in the state of Arizona, which does not regulate similar licensing and inspection rules. He discussed his electrical experience and training. Mr. Carrillo will need to get additional verifications from the previous employers he discussed in similar states, as his Arizona time is not accepted.

At 9:55 a.m., Rafael Carrillo left the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt indicated the North Dakota IAEI meeting is on October 17-18, 2019 if any Board members would like to attend. The registration form has been provided.

Mr. Schmidt discussed the option of expending funds via a scholarship through the North Dakota State College of Science to promote the electrical industry. He also reminded the Board that there are also other entities that provide related apprenticeship training to individuals. The Board briefly discussed and would like to revisit at the November meeting.

At 10:00 a.m., the Board recessed for a short break.

At 10:15 a.m., the Board reconvened. Scott Halle entered the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt discussed participating in Marketplace for Kids, which would not only promote the electrical industry but would help to expend funds as well. There are 12 event locations across the state with kids in grades 3-8 attending. It is an opportunity for presenters to give presentations and/or demonstrations to kids about different career opportunities. Mr. Schmidt would like to purchase an electrical project for kids to complete at these events to give them a sense of what the electrical field entails. The Board discussed participating in the events and reviewed the levels of giving to support Marketplace for Kids. Motioned by Paul Durbin and seconded by Tom Paulson to participate in these events to promote the electrical industry and to donate \$5,000. Motion carried.

Scott Halle provided an update on the CEU classes. Eight classes have been held so far on general requirements and code calculations. Scott also discussed attending the IAEI meeting in Wichita, KS, which reviewed the Analysis of Changes. The Board's NEC & Analysis books were delivered this week. Scott continues to review CEU classes for approval, answer code questions, and will be updating exam questions to conform to the 2020 NEC.

At 10:50 a.m., Scott Halle left the meeting.

Mr. Schmidt discussed Ashley Windhorst taking continuing education classes for her new Assistant to Executive Director position. She will complete 21 classes in 18-24 months. Discussion was had and because the classes are directly related to her new duties, the Board will pay 100% of the costs, but would like an agreement in place. Motioned by Tom Paulson and seconded by Christina Roemmich, upon showing proof of payment, to reimburse for classes; however, if a class is not completed, Ashley would have to pay to retake any class. Upon completion, she will need to be employed for two (2) years or repay a portion of the tuition. The terms are to repay 25% of the costs if she leaves employment within one (1) year after completing the classes, and she would need to repay 12.5% of the costs if she leaves employment between one (1) and two (2) years after completing the classes. Discussion was had about the timeframe to be employed after receiving the reimbursement payments. Motion carried.

Mr. Schmidt indicated the public hearing for the Administrative Rules will be held on November 20, 2019. This will be advertised in newspapers. The Board meeting will be held after the public hearing.

At 11:40 a.m., Doug Grinde entered the meeting.

Doug Grinde discussed himself, Scott Halle, and three (3) inspectors' attendance at the Western Section IAEI meeting in Wichita, KS. Doug reviewed the certificate charts, which included completed received over one year, incoming/outgoing certificate numbers, and certificate numbers by district per month.

At 12:05 p.m., Doug Grinde left the meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Board and the Administrative Rules public hearing will be November 20, 2019. A special meeting of the Board will be December 11, 2019.

There being no further business, it was motioned by Mark Christopher and seconded by Paul Durbin to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Rodney Mayer, PRESIDENT

Tom Paulson, SECRETARY