

North Dakota State Electrical Board Minutes
February 25, 2026, Public Hearing Meeting/Board Meeting

The North Dakota State Electrical Board Administrative Rules Public Hearing was opened at 8:30 a.m. by President Rodney Mayer at the Electrical Board Offices at 1929 N. Washington St., Ste A-1, Bismarck, North Dakota. Members Present: Rodney Mayer, Jon Hoffman, Jesse Larson, James Brandenburg, Gerald “Poke” Buck, Christina Roemmich. Also Present: James Schmidt, Executive Director; Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General; Anna Jellesed; Paula Glass; Adam Kidwell, JATC; Clay Nagel (IBEW), Ryan Parkos, Christy Weikum, Mandy Eberle, and Vance Vesey.

Mr. Mayer called the Public Hearing on Administrative Rules to Order at 8:30 a.m.

[See recording of Public Hearing]

Speakers during the public hearing included Adam Kidwell (JATC/NEC), Ryan Parkos (Elevator Union Business Agent), and James Schmidt, all in-person.

Mr. Mayer closed the Public Hearing at 8:47 a.m.

Buck Made a Motion to adjourn the public hearing. Roemmich seconds. Motion passed Unanimously.

The North Dakota State Electrical Board meeting was called to order at 8:48 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, Jon Hoffman, Jesse Larson, James Brandenburg, Gerald “Poke” Buck, Christina Roemmich. Also Present: James Schmidt, Executive Director; Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General; Anna Jellesed; Paula Glass; Adam Kidwell, JATC; Clay Nagel (IBEW), Ryan Parkos, Christy Weikum, Mandy Eberle, and Vance Vesey.

Schmidt asks to add items 1ai and 1aii. Roemmich makes a motion to accept the additional items and approve the consent agenda. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

Tim Krommenhoek, Schmidt talks to the Board about Krommenhoek’s current situation and advises the Board of the upcoming hearing on his Journeyman’s license. Schmidt also advised the Board about Krommenhoek’s attempt to Reciprocate his Master’s License to MT.

Education Committee updates,

- i. BSC (Christy Weikum, Mandy Eberle, Vance Vesey)

Schmidt tells the Board about the BSC Electrical program and its request for their self-audit. BSC had 15 students in its first year as a provisional program.

Next fall, BSC will be in its second year and has submitted its program to the NDSEB Education Committee for its review and recommendation to the Board. BSC extends an invite for NDSEB personnel to attend the upcoming Education Committee meeting in April.

ii. NDSCS Fargo

Schmidt tells the Board about the NDSCS-Fargo related training program self-audit submitted.

Schmidt states the NDSEB Education Committee will review both self-audits and BSC's second year program proposal at its next meeting.

(Christy Weikum, Mandy Eberle, Vance Vesey leave the meeting)

Past due Skid Corrections, Schmidt tells the Board that there were 516 at the beginning of the year and it is now down to 198. Schmidt talks about the GPS on these and that they are getting easier to locate and that Allison has been doing the majority of the follow-up on these skids with the oil producers and mid-stream companies.

NERA, Schmidt tells the Board about MT legislature that passed stating that they accept substantially equivalent State licenses. To be a NERA member you have to engage in reciprocity. Schmidt talks about a senate bill 2308 regarding a Board Review task force being formed. Schmidt talks about the report he has prepared to present to the Task Force in April. Porsborg tells the Board that he believes the Task Force will be for Boards that no longer have a clear mission or outdated policies.

Inspector, Schmidt tells the Board that Charles Schantz will begin working on March 2nd with the NDSEB as District 13 inspector (Dunn County). Schmidt stated that Charles had reached out to the Board in years past about his desire to work for the NDSEB, so they are happy to have him.

ND-EIA, Schmidt talks about the current progress in the creation of ND's new non-profit association. They are continuing work with NFPA to put together this North Dakota Association for persons involved in the electrical profession and have a few items left to set up.

Elevator Mechanic, Schmidt discussed the three applicants to the Board. Schmidt talks about the one interview conducted and stated that he was going to get back to the NDSEB on the job offer. Schmidt talks about the difference in offered pay and his requested pay and that they couldn't come to an agreement. Mayer talks about the work being done with the Elevator Industry and not getting the assistance from them like they had initially offered to the NDSEB. Schmidt states he has relisted the position with the assistance of Larson, revising the ad and casting it nationwide and they hope for more incoming candidates. Schmidt talks about the existing estimated 6,000 elevators in ND and the leg work that needs to be done before August 1, and his concern of not having the proper employee in place to take on these responsibilities. Mayer talks about scrapping the bill

and not continuing with the Elevator Inspections under the NDSEB. Mayer asks Ryan Parkos for his input on the candidates and their assistance to the NDSEB.

Apprenticeship Training Policy, Schmidt talks about the added language to the policy and its intent. Schmidt states that the education committee wants clearer policy in place for these apprentice programs and asks for the NDSEB to adopt this added language. Schmidt talks about the conversations with current companies hosting apprenticeship training and their views on enacting this policy. Roemmich makes a Motion to add language to the existing policy as currently stated, to include the requirement of a non-profit entity performing the two forms of related electrical apprentice training. Hoffman Seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

The Board takes a break at 9:55a.m.

The Board reconvenes at 10:10 a.m.

(Justin Lill, Doug Grinde, and Scott Halle enter meeting)

(Joseph Berg and Roman Schmidt enter meeting)

Directors of Inspections, Doug discusses his workload. He is working on modifications to the self-wire applications with Janel. His new contractor orientation has been going well and he enjoys it. Hoffman welcomes Justin and asks him for his background- Justin discusses his past work experience as an inspector with the NDSEB and his return now.

Scott talks about his CEU classes, starting in May. Talks about the Marketplace for Kids and the upcoming one in Minot. Scott talks about his visiting the JATC classrooms. Scott tells about the current exams and then getting the exam updated with the new codes later this year. Scott talks about the ND-IAEI conference held last week and its attendance of roughly 120 people, with 90 registered. Scott and Schmidt attended the advisory committee at Wahpeton college and attended their job fair. Hoffman asks about exam accommodations that are commonly requested.

Doug recaps 2025 since he missed the last meeting. Doug talks about Tom Crawford being at the data centers for a few hours each week. Doug talks about ending 2025 with over 15,000 incoming certs. This year, the incoming certs are a few hundred less than last year and the inspectors are working on cleaning up old certs. District 15 (Williams County) is the busiest currently. Doug is working on a new district map with Schmidt. MHA certs are at 458. Bismarck self-wires are at 7 active with 3 new certs this year as Bismarck does not employ a master electrician inspector so they cannot self-perform their own self-wire inspections. Doug is getting ready for the district 13 Inspector to begin. Schmidt talks about the status of Grand Forks City Inspections and keeping various properties under the inspection of the NDSEB.

(Justin, Doug, and Scott leave meeting)

Joseph Berg (present with supervisor Roman Schmidt), Schmidt talks about Berg's Journeyman's application and the new material submitted by Berg's supporters. Hoffman tells Berg about his Motion, at the January board meeting, to deny Berg's application and asks for clarification on his felony disclosure on his application. The Board acknowledges Berg's presence today. Berg confirms his past charges, and the Board discusses his criminal history and Berg confirms there is nothing outstanding criminally and he is recently done with probation. Schmidt talks about Berg's employer reaching out and vouching for Berg. Berg is employed with Magnum, Roman discusses their random drug testing and Berg's employment. Hoffman makes a Motion to allow Berg to take his Journeyman Exam. Buck seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

(Joseph Berg and Roman Schmidt leave meeting)

Budget '26-27, Schmidt talks to the Board about the current debits and credits and the projected budget for this year. Schmidt discusses the proposed budget for the upcoming year that includes employee increases with the additional step increase for the newest inspectors. Schmidt also proposes providing a 2-month pay retention bonus for current employees and notes this bonus will be on this 25-26 current budget. The Board discusses the proposed bonus and employee raises. Buck makes a Motion to approve the proposed '26-27 budget as presented. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously. Hoffman makes a Motion to approve the revised '25-26 budget, Buck seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Mayer opens discussion on proposed pay raise for the Board members, no changes at this time.

Mayer states the next Board meeting is March 18th. Buck made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Date _____

Date _____

Rodney Mayer, President

James Brandenburg, Secretary