

North Dakota State Electrical Board Minutes

July 23, 2025, 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, Jon Hoffman, James Brandenburg, Gerald “Poke” Buck, Christina Roemmich. Also Present: James Schmidt, Executive Director; Scott Porsborg, Special Assistant Attorney General; Anna Heinen; Adam Kidwell, JATC; Clay Nagel, IBEW; Curt Kasper, NECA; Samson Fritz, Brad Sterer, Mandi Eberle, BSC; Kristi Weikum, BSC; Vance Vesey, BSC; Mike Mintle, Kevin Sullivan, Ryan Parkos, Josh Josoff, Calvin Benson, Jesse Larson, Boris Thomas, Tim Krommenhoek, and Roger Maki.

Schmidt announced that the governor appointed Buck to another 5-year term. Mayer turns the meeting over to Schmidt. The Board then proceeded with its organizational meeting and proceeded to elect officers. Schmidt asked for nominations for president, Roemmich nominates Mayer for President, Brandenburg seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Schmidt turns the meeting back to newly elected President Mayer who asked for nominations for Vice President. Hoffman nominates Roemmich, Brandenburg seconds. Motion passes unanimously. Mayer asks for nomination for Secretary. Roemmich nominates Brandenburg. Hoffman seconds, Motion passes unanimously. Mayer asks for nominations for Treasurer. Roemmich nominates Buck, Brandenburg seconds the nomination. Motion passes unanimously.

The regular board meeting resumes.

Mayer recognized Curt Kasper and noted he is retiring, and this would be his last meeting. Mayer conveyed the Board’s congratulations and thanks to Curt.

Mayer asked for additional Agenda items. None stated.

Mayer asked for a Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Buck makes the Motion to approve. Brandenburg seconds. Motion passed unanimously.

Education Committee - Schmidt tells the Board that BSC presented their 2-year program to the Education Committee. The Committee would like the Board to give BSC a 1-year provisional approval for their electrical tech program. 18 students have previously signed up to the program. Schmidt has a copy of the program for the Board’s review. Schmidt has a proposed approval letter. He states there are stipulations listed. Vesey with BSC asks that if the program is approved, they would like to meet with the Committee again and give a presentation about how the Fall semester went. Vesey states that August 26th would be the first day of class. Hoffman spoke on the concern he has with BSC enrolling students to a program that has yet to be approved. The Board agrees that another electrical program in North Dakota is needed. Mayer asks Vesey to introduce the individuals he is with and what their positions are with BSC. Vesey stated he would be the academic lead. He is a journeyman electrician and has ties to the instrumental program. He will mentor Christy as an instructor. Brad will be code, as a master electrician. Roemmich makes a motion to approve the provisional 1-year electrical tech program at BSC. Brandenburg seconds. Mayer asks for roll call vote. Motion passes unanimously.

[Sterer, Eberle, Weikum, and Vesey leaves meeting]

[Janel and Paula enter meeting]

Boris Thomas/Tim Krommenhoek - Schmidt tells the Board about Thomas applying to be a remote Mater electrician for Krommenhoek's business. Thomas is from Jacksonville, FL. Krommenhoek states that Thomas has a place to stay in ND. Schmidt notes that Krommenhoek worked as a Journeyman Electrician to finish his corrections without having an active Journeyman's license. Krommenhoek states he currently works for Terry Neuberger with Delta Electric. Thomas states he got his ND Masters license through reciprocity in MN, by passing his master's license test in MN. Krommenhoek describes his future business as Electrical Technologies Solutions (ETS). Porsborg states that the Master electrician needs to be actively engaged in the business. Thomas states that he will reside in ND when/if his license is approved and he will file the wiring certificates for Krommenhoek's business and be a W2 employee with ETS. Hoffman asks what work Thomas did in MN. Thomas states that he never worked in MN, but he had the opportunity to work on a job that didn't materialize. Thomas is looking for an opportunity to work in ND with Krommenhoek. Roemmich asked how they met. Krommenhoek is part of an electrical group online and they communicated about opportunities in ND and with Krommenhoek's business. The Board and Thomas continue a question and answer session. The Board states its concern with the partnership and with Krommenhoek's probation. Mayer asks the Board to decide whether Thomas can be the Master for Krommenhoek's business. Porsborg talks on the history of Master and journeyman relationships in ND, especially during the oil boom, that the Board has had to deal with. Buck states he is not comfortable with the relationship. Hoffman states that he doesn't feel comfortable. Roemmich asks that the 24-month agreement be followed and she would be willing to revisit his business plan at that time. Roemmich makes a motion that the Board deny Thomas' request to Master of Record for Krommenhoek's Business (ETS) and for Krommenhoek to continue with his current probation agreement with Krommenhoek to work as a Journeyman under a master for the duration of his probation. Buck seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

[Tim Krommenhoek and Boris Thomas leave the meeting]

Samson Fritz (with Rep Roger Maki) - Schmidt tells the Board that Fritz is looking to challenge the literature in ND administrative code. Fritz would like to apply for his Journeyman license. Fritz reads admin code section 24.1-03-01-07. Apprentice Electrician. Fritz wants clarity on why this applies to applicants outside of ND but not to residents in ND. Porsborg speaks on the reasoning behind the law (Statute 43-09-11). Porsborg explains the difference between ND Century Code and ND Administrative Code. Fritz asks about electrical experience and testing within ND. Schmidt asks Fritz to apply for his Journeyman License so the Board can view his experience. Porsborg restates the Century Code regarding related training and ND electrical hours. Schmidt talks about the legislature component and how the law came about. Roemmich speaks on ND education and how we choose to do our licensing different here. Fritz wants clarity on what Admin code states and his intentions. Fritz continues with 43-09-11 regarding qualifications. Porsborg speaks on ND legislative history and the admin code. Schmidt clarifies "majority of time". Porsborg wants clarity on what Fritz is requesting. Mayer asks Fritz to deal with his school regarding his education issues, which Fritz says he's enrolled in a PEAP training program for this

fall, and asks Fritz and Maki to put together a law for the next legislative session if he feels out-of-state electricians are not properly educated, but notes that it will restrict the number of electricians that can work in ND. Fritz continues with Admin. Code 24 and deadlines. Fritz states the website states a deadline, but the Rules and Regulations do not list a deadline. Porsborg clarified that Fritz can still supply changes for review.

[Fritz and Maki leave the meeting]

Board takes a break at 10:31 am

Board reconvenes at 10:43 am.

Conveyance/ Admin Rules - Schmidt tells the Board about the elevator conference and how drafting the admin rules for that are going. The group introduces themselves to the Board. Schmidt educates the Board at where the drafted rules sit and where it is going. Kevin talks about slowly rolling out the inspection rules and hopefully having everything in place by 2030. Schmidt talks about the portal and updating it to include the elevator inspection reporting. Kevin speaks on the education needed for elevator inspectors and any continued ed. They discuss union programs vs individual state programs for licensure/registration.

[Mike, Kevin, Ryan, Josh, Calvin, and Jesse leave the meeting]

Education Committee Cont. - Schmidt talks about the Board approving BSC's new program and that the Board has always recognized NDSCS 3 electrical AAS degree programs at Wahpeton and should send an official approval notice to them. Schmidt suggests the Board a programs approval letter for their 3-electrical programs with a review of the curriculum every 5 years. Mayer asks for a Motion. Hoffman makes a Motion to review and approve on a 5-year cycle, the NDSCS Industrial Electrical Program, NDSCS Electrical Master Tech Program, and NDSCS Electrical Construction Program, Buck seconds. Brandenburg wants clarification on the Board's review and approval of initial programs and then having Schmidt handle the continued review and approval going forward. Motion passes unanimously.

H&H Electric out of Williston submitted a contractor program and Schmidt asks for more information before proceeding.

Expired Contractors - Schmidt talks about two remaining (out of 43) contractors with expired licenses. Paula talks about all the work that goes into an expired Master's Contracting license – working on cease and desists, active certs, outstanding corrections, and outstanding fees. Schmidt states that they haven't had to go through the process with the homeowners to get the outstanding corrections completed for the fees.

Tim Root - Schmidt tells the Board about Root complaining about Magnum running apprentices at the Ellendale Data Center. Schmidt looked into it with Magnum. Root found out Schmidt used his identity with Magnum. Root then filed a complaint with the Governor's office claiming his name should have been kept confidential which the Governor's office said Schmidt's follow-up Magnum Electric was appropriate. Schmidt thought the Board should be aware of the Complaint.

[Jon enters meeting]

Past Due Skid Corrections - Schmidt tells the Board about the past due skids and their incorrect classifications/code corrections. Schmidt wanted the Petroleum Council (Brady Pelton – last March) to help resolve the past due skids. Brandenburg tells the Board that he got involved with Brady Pelton to handle these skid manufacturers. Paula discusses her work on getting manufacturers/ producers to handle the corrections and the lack of progress she has made. Jon states there are 231 corrections currently outstanding with the oldest being from 2014. Schmidt states that getting the Industrial Commission involved might help. Porsborg suggested getting the safety departments at oil companies involved, these issues would be handled rather quickly. Schmidt suggests getting the Governors’ office involved putting a hold on manufacture skids coming into the State until their outstanding corrections are made. Mayer asks Schmidt to regroup with the Industrial Commission, and we will regroup in September.

[Jon leaves meeting]

Inspections - Schmidt talks about City of Grand Forks inspectors. They have ran ads for an inspector and they are running through the candidates. Schmidt believes the Board will end up taking over the inspections in Grand Forks if they can’t hire a candidate. Schmidt thinks if that happens NDSEB can absorb the inspections from the City.

Temporary Inspector - Schmidt found an individual that expressed interest but has since decided he wasn’t interested.

ND Building Code - Schmidt talks about being involved in the ND Building Code Committee reviewing the upcoming building codes changes. Some codes may affect the electrical installations in ND which we will address in the Board’s admin code.

24-25 Progress/Budget - Schmidt talks about the end of the fiscal year. Schmidt states they had a good year with that proposed budget was on target. Schmidt explains the approved 25-26 budget for next fiscal year. Schmidt tracks production to fiscal year and reviews the forms with the Board.

[Inspectors Doug, Jon, and Scott enter meeting]

Scott talks about the recent CEU classes held in Bismarck, Fargo, Williston and Dickinson with attendance was down in those locations. Classes in Jamestown and Devils Lake are coming up but look to be smaller due to early registration. The Education Committee met and BSC and H&H Electric ran through their proposed programs.

Doug talks about the inspectors and being in the field with them. Handled a Basin Electric inspection in Williston and he talked about the impressive generators. He talked about the inspections at Ellendale Data Center. Doug stated there are 9,521 certs active in the State and which districts are busiest. Doug is working on cleaning up old certs in Grand Forks and then will focus on Watford City are next.

Jon talks about the contractor orientations and that he has received good feedback from the contractors on our processes. Jon sat in on the State Building Code meeting with James. He spoke

about the current self-wires and that they are going well. Schmidt says the City of Bismarck doesn't have a Master Electrician that can inspect self-wires, so the State inspectors are handling the self-wires for Bismarck.

[Inspectors Doug, Jon, and Scott leave meeting]

Mayer states the next Board meeting is September 24, 2025.

Buck makes a Motion to adjourn. Roemmich seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

The Board adjourned at 12:44 pm.

Date _____

Date _____

Rodney Mayer, President

James Brandenburg, Secretary