

**Board of Electricity  
Meeting Minutes  
January 12, 2010**

**Minnesota Room – Department of Labor and Industry  
443 Lafayette Road North, Saint Paul 55155**

[DLI.CCLDBOARDS@State.MN.US](mailto:DLI.CCLDBOARDS@State.MN.US)

**Members Present:**

Jim Freichels  
Willy Hoskins  
Kim Huxford  
Daniel Klein  
John McConnell  
John Schultz (DLI Commissioner's Designee)  
Tom Seanger  
Jeffrey Slimmer  
Andy Toft  
Joe Vespa

**Staff Present:**

Bill Bierman  
Annette Trnka  
John Williamson

**Visitors:**

John Ploetz  
Scott Nutting  
Tony Maghrak  
Brian Winkelaar

**Members Available by Teleconference:**

None

**Members Absent:**

Doug Fingerson  
Timothy Malooly

**I. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vespa at 9:05 a.m. role was taken and announcements were made. Chair Vespa introduced new Board member Jeffrey Slimmer and newly appointed Board DLI counsel, Bill Bierman.

**II. Approval of Meeting Agenda**

A motion was made by Freichels, seconded by Klein, to approve the meeting agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

**III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Seanger, seconded by Freichels, to accept the October 13, 2009 Meeting Minutes. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

#### **IV. Regular Business**

- A. Expense Approval
  - i. A motion was made by Huxford, seconded by Klein, to approve Expense Reports and Per Diems. The vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.
- B. Enforcement
  - i. DLI Enforcement

#### **V. Special Business**

- A. Reciprocal agreements –
  - i. Review of the Multi State Reciprocal Group annual meeting – Schultz gave an overview of the Minutes of the Multi State Reciprocal meeting held August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in New Hampshire. Also reviewed were proposed changes to the National Electrical Reciprocal Alliance (NERA) bylaws. It was noted that there wasn't a quorum at the meeting and therefore actions taken aren't official. A teleconference meeting to vote on the amendments to the NERA bylaws will be scheduled to allow the member states that were not in attendance to vote on the amendments. Schultz asked if the Board would like to take action to support and approve these amendments and whether the Board would like Schultz to participate in the teleconference meeting as the Board's representative. In addition to the amendment to the NERA bylaws, the inclusion of Iowa, Texas and Maine in the agreement will also be voted on. In response to a question regarding the effect of the amendment, Schultz stated that regardless of the qualifications any state has for a journeyman applicant, an individual applicant will have to meet Minnesota's applicant qualifications before a reciprocal license will be issued by Minnesota.

Seanger made a motion, seconded by Hoskins, to accept the Amendments to the NERA bylaws, and to appoint Schultz as the Board's representative at the teleconference call meeting of the Multi State Reciprocal Group. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

Toft stated that he would like to get more information on the testing requirements and their approval criteria for journeymen licensing on the three individual states before voting on whether to approve each state.

Toft made a motion, seconded by McConnell, not to accept the states of Maine, Iowa and Texas joining the Multi State Reciprocal Group. Toft and McConnell voted Aye. Opposed were Vespa, Huxford, Freichels, Seanger, Slimmer, Klein, Hoskins and Schultz. The motion failed.

Freichels made a motion, seconded by Slimmer; that provided the amendment to the National Electrical Reciprocal Alliance (NERA) bylaws passes; to accept Iowa, Maine, and Texas in the Multi State Reciprocal Agreement. The vote was Vespa, Huxford, Freichels, Seanger, Slimmer, Klein, Hoskins and Schultz voting Aye. Opposed were Toft and McConnell. The majority ruled and the motion passed.

Schultz asked if there were any other issues the Board would like discussed at the teleconference. There were no other issues brought forward.

- ii. Update on the Master Electrician reciprocal agreement with South Dakota. Schultz stated that SD has changed their exam process somewhat and appears they are still using the ICC exam, however it is being administered differently.

Freichels made a motion, seconded by Seanger, requesting Schultz work with SD to update the agreement to coincide with the agreements Minnesota has with North Dakota and Nebraska. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

- iii. Update on South Dakota's ICC exam (see above.)

**B. Enforcement**

- i. NECA Representative – Legislative Proposal – John Ploetz with the Minnesota Electrical Association addressed the Board on the draft proposal NECA and MEA plans to bring before the Legislature during the next session. They are asking that the Board of Electricity endorse this proposal.

Toft made a motion, seconded by Huxford, to support the resolution proposed by the National Electrical Contractors Association and Minnesota Electrical Association. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

## **VI. Committee Reports**

- A. Construction Codes Advisory Council – Tom Seanger reported on the meeting held on December 10, 2009 and the Committees of the CCAC. Seanger stated that none of the actions taken or discussed by the CCAC impact the electrical industry at this time.

## **VII. Complaints**

There have been no complaints to the Board.

## **VIII. Open Forum**

John Ploetz asked if there is an update on Wisconsin joining the Multi State Reciprocal Agreement. Schultz stated that Wisconsin laws are not aligned closely enough with Minnesota's laws for Wisconsin to join at this time. Scott Nutting asked about the new database program effective date. Schultz stated that the current schedule is for the system to be in place in February, however that date may be pushed back until all of the current CCLD systems are integrated into the CRW TRAKiT system.

## **IX. Board Discussion**

There was no further discussion.

## **X. Announcements**

### A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meetings

- i. Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – Minnesota Room, DLI
- ii. Tuesday, July 13, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – Minnesota Room, DLI
- iii. Tuesday, October 12, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – Minnesota Room, DLI

## **XI. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Freichels, seconded by McConnell, to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Electricity. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed. Board adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Anthony Toft*

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