

**Board of Electricity
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2008
Minnesota Room – Department of Labor and Industry
443 Lafayette Road North, Saint Paul 55155
DLI.CCLDBOARDS@State.MN.US**

Members Present:

James Freichels
Kim Huxford
Jay Lewis
Daniel Klein
Timothy Malooly
Anthony Toft
John McConnell
John Schultz (DLI Commissioner's Designee)

Members Absent:

Douglas Fingerson
Joe Vespa
Tom Seanger
Dick Owen

Members Available by Teleconference:

None

Staff Present:

Wendy Legge
Annette Trnka
Kevin Wilkins

Visitors:

Judi Rubin
Bill Heaney
Tony Maghrak
Dan McConnell
Gary Thaden

I. Call To Order – James D. Freichels

The meeting was called to order by James Freichels at 10:03 a.m. and role was taken.

II. Approval of Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Klein and seconded by Lewis to approve the meeting agenda. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Klein and seconded by McConnell to accept the previous Meeting Minutes. All voted in favor and the motion passed. There is a correction to be made to page 3 of the 1-08-07 Minutes under V(a)(iii). Klein made a motion, seconded by McConnell to accept the amended Minutes. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

IV. Regular Business

a. Expense Approval

- i. The Chair reviewed the submitted expense reports and found them to be in order.

b. Electrical Licensing

- i. Review the status of Rulemaking – Toft made a motion, seconded by Lewis to correct the Minutes of December 11, 2007 to read 3800.3820 through 3800.3885 under paragraph IV(c)(ii). The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

c. Continuing Education

- i. Review the status of Rulemaking – The clean up bill was discussed.
- ii. Review continuing education rules – The Request For Comments reviewed. The Electrical Licensing and the Continuing Education has previously been decided to be one rule-making.

d. Enforcement

Malooly gave an update on the enforcement efforts done by the Department of Labor and Industry and how the public can work together with the Department to be more effective in enforcement of unlicensed workers.

V. Special Business

a. Reciprocal agreements

- i. Update on South Dakota's ICC exam. Schultz gave an update on SD's ICC exam.
- ii. Review of whether Minnesota's requirements are met by Texas on exams and qualifications. Wendy Legge spoke on the requirements on Subdivision 11 on Reciprocity, items 2 & 3 and how they relate to Minnesota's requirements versus Texas' requirements. It should be determined by the Board whether Texas' requirements actually equal Minnesota's.
- iii. Revisit approval of Texas as a member of the Multi-State Reciprocal License Agreement. – A motion was made by Toft, seconded by McConnell to not accept Texas as a part of the Multi-state Reciprocity Agreement. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed. Schultz was then asked to contact other states that are part of the Multi-state Reciprocal Agreement to see if they have, or are going to, address the concerns with the ICC exam.

b. Discuss Permits – processing time

Schultz gave an update on the activities in the processing area of inspection. The Department of Labor and Industry is in the process of implementing a new database system that moves from a DOS based system to a Windows based system. The goal is to attain a timeframe of three days from the receipt of the electrical inspections by the Department and the completion of the data entry in processing. The Windows based system will allow more work stations to be put on line, allowing more people to do the work and keep up to date with entry. The anticipated date of full implementation is 4-6 weeks from now.

VI. Committee Reports - None

VII. Complaints - None

A request was made by board members to get a summary of the types of complaints and the numbers received are. Staff from the Department of Labor and Industry will compile a report for the board's review at the March meeting.

VIII. Open Forum

Wendy Legge stated that, if there are be e-mails between Board members on Board business, those e-mails should also be copied to the Board Secretary on the Department of Labor and Industry's staff for record-keeping, as they are public information. If an e-mail should be sent to a party outside of the Board, the e-mail should be sent to all interested parties, not just one person, so as to treat everyone fairly.

Wendy Legge suggested in regards to teleconferencing, that in order to comply with the Open Meeting Law, the board member should request at least 20 days in advance to participate in the board meeting by teleconference, at which time a notice will be sent to all interested parties asking if anyone else wants to participate by teleconference at their own expense. A deadline for requesting teleconference would be ten days in advance of the meeting to allow proper planning.

It was also discussed if the board will want to consider a committee for rule amendments/creations. It was decided that the board members should think about what they would like and an overview (initial draft) will be discussed at the next meeting.

IX. Board Discussion

A discussion was held regarding prevailing wage work classifications for Wiring Systems Installer and Wiring Systems Technician. Toft questioned where the worker's scope of work is identified. Schultz identified that the Electrical Act and Minnesota Rules 3800.3520 do not provide the detail that Toft is questioning. Schultz also identified that under current licensing and registration requirements individuals that perform electrical work that is required to be performed by a licensed contractor or registered employer must either be licensed or registered.

X. Announcements

a. Next Regularly Scheduled Meetings

- i. Tuesday, March 11, 2008, 10:00 a.m. – Minnesota Room, DLI
- ii. Tuesday, April 8, 2008, 10:00 a.m. – Minnesota Room, DLI

XI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Klein, seconded by McConnell to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Electricity. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed. Board adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Lewis

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