

Meeting Minutes: Board of Electricity

Date: January 8, 2019
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: Minnesota Room, Department of Labor and Industry
443 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul, MN 55155

Members Present:

David Curtis
Alfreda Daniels
Cole Funseth
Derrick Givens
Michael Hanson
Duane Hendricks – Secretary
Chad Kurdi
Peter Lindahl
Scott Novotny – Vice Chair
Daniel Westberg – Chair
John Williamson
Weston Wilson – via teleconference

Members Absent:

None

DLI Staff & Visitors:

Jeff Lebowski (DLI)
Lyndy Logan (DLI)
Dean Hunter (DLI)
Marty Kumm (DLI)
Steve Dudley (DLI)
Todd Green (DLI)
Charlie Durenberger (DLI)
Michelle Dreier (MEA)
Dave Dressler (IBEW)
Adam Hanson (ABC)
Gary Thaden (NECA)
Russ Ernst (MNESTA)
David Disch (MNESTA)
Jeff Keljik (MEA)
Ray Zeran (IBEW)
Jack Klempke (Comm)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Westberg. Roll call was taken by Secretary Hendricks and a quorum was declared with 12 of 12 voting members present.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Lindahl, seconded by Novotny, to approve the agenda as presented. The vote was unanimous with 12 votes in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Hendricks, seconded by Givens, to approve the October 8, 2018, meeting minutes as presented. The vote was unanimous with 12 votes in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

4. Regular Business

a. **Expense Approval** – reviewed and approved the per diem and expenses.

- b. **Enforcement & licensing update** – Charlie Durenberger gave a summary of enforcement statistics for 2013-2018 – see below table.

ELECTRICAL

	CASES OPENED	CASES CLOSED	ACTIVE CASES	ORDERS
2018	297	292	160	105
2017	356	353	196	109
2016	317	432	235	124
2015	523	468	328	178
2014	250	238	220	171
2013	284	286	177	112

- c. **Inspections update**

Williamson referred to electrical news in the winter edition of the CCLD Newsletter.

Visit: <http://www.dli.mn.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/review49winter18.pdf>

5. **Special Business**

- a. 2020 National Electrical Code

Lebowski gave an overview of Minnesota’s formal rulemaking process.

A motion was made by Novotny, seconded by Lindahl, to authorize Chair Westberg to initiate the rulemaking process to adopt the 2020 National Electrical Code by publishing a Request for Comments in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 14. The roll call vote was unanimous with 12 votes in favor; the motion carried.

6. **Committee Reports**

Construction Codes Advisory Council (CCAC) – has not met because the Energy Code has not released its findings. The CCAC is waiting for this before scheduling a meeting.

7. **Complaints**

No complaints brought forth

8. **Open Forum**

Jeff Keljik, Minnesota Electrical Association, asked if the electrical test would be modified and Williamson said the journeyworker exam was reduced to 80 questions from 100. The license exam guide was completely reformatted. The master electrician test will also be reduced to 80 questions from 100. The “passing score” for all examinations is 70%. Historically since the 1980’s, journeyworker exams have had a “passing rate” in the range of 40-45%. *Lindahl said he would be concerned with lowering the standard just because of a labor shortage to squander down the standards for safety for those folks that are going to have electrical work done at their houses or buildings. [Testers] need to come prepared, slacking on preparation is not what should be catered to.*

Williamson said the department believes competency can be equitably assessed with 80 questions instead of 100.

9. Board Discussion

Lindahl said he would be concerned

10. Announcements

Next regularly scheduled meetings – 9:00 a.m. Minnesota Room, DLI

- a. April 9, 2019
- b. July 9, 2019
- c. October 8, 2019

11. Adjournment

A motion was made by Novotny, seconded by Daniels, to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m. The vote was unanimous with 12 votes in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Duane Hendricks

Duane Hendricks
Secretary