

**IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD  
SPECIAL TELE/VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

**Monday - March 7, 2016 - 10:30 a.m. (MST)**

**Division of Building Safety  
1090 East Watertower Street, Suite 150, Meridian  
1250 Ironwood Drive, Suite 220, Coeur d'Alene  
2055 Garrett Way, Building 1, Suite 4, Pocatello**

**NOTE: The following report is not a verbatim transcript of the discussions at the meeting;  
however, is intended to record the significant features of those discussions.**

Chairman Bob Scott called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. (MST).

**Board Members Present:**

Bob Scott, Chairman  
Jeff Wheeler, Vice-Chairman  
Rick Stark  
Dale Pippitt  
Mark LaBolle  
Allan Perman  
Greg Eagy  
Joe Harbacheck

**Board Members Absent:**

Denis Duman

**DBS Staff Members Present:**

C. Kelly Pearce, Administrator  
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator-Operations  
Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator-Administration  
Bill Hatch, Public Information Officer  
Larry Jeffres, Regional Manager, Region 1  
Chris Jensen, Regional Manager, Region 3  
Terry Blessing, Compliance Program Manager  
Chuck Knapp, Regional Supervisor, Region 1  
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Supervisor, Region 3  
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2/Board Support

**DBS Staff Members Absent:**

Patrick Grace, Deputy Attorney General  
Warren Wing, Electrical Program Manager

◆ **Submersible Pumps Legislation**

Several months ago the Division met in northern Idaho with representatives of the pump industry to discuss wiring methodologies for the installation of submersible well pumps in lakes. The Electrical Program Manager discovered submersible well pumps are not listed, tested or approved for the application which places them directly in a body of water. A policy statement was issued by the DBS and, in essence, it is unable to allow the installation of new and/or replacement of existing pumps in bodies of water.

Pump owners went to legislators on this issue. It was determined the use of such pumps is not adequately covered by the National Electrical Code (NEC), which is adopted as Idaho's electrical code by the Idaho Electrical Board. Senator Nonini, with assistance from Jeremy Pisca, Risch Pisca, PLLC, created draft legislation that would: 1) Remove sections of the NEC from Idaho's adoption of the code, 2) Direct the DBS to create rules governing the use, inspection and safety of the pumps, and 3) Create a sunset date of two years to allow industry and regulators a chance to work collaboratively on a solution. The proposal is sponsored by Senator Nonini and co-sponsored by Representatives Barbieri and Redman.

With the use of a diagram, the Division presented a temporary working solution. The basic features are: 1) Ground fault protection no more than ten (10) milliamps (mA), 2) Protection of all the cabling going to the pump, 3) Redundant grounding to a separate ground wire to be run to either a piece of well casing or metal cage around the pump, 4) Wiring installation in accordance to NEC Article 682, and 5) Signage.

Jim Riley, Executive Board Member, Coeur d'Alene Lakeshore Property Owners Association, voiced his opinion on this matter.

Board Member LaBolle was disconnected from the teleconference call and did not return to the meeting.

**MOTION:** Dale Pippitt made a motion to not support the legislation as presented. Rick Stark seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The Chairman asked for a motion on whether or not to follow the course the Division has outlined. Hearing none, the Chairman was content for the DBS to move forward with its solution.

◆ **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Greg Eagy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Harbacheck seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m. (MST).

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BOB SCOTT, CHAIRMAN  
IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD

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C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR  
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

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DATE

03/25/2016rb

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DATE