

**IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Thursday – July 23, 2015 – 9:30 a.m. (MT)

**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
1118 F Street, Lewiston (DEQ)
650 Addison Avenue West, Suite 110, Twin Falls (DEQ)
900 North Skyline, Suite B, Idaho Falls (DEQ)**

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 9:30 a.m. (MT).

Board Members Present:

Bob Scott, Chairman
Jeff Wheeler, Vice-Chairman
Dale Pippitt
Denis Duman
Mark LaBolle
Greg Eagy
Joe Harbacheck

Board Members Absent:

Allan Perman
Rick Stark

DBS Staff Members Present:

C. Kelly Pearce, Administrator
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator-Operations
Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator-Administration
Patrick Grace, Deputy Attorney General
Bill Hatch, Public Information Officer
Fred Sisneros, Financial Manager
Mick Williams, Electrical Program Manager
Larry Jeffres, Regional Manager, Region 1
Chris Jensen, Regional Manager, Region 3
Terry Blessing, Compliance Program Manager
Gary Sonnen, Regional Supervisor, Region 1
Chuck Knapp, Regional Supervisor, Region 1
Kevin Gellings, Regional Supervisor, Region 2
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Supervisor, Region 3
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2/Board Secretary

◆ **Recognition**

Al Frieze was recognized for his many years of service on the Idaho Electrical Board with a commemorative plaque.

◆ **Introduction**

Joe Harbacheck, Public-at-Large Representative, was welcomed to the Board as the newest member.

◆ **Open Forum**

City and County Concerns - No items or concerns were brought forth.

Citizen and Industry Concerns - No items or concerns were brought forth.

◆ **Approval of the July 23, 2015 Agenda**

MOTION: Jeff Wheeler made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Greg Eagy seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Approval of the April 23, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Denis Duman made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dale Pippitt seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Licensing Registration Appeal**

Paula Dickson - In accordance with IDAPA 07.01.04.013.02, the Division was unable to renew Paula Dickson's specialty electrical trainee registration. Therefore, Mrs. Dickson appealed to the Board for approval.

The circumstances behind Mrs. Dickson's request to be registered as a trainee were discussed.

MOTION: Dale Pippitt made a motion to grant Paula Dickson the exception; renewing her specialty electrical trainee registration for three years. Greg Eagy seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

ACTION: The Division will contact Mrs. Dickson; informing her of the Board's decision to renew her specialty electrical trainee registration for another three years.

◆ **Idaho Statute 54-1009 Revocations or Suspension of Licenses--Hearings--Taking Testimony**

The proposed statute change, to transfer the responsibility for imposing civil penalties and disciplinary matters from the Administrator to the Board, was included in the board packet.

Also in the packet was a draft electrical civil penalty default schedule. Board members voiced concern the fine amounts the Division can impose is very limited. If and/or when the proposal is approved, it would be the Board's responsibility to set policies.

MOTION: Mark LaBolle made a motion to accept the proposal as presented in the packet. Joe Harbacheck seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Permit Fees**

The presenter of the topic *Permit Fees* was not in attendance; therefore, the topic was not discussed.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

Journeyman Survey - The Journeyman Survey, as of July 6, 2015, was reviewed.

Journeyman First Exam Attempts Report - The Journeyman First Exam Attempts Report, January 2015 through June 2015, was reviewed.

The Chairman reiterated that the Division needs to provide statistics from the previous 12 months rather than just the current calendar year.

ACTION: At the October 2015 Board meeting, the Division will provide the previous 12 month statistics on the Journeyman First Exam Attempts Report, in addition to the current year's numbers.

Notice of Violations (NOV) Report - The NOV Report, April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, was reviewed.

Verification Permit Report - The Verification Permit Report, April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, was reviewed.

Verification of Inspector Table - Verification of Inspector Tables, one on all DBS inspectors and one on DBS electrical inspectors only, were reviewed.

◆ **Operational Report**

Reorganization - The deputy administrators have traded with each other several of their responsibilities within the Agency. The Deputy Administrator, Operations now supervises the program managers and Customer Resource Team (CRT). The Deputy Administrator, Administration oversees the Safety Program, as well as school and government facilities.

Permit Application - The question was asked what type of electrical work would fall under the new category *Groundworks* on the Contractor Electrical Permit Application. *Groundworks* is for the burying/inspection of conduit only.

CEU Hours on Website - This topic was addressed under the *Administrator Report*.

Arc-Fault Requirements and Energizing - Needing clarification, Board Member Duman brought forth the following concerns: 1) National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 70E Arc-fault requirements; and 2) Energizing service.

The arc-fault calculations are new in the 2014 National Electrical Code (NEC). The Division has been working with power companies throughout the state of Idaho; apprising them of the new criteria. The interpretation of the code is under section 110.26 of the NFPA, and a fault current calculator is available on the DBS website.

The DBS is obligated to enforce the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA); using 70E as a reference. Therefore, electrical panels must be inspected before the utility company can energize the service. However, there are exceptions; i.e., emergencies, weekends, etc. Units that do not have dead fronts must be disassembled and inspected while de-energized.

At this time, the only requirement in code, which the Division requests, is the date and calculated fault current be written on a permanent label and posted to the service.

◆ **Administrator Report**

CEU Hours on Website - The company that supports and provides the Division's TRAKiT system, formerly known as CRW, has been purchased by Omega Company. In the process of that purchase all design work has been postponed for a period of time. It will most likely be spring 2016 when the DBS will receive the first draft run (testing phase) of the program.

Financial Report - The Electrical Board Fund, FY 2015 financial statement as of June 30, 2015, was reviewed.

Residential Construction - There has been a 14.4% increase in residential construction in the state of Idaho this calendar year versus the previous calendar year. On a per capita basis, Idaho is the fastest growing residential construction area in the United States.

Permits and Revenue - The percentages, year-to-date, for the state HVAC, electrical and plumbing permits and revenue versus the city of Meridian permits and revenue were provided.

Reorganization (cont'd) - The Administrator further elaborated on the deputy administrators' role reversals and responsibilities.

◆ **Adjournment**

MOTION: Mark LaBolle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Wheeler seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m. (MT).

BOB SCOTT, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD

C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

08/28/2015rb

DATE