

**IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Thursday - October 22, 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**

**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
Allan Perman
Rick Stark

DBS Staff Members Present:

C. Kelly Pearce, Administrator
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator-Operations
Patrick Grace, Deputy Attorney General
Bill Hatch, Public Information Officer
Fred Sisneros, Financial Manager
Warren Wing, 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
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2/Board Secretary

DBS Staff Members Absent:

Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator-Administration

◆ **Introduction**

Warren Wing was introduced as the Division's newly appointed Electrical Program Manager.

◆ **Recognition**

Chairman Scott recognized Mick Williams for his service with the Agency and the Board.

◆ **Open Forum**

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

Solar Panel Installations - Randy Lake, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 291, brought forth questions with regard to safety and the installation of solar panels.

The Electrical Program Manager suggested Mr. Lake contact him to schedule a meeting with the team providing the service since there is so much information on this topic.

Associated General Contractors (AGC) Website - Hailey Reyes, AGC Representative, demonstrated a new website created by the AGC titled webuildidaho.org. It is the desire of the AGC to attract, as well as encourage, a younger generation into pursuing careers in the construction industry.

◆ **Approval of the October 22, 2015 Agenda**

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

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

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

◆ **Schedule 2016 Board Meetings**

The 2016 Idaho Electrical Board meeting dates are as follows: January 21st, April 21st, July 21st, and October 20th.

MOTION: Denis Duman made a motion to approve the 2016 Idaho Electrical Board meeting dates as presented. Allan Perman seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

ACTION: The 2016 Electrical Board meeting dates will be placed on the Division's board meeting calendar and website.

◆ **Licensing Registration Appeals (as needed)**

There were no appeals.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

International Association of Electrical Inspectors (IAEI) Meeting - In September, the Electrical Program Manager attended the 2015 Western & Northwestern Section IAEI meeting in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Facebook - The majority of complaints are about inspections. A Facebook page will be built, strictly for the Electrical Program, as another method of communication with the electrical industry. The page will also have a link to the Electrical Program page on the Division's website.

FAQ Page - A "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) page on commonly asked electrical issues will be added to the Division's website.

Interpretations Online - For consistency throughout the state of Idaho, interpretations on what inspectors should inspect on certain installations will be placed on the Division's website.

Solar Panel Installations (Cont'd) - Board Member LaBolle asked the Electrical Program Manager to bring to the January 21, 2016, a condensed version of the solar panel topic; specifically, the status of the two projects in the Treasure Valley, rules and laws and who installs the solar panel and conduit to the generation collection.

ACTION: At the January 2016 Board meeting, the Electrical Program Manager will address the safety precautions when installing solar panels.

ACTION: The topic *Solar Panel Installations* will be placed on the January 21, 2016 agenda as an informational item.

Reports - The following reports were discussed: 1) Electrical Journeyman First Exam Attempts, 2) Electrical NOV Cases and 3) “Verification” of Inspections by Inspectors Table.

◆ **Compliance Program Supervisor Report**

Report - The Compliance Program Supervisor has been traveling throughout the state meeting with inspectors and local jurisdictions; ensuring everyone is notified and on-board with the new program.

Inspections - To ensure work is done according to code, the Chairman questioned whether the required individuals are procuring permits and requesting inspections.

Approximately 15% of electrical permits purchased from the DBS do not get inspected. At a future meeting, the Deputy Administrator-Operations will bring a proposed rule change that will require electrical contractors to request pre-cover and final inspections in order to obtain a permit.

◆ **Operational Report**

Legislation - The proposed legislation, shifting the disciplinary responsibility from the Administrator to the Board, has been approved by the Division of Financial Management and Governor’s office. The proposal will be presented at the 2016 legislative session.

Consistency Among the Trades - With regard to automation, the Division has begun to develop as much commonality as possible in the licensing and fee requirements among the electrical, HVAC and plumbing trade programs. Over the course of next year, the DBS will develop/tweak its rules or statutes in preparation of submitting a proposal to the 2017 legislature.

Plan Reviews - To avoid the discovery of problems after installations have been made; the Division is contemplating a new requirement where plans would need to be submitted for review on solar photovoltaic and/or commercial/industrial projects that are \$250,000 or more in value. No additional fees would be imposed.

Appeals - The question arose as to the verbiage used on the first and second Notice of Violation (NOV) letters sent to homeowners. Also, when corrections are required, are there instructions on how to rectify the situation, contact information, etc. in the letters.

The Deputy Administrator-Operations offered to provide both NOV letters at the January 2016 Board Meeting.

ACTION: At the January 2016 Board meeting, the Deputy Administrator-Operations will provide the standard first and second NOV letters.

ACTION: The topic *Appeals* will be placed on the January 21, 2016 agenda as an informational item.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Anti-Trust Law - The Deputy Attorney General provided an update on the recent decision made by the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold the Federal Trades Commission's complaint against a private board.

Recognition - The Administrator further acknowledged Mick Williams and his multiple roles within the Agency.

City of Meridian - On October 1, 2015, the Division signed a contract with the city of Meridian; expanding its services to include building inspections and plan reviews.

Commercial Construction - Following are proposed new and/or existing construction projects throughout the state of Idaho: Two major hotels, Ketchum; airport, Hailey; second Chobani yogurt plant, Twin Falls; casino addition, Fort Hall; Magnida fertilizer plant, American Falls and solar plant, Kuna.

Financial Report - The Electrical Board Fund, FY 2016 financial statement as of September 30, 2015, was reviewed.

◆ **Adjournment**

MOTION: Dale Pippitt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Allan Perman seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m. (MT).

BOB SCOTT, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD

C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

12/01/2015rb

DATE