

**IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Thursday – October 23, 2014 – 9:00 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 9:02 a.m. (MDT).

Board Members Present:

Bob Scott, Chairman
Jeff Wheeler, Vice-Chairman
Dale Pippitt
Denis Duman
Mark LaBolle
Allan Perman
Tim Phillips
Greg Eagy

DBS Staff Members Present:

C. Kelly Pearce, Administrator
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator-Operations
Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator-Administration
Patrick Grace, Deputy Attorney General
Kathleen Watkins, Financial Manager
Bill Hatch, Public Information Officer
Mick Williams, Electrical Program Manager
Terry Blessing, Regional Manager, Region 1
Chris Jensen, Regional Manager, Region 3
Aaron Reynolds, Regional Supervisor, Region 1
Kevin Gellings, Regional Supervisor, Region 2
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Supervisor, Region 3
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2/Board Secretary

Board Members Absent:

Al Frieze

◆ **Introduction**

Greg Eagy, Supplier to Wholesale Market representative, was welcomed to the Board as the newest member.

◆ **Open Forum**

City and County Concerns – Bret Stoddard, IDABO representative, did not have any items or concerns to bring before the Board.

Compliance – Lamont Gibson, electrical contractor and retired DBS inspector, described several compliance issues in eastern Idaho. His concern is DBS inspector areas are so large and spread out they do not have time to look into compliance issues.

The Region 3 Manager offered to examine this issue and to consider the restructure of inspector areas.

ACTION: The Division will research this issue and, if need be, restructure inspector areas to accommodate more time for compliance.

Master Licenses for Inspectors – Lamont Gibson expressed concern that inspectors should be licensed as master electricians since electrical companies must have master electricians as their designated supervising electrician.

Years ago legislation was proposed to require inspectors to be master electricians. The legislative committee rejected the proposal due to cost concerns.

For further discussion, the topic *Master Licenses for Inspectors* will be placed as informational item 10a on the agenda.

ACTION: The topic *Master Licenses for Inspectors* will be placed on the agenda as an informational item.

Pool Permit Fee – Keri Murray, Phase One Electric, had an issue with being charged excessive permit fees for multiple pool inspections while other electricians have only been charged one \$65 pool permit fee and have had as many, if not more, inspections.

IDAPA 07.02.01.011.02b states, “Residential spas, hot tubs, hydro massage tubs, swimming pools: sixty-five dollars (\$65) for each trip to inspect.”

The Deputy Administrator-Administration will meet with Mrs. Murray to resolve her issue, make certain electrical contractors are charged the correct permit fee for pool inspections, and validate the pool permit fee on the Division’s website is in accordance with IDAPA rule.

ACTION: The Deputy Administrator-Administration will meet with Mrs. Murray to resolve her issue, ensure the Division’s website clearly states the required swimming pool fees/inspections, and electricians are charged the proper permit fee for pool inspections.

◆ **Approval of the October 23, 2014 Agenda**

The topic *Masters License for Inspectors* was added to the agenda as an informational item.

MOTION: Tim Phillips made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Allan Perman seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Approval of the July 24, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes**

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

◆ **Administrative Appeals Hearing**

Toby Schnuerle – NOV ELE1406-0075 – This case was resolved prior to the meeting.

◆ **Schedule 2015 Board Meetings**

The 2015 Idaho Electrical Board meeting dates are as follows: January 22nd, April 23rd, July 23rd, and October 22nd.

MOTION: Mark LaBolle made a motion to approve the 2015 Idaho Electrical Board meeting dates as presented. Tim Phillips seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

ACTION: The 2015 board meeting dates will be placed on the Division's website.

◆ **Apprentice License Renewal**

The Chairman explained the apprentice five-year registration rule that went into effect July 2009. There are provisions in the rule for apprentices to renew their registration twice; however, there is no avenue for appeal should they not meet the requirements for the first renewal.

Gary Jensen – Mr. Jensen has the required two years schooling and 4,000 hours of work experience. Since the rule does not specify a time period, Mr. Jensen was approved to renew his registration upon submitting proof to DBS of his schooling and hours.

ACTION: Based on the information provided at the meeting, the Division will process the registration application for renewal.

Greg Keller – IDAPA 07.01.03.012.01f states, “An apprentice who has completed the required number of instructional hours and has not passed the journeyman’s examination within two (2) years of completion of the required instructional training hours shall provide proof of continuation training in order to be eligible to take the journeyman exam. For the purposes of Section 012 of these rules, continuation training is defined as registration in a Board-approved fourth-year apprenticeship class.”

Mr. Keller is currently registered in a fourth-year apprenticeship program and is eligible to renew his registration.

ACTION: Based on the information provided at the meeting, the Division will process the registration application for renewal.

Justin Metcalf – Mr. Metcalf explained his son’s and an employee’s school and work history prior to the recession.

Mr. Metcalf’s son will need to provide to the Division documentation showing proof of prior schooling and work hours to be considered to renew his registration.

The employee would like to maintain his apprentice registration until he becomes a journeyman. As stated in IDAPA 07.01.03.012.01f, he will need to register as a fourth-year apprentice; providing supporting documentation to DBS to renew his registration.

ACTION: Based on the information provided at the meeting, the Division will process the registration applications for renewal.

Jeff Janonsek – Mr. Janonsek falls within the requirements stated in IDAPA 07.01.03.012.01f. Therefore, to renew his registration, Mr. Janonsek will need to register in a fourth-year apprenticeship program and provide supporting documentation to DBS.

ACTION: Based on the information provided at the meeting, the Division will process the registration application for renewal.

DBS will review the apprentice documentation originally denied for the renewal month of June, rewrite the courtesy reminder, and post a general announcement on the Division's website.

ACTION: The Division will rewrite the courtesy reminder for future apprentice renewals, post a general reminder on the Division's website, and review all June 2014 apprentice renewals that were denied.

Rex Berry – A letter by Rex Berry, Berry Electric, addressed four situations where current employees were unable to renew their apprentice registration after their initial five-year registration. They were: 1) Lifetime apprentice, 2) Military service, 3) Failed journeyman exam, and 4) Not met requirements due to dire circumstances.

The Division was directed to review each of Mr. Berry's apprentice documentation to determine whether extenuating circumstances exist.

ACTION: For consideration to renew Mr. Berry's employees' registration, the Division will review their information to determine whether any of them fall within the "extenuating circumstances" category.

◆ **Listing & Labeling of Industrial Equipment**

For the Board's information, Al Youngwerth, VersaBuilt, presented an idea to add a new section in Title 54 Chapter 10 of the Idaho Code that would exempt industrial machinery from being labeled and listed by listing agencies. Mr. Youngwerth has been working with Representative Gayle Batt on the proposal for presentation to the 2015 legislative session.

Ann Reeve, Chris Reeve Knives, is in full support of Mr. Youngwerth's proposed legislative idea.

The Division's concerns with the proposal are: 1) Any provision that relates to exempting any electrical equipment that has been installed and in use for more than a year, and 2) The expansion of the exemption to anything beyond the industrial equipment.

◆ **Temporary Journeyman License**

The complete proposed rule, to prevent out-of-state journeymen from registering and working as apprentices in Idaho, was provided to the Board for review. At the July 2014 meeting, the Board voted for the Division to move forward with the proposal.

◆ **CEU Hours on Renewal/Website**

DBS is working closely with its software provider on the cost to rewrite the program to include CEU hours on individual license renewal notices, and on the Division's website.

The Deputy Administrator-Administration will provide an update at the January 2015 meeting.

ACTION: For the January 2015 Electrical Board meeting, the Deputy Administrator-Administration will provide an update on the cost to add continuing education hours to an individual's license renewal notice and the Division's website.

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

After the initial discussion at the July 2014 board meeting, there was concern as to how much work would be involved on the part of the Board. Rather than bring further defined statutory language, DBS provided a list of code enforcement cases in the board packet.

From the Board's standpoint, it would review the various violations in the civil penalties; developing default penalties. The Division has already developed the framework to operate within. The only difference would be companies and individuals would have to come before the Board to plead their cases rather than to DBS.

At the request of the Board, the Division will provide a proposed statute change to Idaho Code 54-1009 *Revocations or Suspension of Licenses--Hearings--Taking Testimony* at the January 2015 meeting.

ACTION: For the January 2015 Electrical Board meeting, the Deputy Administrator-Operations will provide draft language to Idaho Code 54-1009 *Revocations or Suspension of Licenses--Hearings--Taking Testimony*.

◆ **Video Broadcast Locations**

Currently, board meetings are held via videoconference between the Division's Meridian, Coeur d'Alene, and Pocatello offices. As a trial, today's meeting was broadcast to three additional locations in Lewiston, Twin Falls, and Idaho Falls.

◆ **Master Electrician License**

This topic was brought up under "Open Forum" and placed on the agenda for further discussion. All inspectors, city/county/state, are required to pass and maintain a national certification within the state of Idaho.

The Board was asked; however, did not reply whether to pursue a rule or statute change requiring inspectors to have a master electrician license.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

Training – As of January 2015, DBS will begin full enforcement of the 2014 NEC. The majority of inspectors, state/city/county, have been trained.

Training by the Electrical Program Manager has been, and will continue to be, offered to the industry on the interpretation/implementation of the code, state statute and rules, NFPA 70E, and electrical licensing.

Journeyman First Exam Attempts Report – The Journeyman First Exam Attempts Report, November 2013 through August 2014, and Exam Survey Report, as of October 14, 2014, were reviewed.

Notice of Violations (NOV) Report – The NOV Report by region, July 1 through October 6 2014, was reviewed. The Division was asked to add the contractor names next to their violation on the report.

ACTION: Beginning at the January 2015 board meeting, the contractor names will be included in the NOV Report.

Verification Permit Report – The Verification Permit Report, July 1 through October 6, 2014, was reviewed.

◆ **Operational Report**

The Deputy Administrator-Operations did not have any items to address.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Financial Report – The Electrical Board Fund, FY 2014 financial statement as of June 30, 2014, and FY 2015 financial statement as of September 30, 2014, was reviewed.

City of Eagle – The city of Eagle has chosen to contract out their inspections rather than have DBS provide those services. Also, the city no longer has an electronic application process for permits; requiring contractors to purchase them in person.

Magnolia Nitrogen Idaho LLC “Magnida” – It is estimated 800 electricians will be hired onsite for 12 of the 18 months it will take to build the fertilizer plant.

◆ **Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. (MDT).

BOB SCOTT, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD

C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

DATE

12/11/2014rb