

**IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Thursday – January 23, 2014 – 9:30 a.m. (MT)

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

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
Mark LaBolle
Tim Phillips
Al Frieze
Allan Perman
Denis Duman
Dale Pippitt
Kreg Davis

DBS Staff Members Present:

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

DBS Staff Members Absent:

Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator-Administration

◆ **Introduction**

Mick Williams was introduced as the Division's newly appointed electrical program manager.

◆ **Open Forum**

Melni Emergency Splice Connector – Mark Melni introduced the Melni Emergency Splice Connector. This non-crimp, pre-insulated connector is excellent for emergency/disaster situations; allowing secondary cables to be connected within 30 seconds. Additional information is available at <http://melni.org>.

Electrical Contractor License – Based on current statute and laws, Francis Magnum, Allstate Electric, was unclear whether a current employee with his own electrical contractor license could take over his business upon retirement.

This issue was discussed under agenda item 04 *Limitation on Grandfather Provisions for an Electrical Contractor License*.

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

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

◆ **Approval of the October 22, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes**

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

◆ **Journeyman to Apprentice Ratio**

An on-going issue is out-of-state journeymen registering in Idaho as apprentices; however, working as journeymen.

The electrical program manager read IDAPA 07.02.05.010 “Licensure History”. This rule references how the Idaho Plumbing Board governs how out-of-state journeymen can work in Idaho.

It was suggested a 30-day license be issued to out-of-state journeymen; allowing ample time to apply to take the state journeyman exam.

The Board was supportive of the suggestion; however, requested the following be included in the proposal: 1) Specify license as a 30-day “journeyman” license, 2) Limit duration and set parameters to apply for and pass the journeyman test, and 3) Provide a current journeyman license from another state.

In the past, DBS issued a 60-day work permit; however, this practice was removed due to legal concerns.

MOTION: Mark LaBolle made a motion to direct DBS to come up with a rule or statute as needed to rectify the problem. Jeff Wheeler seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

ACTION: For the April 24, 2014 Electrical Board meeting, the Division will bring forth a proposal on a 30-day journeyman license for out-of-state journeymen to work in Idaho until an Idaho journeyman license is obtained.

◆ **Limitation on Grandfathering Provisions for an Electrical Contractor License**

Jon Groth, Groth Aviation, is a current electrical contractor who would like to change his business entity. His request was to carry over his grandfathering rights as written in IDAPA 07.01.03.015.01 “Qualifications for Electrical Contractor”, and not be required to test for or hire a master journeyman.

The distinction between business entities is determined by the Secretary of State’s office (SOS). DBS follows the SOS practices and determination of what is a legal entity for business purposes.

The Deputy Administrator of Operations explained the purpose of the grandfather clause and clarified the reasons Mr. Groth was ineligible.

The Board does not have the privilege to make decisions against statute.

With similar situations, the Deputy Administrator of Operations clarified the issues and concerns of Andy Rose, Allstate Electric, and Dale Williams, Capitol Electric.

◆ **Apprentice/Journeyman Exam**

The exams are close to completion. Beta (pre) testing of the journeyman exam will be February 3rd through February 28th. DBS will offer apprentices an opportunity to take the pre-test free of charge, and if they pass, will not have to retest.

March 3, 2014, is the anticipated date to officially roll-out ALL electrical exams.

Journeyman First Exam Attempts Report – A handout of the Journeyman First Exam Attempts report was provided to the Board. The report will be included in all future board packets and posted on the Division’s website.

ACTION: The Journeyman First Exam Attempts report will be posted on the Division’s website and included in all future Electrical Board packets.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

Code Update – Docket No. 07-0106-1301, adoption of the 2014 National Electrical Code, has been approved by the Senate Commerce & Human Resources Committee.

Inspector Certification – The Division is working to ensure all its electrical inspectors are certified by the International Association of Electrical Inspectors.

In-House Testing – The electrical program manager has been working with the Division’s program specialist to get the electrical journeyman, masters, and specialty license testing in place.

Quarterly Inspector Meetings – Quarterly inspector meetings will start-up again.

◆ **Operational Report**

Legislation Update – Proposed rule changes will go before the House Business Committee – Rules Subcommittee today at 2:30 p.m.

Several rule dockets, including labeling and listing field testing modifications, still need to be reviewed on the Senate side.

A bill by the elevator industry to license elevator mechanics and service companies is up for print. Should the bill pass, elevator mechanics would have jurisdiction over all wiring installations beyond the elevator controller; eliminating the electrical specialty license for elevators.

Master Journeyman License for Inspectors – DBS inspectors are required to be certified as electrical inspectors; testing and meeting CEU requirements on an on-going basis.

At the 2011 legislature, the Board and Agency presented a proposal to require all electrical inspectors be licensed by DBS as master electricians. Ultimately, the proposal did not pass the House Business Committee.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Financial Report – The Electrical Board Fund, FY 2014 financial statement as of December 31, 2013, was reviewed.

News Release – A news release titled *Division of Building Safety Cautions Solar Users and Developers* will be posted to the Division’s website. The article brings awareness to consumers on the safety and enforcement of “Plug and Play Grid Tie Inverters”.

Per Capita Production – Information from July 2010 to January 2014, based on quarterly per capita production for each full-time DBS employee, was provided.

Board Member Davis requested the Division continue to provide the statistical information on an ongoing basis, and present the information for 2006 and 2007 at the April 2014 meeting.

ACTION: The topic *Per Capita Production* will be a standard subject at all regularly scheduled Electrical Board meetings.

ACTION: For the April 2014 Board meeting, DBS will provide statistics on the 2006 and 2007 per capita production.

◆ **Adjournment**

MOTION: Mark LaBolle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kreg Davis seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m. (MT).

BOB SCOTT, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD

C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

DATE

02/21/2014rb