

**IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD  
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

**Wednesday – April 25, 2018 – 9:30 a.m. (MDT)**

**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**

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 25, 2018 MEETING**

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

Chairman Bob Scott called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. (MDT)

**Board Members Present:**

Bob Scott, Chairman  
Jim Marchetti  
Rick Stark  
Dale Pippitt  
Joe Harbacheck  
Allan Perman  
Todd Feusier

**DBS Staff Members Present:**

Chris L. Jensen, Administrator  
Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator  
Spencer Holm, Deputy Attorney General  
Warren Wing, Electrical Program Manager  
Larry Jeffres, Regional Manager, Region 1  
Patrick Grace, Regional Manager, Region 2  
Jeff Egan, Regional Manager, Region 3  
Gary Sonnen, Regional Supervisor, Region 1  
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Supervisor, Region 3  
Shelly Farris, Regional Supervisor, Region 3  
Brad Myers, Regional Supervisor, Region 3  
Amy Kohler, Compliance Program Specialist  
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2

◆ **Open Forum**

City and County Concerns – There were no new items or concerns to discuss.

StateReporting.com, LLC – Tim Bell, StateReporting.com Representative, began a Power-Point presentation on the benefits StateReporting.com provides to state regulatory agencies with regard to continuing education. Chairman Scott suggested Mr. Bell discuss his product with Electric Program Manager Warren Wing, and if interested, will advise the Board.

Self-Certification – Jeff Fitzloff, Electrical Inspector with Electrical Controls and Instrument, voiced concern on recent legislation as it pertains to self-certification of electrical inspectors. Mr. Fitzloff stated it is probably a liability, and a third party should provide the certification.

Journeyman Versus Non-Journeyman License – Rafe Barrett, Complete Fire Protection, asked for clarification on the benefits of having a journeyman license versus not having a journeyman license primarily for the fire alarm industry. The Electrical Program Manager invited Mr. Barrett to attend a “free” rules class on April 27, 2017, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Division’s Meridian office. The rules are on the Division’s website as well.

◆ **Approval of the April 25, 2018 Agenda**

Chairman Scott stated the Electrical Program Manager would present agenda item 05 *Review Proposed Amendments to Electrical Rules*, not himself.

**MOTION:** Allan Perman made a motion to approve the agenda with the change. Jim Marchetti seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Approval of the January 24, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes**

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

◆ **Career-Technical Education (CTE) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

Adrian San Miguel, Director, Postsecondary Education, CTE, and Wendi Secrist, Executive Director, Workforce Development Council, addressed a final draft of the Electrical MOU and addendum between CTE and DBS.

For clarification, Deputy Attorney General Spencer Holm suggested adding the word “future” to the first bullet point under “Costs” to read, “DBS will secure funding from the Idaho Electrical Board and will reimburse ICTE for all costs related to future standards development/updates and assessment development/revisions.” In addition, Board Member Allan Perman recommended either party could terminate the MOU with a 30-day notice.

**MOTION:** Joe Harbacheck made a motion to direct DBS to sign and approve the MOU with the recommended changes. Allan Perman seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **2018 Idaho-Oklahoma Reciprocal Agreement Renewal**

Currently, Idaho reciprocates with Oklahoma on the journeyman electrician license. The Electrical Program Manager recently received a new reciprocal agreement from Oklahoma, and seeing no issues or changes, asked for the Board’s approve to renew.

**MOTION:** Todd Feusier made a motion to approve the renewal of the reciprocal agreement with Oklahoma. Jim Marchetti seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Review Proposed Amendments to Electrical Rules**

The following proposed amendments reflect changes made in statute this year. The Board will take action on the following proposals at the July 25, 2018 Electrical Board Meeting: IDAPA 07.01.01--Electrical Inspection Tags, IDAPA 07.01.04--Electrical Specialty Licensing, IDAPA 07.01.05--Examinations, IDAPA 07.01.07--Continuing Education Requirements, IDAPA 07.01.08--Electrical Inspection Tag Appeals, and IDAPA 07.01.11--Civil Penalties.

The changes in statute were: 1) New verbiage to reflect the Division’s new technology as it pertains to permits, and 2) Specialty electrician renamed to limited electrical installer.

IDAPA 07.01.04.15. 06. *Well Driller and Water Pump Installer* – Board Member Dale Pippitt questioned whether it would be logical or practical to leave both words, “limited” and “specialty”, in rule; i.e., limited specialty electrical installer. Using both words would make it very clear an individual is limited to this specialty field. Deputy Attorney General Holm agreed

with Electrical Program Manager Wing that by keeping the word “specialty”, it would be more confusing between the rules and statute. When asked, mentioned were typographical errors on page 15 of the supporting documentation in the packet.

Distributed at the meeting was a letter by Matt Kehoe, Owner of Panhandle Pump. Mr. Kehoe opposes the name change as it implies only installations of new equipment are allowed, and the term “limited” implies not competent.

IDAPA 07.01.07--Continuing Education Requirements – Jeff Fitzloff, Electrical Inspector with Electrical Controls and Instrument, recommended bringing back the 16 hours of code update, which would meet the requirements for both code update and code-related. The Electrical Program Manager stated he would bring proposed changes to the July Board meeting.

IDAPA 07.01.05--Examinations – As an even playing field, Board Member Rick Stark suggested the minimum passing score for all electrical licenses and certifications be seventy-five percent (75%).

HVAC Direct Supervision--Update – The Electrical Program Manager briefly explained the history behind this topic. The HVAC Board has decided not to pursue direct supervision as the HVAC industry strongly opposes it. There is no longer a MOU between the Electrical and HVAC Boards; however, the requirements are in each of the board’s statutes. Theoretically, direct supervision would have no impact on the work since statute states individuals holding a current HVAC license can provide certain electrical installations, not registered apprentices.

Brought forth were the following suggestions: 1) HVAC contractor take out a separate permit and inspection through electrical, and 2) Electrical inspectors show HVAC contractors how to properly execute the work, and then give the responsibility back to HVAC.

For the Board’s consideration, and to provide safety from the standpoint of the Electrical Board’s concern of HVAC licensees installing electrical, the Division agreed to bring options to the July Electrical Board meeting. Inspectors were encouraged to continue to take pictures to support the alleged violations.

**ACTION:** The topic HVAC Direct Supervision--Update will be placed on the July Board meeting agenda as an informational item.

◆ **Licensing Freedom Executive Order--Update**

Patrick J. Grace, Regional Manager, reviewed three draft reports; Electrical Contractor & Specialty Contractor Licenses, Journeyman & Master Electricians and Specialty (Journeyman) Electrician Licenses, and Electrical Apprentice & Specialty Electrical Trainee Registration. The Division will provide the reports to the Governor’s office, as well as post on its website before the July 1, 2018 deadline.

The topic *Three-Year Contactor License* corresponds with this subject, and was discussed at this time. In addition to the Executive Order, the Legislature is in the process of authorizing the Legislative Council to appoint a committee to undertake and complete a study of

occupational licenses and certification laws and rules in Idaho. One item being contemplated is whether licenses should be issued annually or on a longer cycle; i.e., three years.

Upon reviewing bullet points in Section F, Recommendations for Improvement, Modification or Elimination of Requirements, of the reports, suggested were the following: 1) Change the first word in each bullet point from “elimination” to “modification”, and 2) Identify items as have been or being reviewed.

◆ **Three-Year Contractor License**

This topic was briefly addressed during the discussion of the *Licensing Freedom Executive Order--Update* topic.

◆ **Master License Proposal**

Electrical Program Manager Wing met with the House and Senate committee chairs to discuss proposed language that would reduce the number of signing master electricians from renting their licenses while living in other states. Although the legislators understood the concept, they did not agree with the language; therefore, DBS pulled the proposal. When asked, the Board decided not to pursue this issue.

◆ **Apprentice Registration Renewal**

The concern is apprentices are leaving the trade when it is time to renew their five-year registration because they are not, or have not been, attending school. This topic will most likely be resolved during the negotiated rulemaking process and revert to the one-year rather than five-year registration period.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

National Electrical Reciprocal Alliance (NERA) Annual Meeting – Electrical Program Manager Warren Wing is the chairman for NERA and will host its annual meeting, August 13-15, 2018, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Boise, Idaho.

Continuing Education Unit (CEU) Training – On June 4-15, 2018, the Electrical Program Manager will provide CEU courses in nine Idaho cities. In addition, the fourth Friday of every month the Division offers free CEU classes at its Meridian office.

Negotiated Rulemaking – Scheduled are three public hearings to allow interested parties to recommend amendments to the electrical rules related to permits and inspections, as well as the registering of apprentices, and licensing of limited electrical installers (formerly specialty licenses).

Legislation – All of the electrical statutes and rules, presented at the 2018 legislature, passed. The next phase is to align the rules with the statutes.

◆ **Compliance Program Report**

NOV Report – For easier viewing, the pie chart was replaced with a graph on the violation types and count. With the industry very busy, there is an influx of violations.

Travel – In Spring 2019, Compliance Program Specialist Amy Kohler will travel throughout the state of Idaho; meeting with DBS inspectors and local jurisdiction on the compliance program.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Financial Report – Addressed was the Electrical Board Fund, FY 2018 financial statement, as of March 31, 2018.

City of Meridian – For several years, DBS has been under contract with the city of Meridian; providing electrical services. The Division has given a 60-day notice to terminate the contract and will work through the end of the original three-year contract, September 30, 2018.

Budget – Approved was the budget for fiscal year 2019. The Division received six new inspector positions; however, no funding.

Construction – McCain Foods, \$100 million dollar project, Burley; two technical buildings, Idaho Falls; extended core facility, one billion dollar project and 1,200 electricians, Idaho Falls; subdivisions and single-family homes throughout the state of Idaho. The average home is \$300,000 and construction in the Treasure Valley is up by 11% from last year.

Statistics – Administrator Chris L. Jensen provided an overview of the Division’s activities in 2017.

◆ **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Rick Stark made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Allan Perman seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m. (MDT)

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BOB SCOTT, CHAIRMAN  
IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD

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CHRIS L. JENSEN, ADMINISTRATOR  
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

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DATE

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