

**IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD  
SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE/VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

**Wednesday – January 29, 2020 – 9:30 a.m. (MST)**

**Division of Building Safety  
1090 East Watertower Street, Suite 150, Meridian  
1250 Ironwood Drive, Suite 220, Coeur d'Alene  
155 North Maple Street, Blackfoot**

**MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 29, 2020 SPECIAL 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 special meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. (MST)

**Board Members Present:**

Bob Scott, Chairman  
Jeff Wheeler, Vice-Chairman  
Joe Harbacheck  
Jim Marchetti  
Greg Eagy  
Casey Wilson  
Jim Swier  
Rick Stark  
Todd Feusier

**DBS Staff Members Present:**

Chris L. Jensen, Administrator  
Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator  
Spencer Holm, Deputy Attorney General  
Larry Jeffres, Regional Manager, Region 1  
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Manager, Region 3  
Gary Sonnen, Regional Supervisor, Region 1  
Shelly Farris, Regional Supervisor, Region 3  
Warren Wing, Electrical Program Manager  
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2

◆ **January 29, 2020 Agenda**

Chairman Scott stated he would like to take the items off the action agenda in reverse order from which they are shown as the topic *Low Voltage Limited Energy Apprentice Renewal* can be discussed quickly.

◆ **Low Voltage/Limited Energy Apprentice Renewal**

Although not on the January 22, 2020 Idaho Electrical Board meeting agenda as an action item, Timothy Townsend called in under *Open Forum* to petition the Board to allow him to renew, a second time, his Limited Energy Installer Trainee Registration. The Board accepted the extenuating circumstances as presented; voting to recommend the Division renew Mr. Townsend's registration. To ensure the Board complied with the Idaho Administrative Code, Mr. Townsend's topic was placed, and properly noticed, on the January 29, 2020 agenda as an action item.

**MOTION:** Casey Wilson made a motion to allow Timothy Townsend to renew his Limited Energy Installer Trainee Registration. Joe Harbacheck seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Temporary Rule Regarding Ratios**

On January 21, 2020, the House Business Committee approved the electrical rules except for no apprentice ratios. The Division was asked to create a temporary rule; putting ratios back in. Representative Brent Crane provided the history behind this issue, which began at the 2019 Legislative Session.

At the January 22, 2020 Electrical Board meeting, Administrator Chris L. Jensen offered to provide several options to the Board for consideration of a temporary rule. Following are the options:

- Option 1 – One journeyman shall supervise up to four apprentices doing electrical installations on one- and two-family dwellings. For all other electrical work, one journeyman would be allowed to supervise two apprentices. In addition, add subsection (b) back into IDAPA 07.01.03.012.02, *Direct Supervision*, which would provide the Administrator the option to adjust the ratio on special circumstances.
- Option 2 – Weighted system on all electrical apprentices.
- Option 3 – Flat ratio on most commercial and industrial work and weighted system on residential.

A lengthy discussion ensued with many audience members expressing support for Option 2, while others preferred the one to two ratio. Representative Brent Crane implored the Board to move forward with proposed language; stating, if not, legislators will take control and proceed with legislation.

**MOTION:** Todd Feusier made a motion to adopt Option 2, weighted ratio across the board for commercial and residential. Hearing no second, the motion died.

**MOTION:** Jeff Wheeler made a motion to adopt Option 1 as presented by DBS. This option allows for the four to one ratio on one- and two-family dwellings and puts subsection (b) back in IDAPA 07.01.03.012.02; enabling the Administrator to increase the ratio under extenuating circumstances. Joe Harbacheck seconded. Eight ayes and one nay, motion carried.

When asked, one- and two-family dwellings are defined in the National Electrical Code; however, there is no definition for residential or service sizes.

◆ **Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m. (MST)

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BOB SCOTT, CHAIRMAN  
IDAHO ELECTRICAL BOARD

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RON WHITNEY, ADMINISTRATOR  
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

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DATE  
10/08/2020rb

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DATE