

SOUTH DAKOTA ELECTRICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Electrical Commission meeting held on January 17, 2013 via conference call.

The meeting was called to order by President Jesse Smith at 8:00 AM.

The following members were present: Jesse Smith, Steve Nielsen, Robert Cronin, Cam Becker, Duane Mergen, Steve Arne, and Tim McIntyre.

Others present were: JJ Linn – Executive Director and Diana Peterson – Office Secretary.

Motion by Nielsen; Seconded by Mergen to approve the minutes of July 19, 2012. Motion approved by roll call vote.

Inspectors report:

- Reviewed minutes of the Inspectors meeting
- Director Linn reported on hiring Glen Janssen as a temporary Inspector in the southeast part of the state.
- Bob Jaskulka has completed his probationary period.
- Director Linn discussed the hiring of Electrical Contractors as Inspectors. The act is in compliance with current laws and regulations. It is customary for the Commission to require the EC to pass the Inspector exam as a condition of hiring.

Old Business:

- Director Linn reported on the status of the new database. BIT is approximately 92% complete at this time. The Members again voiced their concern as to the increasing cost associated with the development of the database. Director Linn echoed the concerns and assured the Members BIT and DLR are aware of their concern.
- Director Linn reviewed the homeowner wiring permit process.
 - The Commission discussed the elimination of the Homeowner wiring permit. Director Linn stated he did not believe the proposal for elimination should be presented by the Commission. Director Linn recommended continuing to educate the public as to the difference between a professional and a homeowner installation as documented on the green sticker and in the database.
 - The Commission discussed the act of moonlighting under a Homeowner's wiring permit. Director Linn informed the commission of his effort to inform licensees as to the illegality of wiring under a Homeowner's permit and the possible assessment of a \$350 fine for the licensee.
 - Director Linn will continue to educate home inspectors as to the information documented on the green sticker.

New Business:

- Legislative update
 - Senate Bill 3 proposes:
If any department, board, or commission of the state administers a licensure or certification examination to a person who completes a degree program or a training program at a public postsecondary technical institute in the state, the department, board, or commission shall annually report to the Board of Education the following:

- (1) The number of persons who completed a degree program or training program at each public postsecondary technical institute in the state and to whom the department, board, or commission administered a licensure or certification examination during that year; and
- (2) The number of persons in subdivision (1) who successfully passed the licensure or certification examination, including any subparts of any licensure or certification process.

Director Linn informed the Members that the Staff currently keeps records as to the requirements in Senate Bill 3; therefore, implementation of a policy to report the requested information will be unproblematic.

- Director Linn informed the Commission of a possible bill regarding the reciprocation of military spouse licenses. No bill has been proposed as of the date of the meeting.

Reports

- The reports for July through December were reviewed.
Motion by Cronin; Seconded by Becker to approve the reports. Motion approved by roll call vote.

Code Committee: No report.

President's report: No report.

Director's report:

- Director Linn reported that the Staff and Inspectors continue to work to bring inspections to a current status.
- Director Linn updated the Members on the status of the prosecutions/investigations for wiring without the proper license or permit. Director Linn informed the Members he would be creating a report to document the results by county.
 - The Hughes county complaint is awaiting trial.
 - The Pennington County complaints are still pending investigation by the state's attorney.
- Director Linn received a phone call from the same individual requesting to take the exam and then gain experience. Director Linn informed the caller he is reviewing the laws and will assess a possible rules change for the next rules proposal.
- Director Linn reported on the status of the undertaking policy.
- Director Linn reported that the Youth Engineering Adventure was not held last summer. Staff consulted with a contact at the adventure resulting in a recommendation to stop payment on the check for sponsorship.

Upcoming Commission meeting dates:

February 16, 2013 – IAEI Meeting – Rapid City
April 18, 2013 – SDEC Commission Meeting – Conference call
April 26 – 27, 2013 – SD Electrical Council Meeting – Sioux Falls

Motion by Arne; Seconded by Mergen to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved by roll call vote.

Cam Becker, Commission Secretary