

SOUTH DAKOTA ELECTRICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Electrical Commission meeting held on July 15, 2010 at the State Capitol Building room 412, Pierre, South Dakota.

The meeting was called to order by President Jesse Smith at 1:00 P.M.

The following members were present: Harlan Nielsen, Tim McIntyre, Steve Nielsen, Jesse Smith, Cam Becker, and Robert Cronin. Absent: Larry Simonson. A quorum was present.

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

Motion by Becker; Seconded by H. Nielsen to approve the agenda. Motion approved.

Motion by Cronin; Seconded by S. Nielsen to approve the minutes of April 15, 2010. Motion approved.

Inspectors report:

- The minutes of the May 15, 2010 Inspectors meeting were reviewed.
- Director Linn noted it is staffs intentions to discontinue the 3 hour code classes presented by the Commission. The Commission will continue to have Inspectors available to be presenters at other functions at no cost resulting in affordable continuing education programs being available to licensees.
- Director Linn updated the Commission on the DOL interpretation of 20:44:14:01 (12) Owner's Exemption. Homeowner is an individual owner who is personally installing electric wiring and fixtures in a residence or farmstead which is owned and resided in or on by the person installing the electrical wiring or fixtures. Homeowners may only have one residence.
- Director Linn noted the homeowner permits from this date until further notice will only be available at the Commission office or as provided by Commission Inspectors allowing the Inspectors and Staff the ability to monitor correct utilization.

Old Business:

- Director Linn reported the new database has been approved by the Senior IT Committee last week and BIT estimates Phase 1 to be completed by the end of the year.
- Director Linn reported the State of Iowa has executed the Reciprocal Agreement and President Smith executed the agreement during this meeting as action to approve was conducted in April.
- Director Linn presented the Commission with the Reciprocal Agreement with Minnesota for Electrical Contractors only. Director Linn provided an email from Minnesota stating they prefer to sign an agreement reciprocating only ECs as the NERA reciprocal agreement addresses Journeyman. Director Linn noted the NERA meeting will be August 2-3 and there were many uncertainties as to the process in which the agreements will be made. Staff recommends tabling the agreement until more information is available regarding the reciprocal agreements. Motion by H. Nielsen; Seconded by Becker to table this agreement until more information is available. Motion approved.

New Business:

- Director Linn reviewed proposed Statute 36-16 and Administrative Rule 20:44 changes. Staff noted board input and will prepare information for legislative process.
- Director Linn reviewed the National Electrical Reciprocal Alliance (NERA) ballot to allow Idaho, Iowa, Maine and Texas as members of NERA. Motion by H. Nielsen; Seconded by S. Nielsen to approve the states for membership in NERA. Motion approved.
- Director Linn reviewed the National Electrical Reciprocal Alliance (NERA) ballot agreeing to the terms and condition contained in the reciprocal agreement/letter of intent regarding journeyman electrician qualification dated 11/9/99 and selecting the states South Dakota wishes to reciprocate with. Motion by Becker; Seconded by McIntyre to agree and document the wish to reciprocate with Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Texas and Wyoming. Motion approved.
- President Smith opened up the floor for nominations for officers. Motion by H. Nielsen; Seconded by Cronin that nominations cease and the secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Jesse Smith as President and Cam Becker as Secretary. Motion approved.
- Motion by H. Nielsen; Seconded by Becker to send a \$500 sponsorship to the Youth Engineering Adventure. Motion approved.

The reports were reviewed by the Commission. Motion by McIntyre; Seconded by H. Nielsen to approve the reports. Motion approved.

Director Linn reviewed the journal.

Code Committee: No items of concern at this time.

President report:

- Thanked everyone for their support for his Presidency.
- Thanked the Director for his hard work in the past year.
- Items accomplished in the past year include getting the new computers, working on updating database, and repairing the communications with the inspectors.
- In the upcoming year President Smith would like to see more efficiency of inspections and streamline the revenue process.

Director report:

- Discontinuing of Code Classes.
- The Commission is due for an audit which is conducted every third year. Staff will begin the process of hiring an auditor.
- Director Linn discussed many items affecting the cash balance and the concern for the future cash flows of the Commission. Director Linn will continue to monitor the situation while developing a proposal to possibly raise fees in the near future.

Comments by Members: Commissioner McIntyre recommended creating an Electrical Contractor certificate which would be signed by the President and Executive Director and presented to each EC at the time in which their examination is passed.

Upcoming Commission meeting dates:

August 2-3, 2010 - NERA – Bismarck, ND

September 19-22, 2010 – Western Section IAEI meeting – Green Bay, WI

October 21, 2010 – Conference Call – 8:00 A.M.

Motion by H. Nielsen; Seconded by Becker to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved.

Cam Becker, Commission Secretary