

SOUTH DAKOTA ELECTRICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Electrical Commission meeting held on July 16, 2009, State Capitol, Room 412, Pierre, South Dakota.

The meeting was called to order by President Simonson at 8:00 A.M.

Members present were Larry Simonson, Harlan Nielsen, Steve Nielsen, Jesse Smith, Tim McIntyre, Cam Becker, and Robert Cronin.

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

Motion by Cronin; Seconded by H. Nielsen to approve the agenda with the addition of “Capitol Lake Plaza wind turbines” under new business. Motion approved.

Motion by H. Nielsen; Seconded by S. Nielsen to approve the minutes of April 16, 2009. Motion approved.

The Inspectors’ report was presented by Director Linn:

1. Minutes of April 23, 2009 Inspectors meeting in handouts for Commission review.
2. Items from July 14 & 15, 2009 Inspectors meeting included computer training, meeting with individuals from Attorney Generals Office on jurisdiction on Reservation and related issues, and code discussions. Complete minutes will be sent out in the near future.

Director Linn updated the Commission on the Rules adoption. The LRC Rules Committee had concerns on the utilization of the word “industrial” within the Commission’s current rules. In future rule changes the Commission will consider changing the word “industrial” to “commercial” to elevate these concerns.

Director Linn updated the Commission on the revocation of the special licenses and the issuance of the 501(d) licenses. The majority has been issued the new 501(d) license, some are still pending verification of hours of experience for the Journeyman’s license and some do not qualify for the 501(d) license. Director Linn explained to the Commission the qualifications for the 501(d)s to become a Journeyman and reported on the meeting with these individuals in Huron.

Director Linn and the Inspectors are working with Brenda and Amanda with SDREA on articles for their monthly newsletter. 7 of the 12 articles were included in the meeting handout. The Commission also suggested Director Linn write articles to place in the SDREA newsletters on a regular basis.

Director Linn handed out Commission Member binders for them to have at each Commission meeting.

A discussion was held on Commissioners terms. President Simonson suggested in the future the Commission should consider expanding the qualifications for the individuals who would qualify for the education position on the Commission. As there is a currently a limited pool of individuals who qualify for this position on the Commission, an adjustment in the Statute may be warranted.

President Simonson requested nominations for President.

Motion by H. Nielsen, Seconded by S. Nielsen to nominate Jesse Smith for President.

Motion by Becker, Seconded by H. Nielsen for nomination to cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Jesse Smith. Motion approved.

President Simonson asked for nominations for Secretary/Treasurer.

Motion by H. Nielsen, Seconded by Smith to nominate and cast a unanimous ballot for Cam Becker. Motion approved.

President Simonson gave an overview on the Youth Engineering Adventure. Motion by H. Nielsen, Seconded by Smith to sponsor the Youth Engineering Adventure in an amount of \$500. Motion approved.

Director Linn reported on the new application and the ability for it to be filled out online. The new application addresses more of the requirements set in Statute and Rules than the previous application utilized by the Commission. The verification forms that are sent to the Contractors have also been changed to coincide with the Statute and Rules. A brief discussion was held on having a morality clause in our Rules. The Commission will discuss in the future.

Director Linn handed out an e-mail he received in regard to the wind turbines being installed at the Capitol Lake Plaza are not UL listed. The Inspectors will make sure the electrical equipment within the turbines is UL listed.

Motion by S. Nielsen; Seconded by Smith to approve the reports. Motion approved.

Director Linn reported on the following items in the Journal and how they were handled:

1. White River Homeless Shelter
2. Owner doing illegal wiring in a motel in Brookings
3. Class B Electrician doing commercial
4. State permits
5. Open communication with ND
6. Multi-State meeting in New Hampshire August 3 & 4
7. LaCreek Electric locations and energizing
8. Pump by pond in Sioux Falls
9. Issuing of Homeowner permits

The Code Committee had no report.

The President reported that everything was going smoothly and was pleased with the current status of the Commission.

Director Linn reported on the following:

1. Reviewed active permit current outstanding balance
2. Reviewed new permits & finalized permits
3. Inspectors are working in other districts when needed
4. Cash balances
5. New computers for inspectors
6. The Commission is in need of an updated database. The Staff plans on starting the RFP process.
7. Travel to New Hampshire for Multi-State meeting
8. Western Section IAEEI meeting Bloomington, MN - 2 Commissioners, 2 inspectors, and possibly JJ will be attending this meeting.
9. Discussed need for penalties for not paying inspection fees in a timely manner.

Upcoming Commission meeting dates:

September 17, 2009 – Conference Call - 8:30 AM Central and 7:30 AM Mountain
January 21, 2010 – Chamberlain - 8:00 AM Central

Staff will be looking into utilizing Live Meeting for future conference call meetings.

Motion by McIntyre, Seconded by Becker to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved.

Cam Becker, Commission Secretary