

## SOUTH DAKOTA ELECTRICAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Electrical Commission meeting held on July 18, 2013.

The meeting was called to order by President Jesse Smith at 8:34 AM.

The following members were present: Steve Nielsen and Robert Cronin. The following members were present via phone: Steve Arne, Tim McIntyre, Jesse Smith and Duane Mergen. Absent: Cam Becker. A quorum was present.

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

Motion by Nielsen; Seconded by Cronin to approve the minutes of January 17, 2013.  
Motion approved by roll call vote.

Inspectors report:

- The Inspectors had a meeting on 2-25-13 and 4-24-13. No policy changes were noted.
- A salary increase spreadsheet was presented to the Commission for review. The increases were effective 5-8-13. Director Linn stated the increases will assist in hiring new and retaining current inspectors.
- Stan Rogers resigned 2-8-13.
- Casey Kebach retired 2-22-13.
- Brent Schoulte is now covering the central part of the State. He was approved for 5 hours of overtime per week for 12 to 15 weeks starting 2-19-13.
- Larry Harris was hired on 4-2-13 as a full time Inspector for the western part of the State.
- Darwin Jones retired and is now working as a temporary Inspector in the western part of the state.
- Bob Jaskulka passed the Electrical Inspector exam on 2-4-13.

Old Business

- Director Linn reported phase I of the database has been completed. Director Linn plans to meet with BIT to discuss the additional costs associated with phase I. The Department has sent out RFPs to complete phase II for the Commission and projects for other boards/commissions which are similar to the Commission's phase II.
- Director Linn reported there have been no changes on the reciprocal agreement status sheet. He intends to attend the National Electrical Reciprocal Alliance meeting in Oklahoma on August 5-6.

New Business

- President Smith announced nominations are now in order for the office of President. Commissioner McIntyre nominated Jesse Smith; Seconded by Mergen.

President Smith requested additional nominations. Seeing none President Smith declared Jesse Smith elected to the position of President by acclamation. President Smith announced nominations are now in order for the office of Secretary/Treasurer. Commissioner Cronin nominated Cam Becker; Seconded by Nielsen. President Smith requested additional nominations. Seeing none President Smith declared Cam Becker elected to the position of Secretary/Treasurer by acclamation.

- Director Linn presented a summary of 2014 NEC changes as provided by NFPA. Director Linn and the Commission Members concluded there were no changes which warranted immediate concern by the Commission at this time. Western Section IAEI will be in Colorado Springs, CO in September and the Inspectors, Director Linn and select Commissioner Members will attend. Director Linn will accumulate feedback from the attendees and present concerns to the Commission at the October meeting for review.

#### Reports

- The reports for January through June were reviewed. Motion by Smith; Seconded by Arne to approve the reports. Motion approved by roll call vote.

Code Committee: No report.

President's report: President Smith thanked the Commission for letting him serve as President for an additional term. President Smith requested Director Linn to invite a BIT representative to the next meeting to discuss the items completed/incomplete in phase I and explain what is entailed in phase II.

Director's report:

- Director Linn reported on potential changes to the statutes and rules:
  - Flood/fire
  - Co-generation
  - Definition of utility
  - Fee for violation of the code
  - Fee for late payment.
  - Recouping expense of attorney fees.
  - Address energizing and re-energizing of an installation
  - Tamper resistant receptacles required in moved homes
  - Clarification on correction reports to homeowners
  - Clarification on the minimum fee
  - License number required on advertising
  - Address the "shall" requirement in regards to de-energization
  - Address the ability to issue a JM license for those holding an EC.
  - Test prior to gaining experience.
  - Update 36:16:19.
  - Address 20:44:22:10 service disconnect locations.
  - Change passing grade for an exam.

- Director Linn reported that Sanford Lab has requested certain areas of the lab be exempt from inspection. Director Linn is working with the Departments legal counsel on this matter.
- Director Linn reported that the Board of Appraisers have joined the Electrical and Plumbing Commission at our current location.
- Director Linn updated the Members on the status of the prosecutions/investigations for wiring without the proper license or permit.
  - The Hughes county complaint is awaiting trial.
  - The Pennington County complaints are still pending investigation by the state's attorney.
- Director Linn reported the company selling VFD fans with grain bins is working towards a solution to the lack of listing issue.
- Director Linn inquired as to who would like to attend IAEI Western Section. Commissioners Arne, Nielsen, and Cronin requested Director Linn to seek approval from DLR for them to attend.

Upcoming meeting dates:

September 15-19, 2013 – Western Section IAEI Meeting – Colorado Springs, CO

October 17, 2013 – SDEC Commission Meeting – Conference call

Motion by Nielsen; Seconded by Cronin to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved by roll call vote.

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Cam Becker, Commission Secretary