

MINUTES

UTAH ELECTRICIAN LICENSING BOARD

December 16, 2021

Electronic Meeting

CONVENED: 9:02 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 10:45 a.m.

Bureau Manager:
Board Secretary:

Stephen Duncombe
Katie Corak

Board Members Present:

John Simonsen, Chairperson
Justin May
David Alger
Mike Hartwell

Board Members Absent:

Sean Conlon
Justin Parker
Steve Woodman

Guests:

Boyd Bindrup, OW Tech
Carl Brailsford, UETA
Ken Adams, IEC of Utah
Mike Lanoue, UETA
Mitch Pali, OW Tech
David James, SLCC
Cindy Hansen, SLCC
TJ Empey, Dixie Tech
Ashlee Tengberg, Dixie Tech
Brian Vermouth, Cache Valley Electric
David Spatafore
Cliff Carron-Campbell, Mountainland Tech

DOPL Staff Present:

Bobby Main, Investigations Supervisor
Lisa Lynn, Compliance Specialist
Boyce Barnes, Continuing Education
Jenna Mayne, Testing Program Manager
Ashley Beyer, Outreach Coordinator

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes
Time: 2:45

Investigation Update
Time: 3:21

Continuing Education Update
Time: 23:20

Compliance Update
Time: 24:20

DISCUSSION and ACTION ITEMS:

Electrician Education Fund
Time: 30:22

Testing/Exams Update
Time: 33:28

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Alger made a motion to approve the November 18, 2021 minutes. Mr. May seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Main provided an update on investigations. Currently, DOPL investigators are seeing a lot of job sites out of ratio and handymen doing electrical work. Items noted with no action taken.

Mr. Barnes provided a continuing education update on the continuing education courses that have been approved since the last meeting. Item noted with no action taken.

Ms. Lynn provided the Board with a compliance update. There are currently 35 electricians on probation. Ms. Lynn reported that several probationers are missing employer reports for October, and several probationers are missing BCI Reports for June. One probationer has been issued a citation for non-compliance with probation for failure to report for a random drug and alcohol test. Another probationer recently incurred new charges, however based on the facts of the case the charges did not violate his probation. Items noted with no action taken.

Ms. Beyer, DOPL Outreach Coordinator, provided the Board an update on the upcoming media campaign on the importance of verifying a license before hiring an electrician or plumber to do work with money from the Electrician Education Fund and Plumber Education Fund. With the addition of money from the Construction Service Commission, and the Plumbers Licensing Board, Ms. Beyer expects to have \$50,000-60,000 for this campaign. Ms. Beyer will spend the next month coming up with a tentative plan for the campaign, that she will present at the next board meeting. Ms. Beyer hopes to have the commercials on television and other media platforms in the Spring of 2022. Item noted with no action taken.

The Board reviewed the results of examinations taken since the last meeting. Ms. Mayne followed up on the discussion

from the last meeting on how and when the conduit bending portion of the electrician practical exam is graded. The project is graded after the candidate has left the testing site per the recommendation of the Exam Review Committee who reviews the content of the exam every two years. The Administration Committee composed of subject matter experts handle questions and concerns about the exam that arise as the exam is administered. The recommendation of the latter committee is to provide full disclosure to the candidate on the exam instructions sheet explicitly stating what they will be graded on for the conduit project. For example, that they are required to ream the pipe, and that there will be deductions for incorrect measurements and kinks in pipe. The Board agreed that providing more information on the grading would be a good idea.

Master Theory and
Master Code Exams
Time: 45:29

The Board revisited this discussion from the previous month's meeting regarding eliminating the master and residential master electrician written exams. Last month's discussion ended with the Board leaning towards adding creating a separate a state specific exam with law and rule questions along with a small portion of electrical specific questions on code and theory. Since the last meeting, board members have reached out to industry stakeholders for feedback. Mr. May reported that he spoke with several individuals in the industry and they felt there needed to be some sort of exam for master applicants, but that the current master exams were too similar to the journeyman exams. Mr. Simonsen reported similar opinions from his interactions with other Utah licensed master electricians. Ms. Mayne suggested that this state specific exam could include questions on electrical code and theory, OSHA standards, project management, and Utah laws and rules. However, a majority of the questions must be Utah law and rule specific. The Board continued to discuss the make-up of the exam, and how to possibly move forward. Ms. Mayne indicated they would need to make a recommendation to the Construction Service Commission to remove the Master Electrician Code and Theory exams as well as the Residential Master Electrician Code and Theory exams replace them with a Utah specific master electrician exam for all master applicants including those coming in by endorsement. Mr. Simonsen believed it would be best to table this agenda item instead of making a recommendation at this time because

three board members were absent and unable to speak on the matter. Item tabled until the January meeting.

NASCLA Electrical Examinations
Time: 1:20:54

The Board again discussed potentially adopting the NASCLA electrician exams to replace the current Utah electrician exams. Ms. Mayne reported NASCLA does not offer online proctoring for their exam and does not plan to do so. Whereas all written Utah electrician exams can be proctored online. The other downsides that still remain include, NASCLA not having a residential exam (and they are not planning to create one), and the lack of an ESL program. With no residential specific exam, and Utah possibly creating their own state specific master electrician law and rule exam, the only exam Utah would be adopting is the NASCLA journeyman exam, which would be confusing for licensees and counterproductive, as it would only be one exam NASCLA would be taking over and not all electrician exams. Based on this, the Board determined that discussions on this topic cease, and if there are further developments such as NASCLA putting a concrete ESL program in place, it will be addressed sometime in the future.

ADJOURN:

Adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

01/20/2022
Date:

X John Simonsen
Electrician Licensing Board Chairperson

01/20/2022
Date:

X Stephen Duncombe
Bureau Manager, Division of
Occupational & Professional Licensing

