

ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

Tel. No. (860) 713-6135

-MINUTES-

AUGUST 12, 2011

The meeting of August 12, 2011 was called to order by Chairman Laurence A. Vallieres at 8:31 AM in Room 126 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present: Laurence A. Vallieres, Contractor, Chairman
Ronald Bish, Contractor
Faith Gavin-Kuhn, Public Member
Frank Halloran, Journeyman
David Munsill, Journeyman
Anthony Soter, Journeyman
John W. Yusza, Electronic Technician

Members Absent: Eric B. Collett, Public Member
Roger L. Johnson, Jr., Journeyman
Sandy Marino, Public Member
Mario Tolla, Public Member
Raymond A. Turri, Contractor

Member Vacancy: None

DCP Staff Present: Robert M. Kuzmich, RA,
License and Applications Specialist
Richard M. Hurlburt, Director
Robin Washbond, Administrative Assistant

General Public: Robert Woytowich
Hector Sanchez
Jerry Oles
Kevin Ryan
William Peacock
Don Armstrong
David Jackson
Colin Clarke
Sepe Koko
Marcus Viamari

John Roy
Leighton Jackson
Stephen Meade
Michael Kaliss
Keri Lamontagne,

Department of Labor
Labor/Apprenticeship
Training

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions, and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information, contact Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, at (860) 713-6135 or Fax (860)-706-1255.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp

Division E-Mail: occtrades@ct.gov

1. 8:30 AM Call to order; Mr. Vallieres called the meeting to order at 8:31 AM.

2. Review Minutes of Previous Meetings:

A. Review Minutes of Meeting of June 10, 2011; The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the minutes as submitted. (Soter/Yusza)

3. Report from Trade Practice Division; the Board acknowledged and reviewed this report which was distributed to the Board by Mr. Kuzmich.

4. Appearing before the Board at the Board's Request; no individuals.

5. Request to Appear Before the Board:

A. Request to address the Board from Mr. Leo Ouelette; Mr. Ouelette notified the Board in writing that he was unable to attend today's meeting.

6. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today; None.

7. Review of Applications(s) for Licensure Examination:

A. Armstrong, Don W. - C-5 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training;. The Board, voted unanimously to deny his application based upon a lack of need for this license type in his workplace supervisory capacity. (Soter/Halloran)

B. Clarke, Colin O. – E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted, unanimously, to deny his application based upon a lack of related transcripts of formal training (related classroom instruction). (Halloran/Soter)

C. Jackson, David W. – C-7 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted, unanimously, to deny his application based upon a lack of holding a C-8 Limited Electrical Sign Journeyman's license for the minimum two year time period. (Halloran/Soter)

D. Jackson, Leighton F. - E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted ,unanimously, to deny his application based upon a lack of the required On-The-Job Training hours and Related Classroom Instruction. (Halloran/Soter)

E. Kaliss, Michael J. – E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted unanimously to table his application pending receipt of the 12 copies of his application package as detailed in the e-mail he received prior to this meeting which confirmed his appointment before the Board. (Soter/Halloran)

F. Kaneko, Joshua T. - E-1 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; Mr. Kaneko notified the Board by e-mail that he was not able to attend today's meeting and will be rescheduling. As such, the Board took no action on this application.

G. Koko, Sepe – E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted, unanimously, to his application based upon a lack of the required On-The-Job Training hours and related classroom instruction. (Bish/Soter)

H. Oles, Jerry – E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted, unanimously, to table his application based upon a lack of the required 720 hours of related classroom instruction. In addition, the Board is requiring that Mr. Oles provide them with a concise breakdown of the approximately 9,000 hours of On-The-Job Training documented in your application. (Soter/Yusza)

I. Peacock, William A. – L-6 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted, unanimously, to deny his application to sit for the L-6 Limited Electrical Journeyman's Examination on the basis of a lack of related classroom instruction hours. (Halloran Soter)

J. Rizer, II, Thomas W. – E-1 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; Mr. Rizer was not present at today's meeting. As such, the Board took no action on this application.

K. Roy, John M. E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted, unanimously, to deny his application based upon a lack of the required 8,000 hours of registered on-the job- training and a Certificate of Apprenticeship Completion from the State of Massachusetts. (Soter/Halloran)

L. Ryan, Kevin O. – E-1 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; It was noted by the applicant that he has not held an E-2 license in the State of Connecticut. Mr. Bish offered the applicant the opportunity to change his application type to an E-2. The issue of equivalent of experience was raised by Mr. Ryan as to the language as stated in the Statutes. Mr. Vallieres noted that it is the Board's responsibility to determine this equivalency.

Mr. Ryan stated that he works for a transit system company and has no intentions of offering electrical services in Connecticut. He seeks this license type as a prerequisite to the owner and in their company contracts it stipulates that the qualifying agent for the company must be a license holder. Mr. Ryan is the agent in Connecticut. Mr. Ryan's formal training was discussed and noted in the application package of information given to the Board.

Mr. Ryan made two requests to Board; the first was to change his license type to an E-2 and the second was to waive the two year waiting period which was denied by the Board. Mr. Soter stated that he will deny his second request which was supported by Mr. Bish.

After more discussion, the Board voted, unanimously, to approve his application for the E-2 Unlimited Journeyman's Examination conditional upon prior completion of (7) credit hours of continuing education courses in accordance with Section 20-334d-1 of the Regulation for Continuing Education for Electricians and Plumbers. (Soter/Bish)

It was noted that the requirement for the applicant take the continuing education courses prior to taking the E-2 license examination to familiarize the applicant with Connecticut business laws and standards and photovoltaic education

M. Sorensen, Philip M. – C-5 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; Mr. Sorenson was not present at today's meeting. As such, the Board took no action on this application.

N. Viamari, Marcus J. - E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board voted, unanimously, to approve his application. (Halloran Soter)

8. Applicant(s) for Licensure reappearing in-person:

A. Meade, Stephen M. – denied by the Board on January 14, 2011 to sit for the E-2 Journey person's Examination based upon the lack of the required related classroom instruction and lack of certificate of completion of a registered State Apprenticeship Program. *The Board voted, unanimously, to approve his application. (Soter/Halloran)*

9. Applicant(s) for Licensure Appearing in Person

A. Sanchez, Hector M. – E-1 Applicant holding an E-2 Journey person's License requesting hardship consideration. Mr. Sanchez explained to the Board his situation. Mr. Vallieres noted that the applicant is looking to waive a portion of the two year waiting period required in Connecticut to hold a Connecticut E-2 license to qualify to take the E-1 examination. Mr. Sanchez has held an out-of-state Journey person's license for approximately four years.

Mr. Sanchez detailed his hardship stating that his wife is critically ill. They have two children and it is very difficult for him to maintain a full time job being essentially a single parent. His home is being foreclosed upon and he needs to be on his own to schedule work to accommodate his care for his children. His wife is being taken care of out-of-state which further complicates his situation. Mr. Sanchez explained his professional background to the Board and noted that he would not be before the Board and work the required two years had his situation not been so critical.

Mr. Soter empathized with Mr. Sanchez's situation but cautioned the Board against setting a precedent for waiving the two year working period in light of today's economy and a setting a trend. Ms. Gavin-Kuhn noted that she does not believe that Mr. Sanchez's situation is related to the economy but instead a living situation and being a caregiver and the best father he can be.

Mr. Vallieres gave Mr. Sanchez credit for coming before the Board and trying to do the right thing and believes that the extent of his hardship warrants the Board's actions to waive the two year waiting period without the perception a setting any future trends *Mr. Bish motioned to approve Mr. Sanchez's application to take the E-1 license examination seconded by Ms. Gavin-Kuhn. The motion carried with one opposed (Soter).*

10. Request for Renewal of License: None

11. Request for Reinstatement:

A. Sinanis, Spiro – former E-1 license holder requesting hardship consideration for reinstatement of his license without re-examination. *Mr. Sinanis was not present at today's meeting. As such, the Board took no action on this application.*

12. Request for Reconsideration: None

13. Request to Suspend: None

14. Proposed Settlements and /or Stipulations Containing Consent Orders: None

Settlements Agreements:

Stipulation Agreements:

15. Notice of Continuance: None

16. Request to Dismiss or Request to Dismiss Without Prejudice: None

17. Request to Revise: None

18. Request to Reopen: None

19. Review of Examination Results: None

Electrical:

TV & Radio:

20. Review of Correspondence:

A. Evaluation Forms For Electrical Continuing Education Course; for the Board's information. The Board acknowledged receipt of this documentation. All, for the most part, are favorable

B. E-Mail from Jeffrey Lascar, dated July 13, 2011, concerning Energy Readers; for the Board's information. The Board acknowledged receipt of this documentation.

C. Amended Regulations concerning Apprentice Ratios In Occupational Trades; for the Board's information. Mr. Vallieres noted that this information impacts only plumbers for the present time.

21. Old Business: None discussed.

22. New Business:

A. Discussion concerning continuing education and retired licensees; at the request of the Chairman; no discussion was held.

B. Board Chairman Larry Vallieres noted that the Board received a letter from Mr. Roger Johnson stating that he is retiring and therefore resigning from the Board. This makes the Board number required for a quorum six. There are presently seven members present today therefore can officially conduct business. Mr. Vallieres will draft a letter of appreciation from the Board for Mr. Johnson's many years of service

C. Mr. Vallieres noted that the Governor signed the Bill which allows the Board to change the required CE hours. The Board's subcommittee met and established a 4 hour Continuing Education Curriculum which was approved and posted on the Department's web site. *Mr. Vallieres asked the Board to vote to accept the new CE requirements for 2011-2012. The Board voted unanimously, to approve the new requirements. (Bish/Soter)*

D. Mr. Vallieres noted that the Legislature held a hearing with the Photo Voltaic Association and various other interested parties including the Department of Consumer Protection represented by Director Richard Hurlburt regarding the PV license type. The meeting lasted approximately 3 ½ hours and covered the reasons why the Board made their interpretation as they did on this license type and what they based their decisions on as well as the intent of the original legislation.

The Committee Chairman will report back over the next month and make a determination as to whether there will be any potential legislative changes regarding this license type.

E. Ms. Gavin-Kuhn asked the Board for consideration to change the Regulation Section 20-332-2 relative to the language to six years of equivalent experience and training. She believes the language is vague and at the discretion of the Board and should be made clear as to the Board's policy for Connecticut residency. Mr. Vallieres suggested that perhaps it would be more easily accepted by the legislature if the language was clarified to say that the equivalent experience and training shall be as determined by the appropriate Board.

23. Continuation of Formal Administrative Hearings: none before the Board today.

24. Matters Previously Heard Pending Decision: none before the Board today.

25. Final Decisions Pending Signature: none before the Board today.

26. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:59 AM. (Halloran/Soter) The next regular meeting of the Electrical Work Examining Board is scheduled for Friday, September 9, 2011 at 8:30 AM; State Office Building; Room 126; 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.
License and Applications Specialist