

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

-MINUTES-

AUGUST 25, 2017

The Regular Meeting of August 25, 2017 was held in the Department of Consumer Protection - North Building, Hearing Room J, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut 06103.

Members Present: Ronald Bish, Unlimited Contractor
Bruce A. Silva, Unlimited Journeyman
Anthony Soter, Unlimited Journeyman
Laurence A. Vallieres, Unlimited Contractor, Chairman
Robert Woytowich, Unlimited Journeyman
John W. Yusza, Electronic Technician

Members Absent: Faith Gavin-Kuhn, Public Member
David Munsill, Unlimited Journeyman

Member Vacancies: One (1) Non-Union Unlimited Contractor
Three (3) Public Members

DCP Board Staff: Robert M. Kuzmich, License and Applications Specialist,
Department of Consumer Protection
Richard M. Hurlburt, Division Director, Department of
Consumer Protection
John Neumon, Division Director, Department of
Consumer Protection

Others Present: Paul Costello, IBEW - JATC 90

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) 706-1202.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp Division E-Mail: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

1. Call to order.

Chairman Mr. Larry Vallieres called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

2. Review Minutes of Previous Meetings: June 9, 2017.

The Board voted to approve the minutes as submitted. (Soter/Bish)

3. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today:

None.

4. DCP Investigation Division Complaint Status Report; review of complaint report including open, closed, and dismissed cases for review.

Mr. John Neumon addressed particular questions from the Board regarding specific complaints listed on the report that was given to them at today's meeting. He noted that the report's format will be changing in the future in response to feedback from the various Boards and Commissions and gave the Board some examples.

Mr. Woytowich expressed his concern to the Department regarding their lack of enforcement regarding electrical complaints. In particular, he cited the power plant work ongoing in Wallingford, Connecticut. Mr. Woytowich gave many examples of unlicensed workers and the lack of proper permits not issued for the work being done on this jobsite.

Other Board members gave Mr. Neumon additional examples of the open lack of compliance by individuals performing electrical work without having the proper licenses/credentials. The Board noted that this is an example of the absence of fear on behalf of these people because they know there will be little or no action taken against them by the Department.

In response, Mr. Neumon understands the Board's position and expressed his frustration, on behalf of the Department, in the investigation process. He noted legal constraints the Department must follow that in some cases delays and affects the resolution of many complaints being investigated.

After a discussion regarding various complaints listed on the Department's report, a motion was made by the Board to recommend that all non-responsive licensees who have failed to respond to the Department's notice for action, after the Department has completed their due diligence, come before the Board. If they fail to appear, then the Board will act to suspend their license until such time as they do appear. (Soter/Bish) Mr. Neumon noted subsequent to the Board's action that the Board's motion is not binding on the Department.

5. Review of Correspondence:

(A) Evaluation Forms For Continuing Education Courses. The Board reviewed all licensee comments concerning the continuing education courses. The Board noted one evaluation form, in particular from Mr. Roy Pollack. Mr. Pollack questioned the ADA accessibility of IMTI's facility in Waterbury, Connecticut and called the facility to verify the same. He claims there are problems with the accessibility. The Department will forward Mr. Pollack's comments to this provider for their response.

(B) Public Act No. 17-77; An Act Making Changes to the Department of Consumer Protection Statutes and Banning Certain Automated Ticket Purchasing Software.

Mr. Hurlburt noted that the significance of this Bill pertains to the revised and expanded definition of sheet metal work to include on site testing and balancing of life safety components. The issues raised with this language are the qualifications of the on-site tester relative to licensing and the Department's efforts to make all the Board's consistent in any of their proposed language regarding testing pertaining to their trade.

6. Old Business:

(A) Review and approval of 2018 Continuing Education Provider Package and Curriculum.

Mr. Vallieres reviewed the changes he made to this year's provider package with the Board. Mr. Yusza noted items he suggests be added to the curriculum in the provider package including sections taken from the 2016 Connecticut State Building Codes as they pertain to life safety. He also suggested actual classroom demonstrations pertaining to safety harnessing. Mr. Bish suggested adding information pertaining to new standards for silica as it relates to concrete drilling. Mr. Vallieres will add this information to the curriculum.

7. New Business:

1. The Board discussed an advertisement for a continuing education seminar received from Mr. Robert Boender from Alternative Energy Solutions being held tomorrow. The Board called the provider from the meeting to inform him that his advertisement referenced a chance for attendees to sample beer made at the facility where the continuing education class is being held. The Board instructed the provider to remove language of this nature from any future advertisements. Mr. Boender agreed with the Board's position and reasoning on this matter and will comply with their directive. He will also ensure that any beer sampling is separate and not associated with tomorrow's presentation. Mr. Vallieres and Mr. Bish plan to attend this continuing education presentation.

2. The Board requested that Mr. Michael Elliot, Director, License Services Division, attend their next meeting scheduled for October 13, 2017 to discuss the license renewal process.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 AM. (Woytowich/Soter)

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Upcoming Electrical Board Meeting Dates:

October 13, 2017
December 8, 2017

Meetings take place at the Department of Consumer Protection, 450 Columbus Boulevard, North Building, Hearing Room J, Hartford, CT, 06103 beginning at 8:30 AM.