

## MINUTES

### ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

FEBRUARY 18, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Larry Vallieres, Chairperson on February 18, 2022 at 9:06 a.m. The meeting was held remotely via Zoom.

**Members Present:**

Laurence A. Vallieres	Unlimited Contractor, Chairman
Richard Bird	Unlimited Contractor
Peter L. Jennings	Unlimited Contractor
Christopher Brown	Unlimited Journeyman
Paul Costello	Unlimited Journeyman
John W. Yusza	Electronic Technician

**Members Absent:** Jacqueline Laramee, Public Member

**Board Vacancies:** Two Unlimited Journeymen  
Three Public Members

**DCP Staff Present:** Karen Layman, License and Applications Analyst  
Pamela Brown, Director, Investigations Division  
Janita Hamel, Supervising Special Investigator  
Richard M. Hurlburt, Retiree Staff

**Others Present:** Peter Rappoccio, Sign Pro USA  
Even Dantos, Robinson & Cole

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Investigations Division. For more information, refer to DCP Agency website: [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp).

## **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The Board voted unanimously to approve the November 5, 2021 Electrical Work Examining Board meeting minutes as written.

## **COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:**

None

## **DCP INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION:**

1. The Board received a complaint report dated 11-01-21 to 12-31-21 submitted by the Investigations Division. It was determined that this complaint report will be discussed at the May 13, 2022 Electrical Work Examining Board meeting in order to allow the Board and DCP staff sufficient time to review this report.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **1. Task Force Working Groups:**

#### **A. Continued education task force working group**

(Members: Larry Vallieres, Richard Bird, Paul Costello)

Discussion took place regarding Proposed Bill No. 5151 and the language that addresses changes to the continued education requirements, such as online classes. The Board would like to be sure certain conditions and limitations for online classes are addressed in this bill.

**The Board requested that a Special Electrical Work Examining Board meeting be scheduled with Leslie O'Brien, Legislative Program Director for discussion regarding Raised Bill No. 5151 as it pertains to continued education requirements for electrical licensees.**

#### **B. Statutes and regulations task force working group**

(Members: Larry Vallieres, Jacqueline Laramee, John Yusza)

No new discussion took place on this topic.

#### **C. Review of license qualifications task force working group**

(Members: Larry Vallieres, Peter Jennings, Christopher Brown)

No new discussion took place on this topic.

## **2. Substitute House Bill No. 6100 - Public Act 21-37 - An Act Concerning Department of Consumer Protection Licensing and Enforcement, Antitrust Issues, and the Palliative Use of Marijuana and Revisions to the Liquor Control Act**

Bill No. 6100 includes changes to Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 393 requiring written contracts meeting certain specifications for work on private residential property by licensed tradespersons and the requirement for a right to cancel timeframe prior to performing work. Occupational licensing boards had concerns about these requirements and made the Department aware. DCP has made changes to the language in this bill and these changes are in process in the current Legislative Session.

**The Board requested that a Special Electrical Work Examining Board meeting be scheduled with Leslie O'Brien, Legislative Program Director for discussion regarding Public Act 21-37 and Proposed Bill No. 5151 as it pertains to occupational licensing.**

## **3. Continued discussion regarding OSHA 30 completion requirement for the approval of applications**

The Board had previously expressed their concern about the following: Completion of OSHA 30 training is not specifically required for the CT apprenticeship program. Therefore, an out of state applicant is not required to have completed an OSHA class to be approved to sit for a CT license exam.

In addition, there is a discrepancy between the amount of classroom hours that a federal apprenticeship program requires, a CT apprenticeship program requires, and a MA apprenticeship program requires. This creates confusion when determining the equivalency of classroom requirements.

Discussion regarding these differences in requirements arise when the State Application Review Groups are reviewing applications.

**The Board voted unanimously to table this item and requested that a special meeting be scheduled with a representative from the DCP Legal Division and the Assistant Attorney General's Office so that the Board has the opportunity to discuss and receive clarification on the current equivalent experience and training criteria to be used when reviewing applications.**

## **4. Update on continued education for electrical license types for the 2022 cycle**

Discussion took place regarding the new deadline date of June 30 for licensees to complete continued education credits. Licensees and providers were not notified of this until February, causing a very high volume of emails and calls to

the Department and continued education providers. Many continued education providers had not submitted and/or not had their provider application approved when this notice went out, causing a great deal of concern.

It was noted that the following question is being posed to the Department staff and to continued education providers via phone calls and emails:  
*“If licensees are unable to complete their continued education credits by June 30, will there be a penalty imposed? How will this be handled?”*

**The Board requested that DCP staff follow up with the DCP Legal Division to obtain the appropriate answer for this question.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Application Review Working Group**

**A. Update provided by the Board Chairperson.**

The Application Review Working Groups have been using criteria determined by the DCP Legal Division when determining equivalent experience and training for in state and out of state applicants.

**The Board requested that a special meeting be scheduled with a representative from the DCP Legal Division and the Assistant Attorney General’s Office so that the Board has the opportunity to discuss and receive clarification on the current equivalent experience and training criteria to be used when reviewing applications.**

**B. Review of out of state occupational trade licenses for determination of equivalency to Connecticut occupational trade licenses**

At the June 7, 2021 Application Review Working Group Meeting, it was determined that the following license types are equivalent:

<u>Out of state license type</u>	<u>Connecticut License Type</u>
Rhode Island Telecom Technician (Data TST, Tele TST)	CT C-6

**Board Member John Yusza stated that the RI Telecom license is equal to the CT T-2 Limited License, rather the C-6 Limited License.**

At the October 29, 2021 Application Review Working Group Meeting, it was determined that the following license types are equivalent:

<u>Out of state license type</u>	<u>Connecticut License Type</u>
Rhode Island Journeyman Electrician	CT E-2

**2. Appearance by Peter Rappoccio, President of Sign Pro USA regarding the maintenance and alterations of signs manufactured with UL listed components.**

**(See email under “Correspondence”)**

Peter Rappoccio appeared for discussion regarding licensing requirements for conducting work on electrical signs, particularly for the alteration of a sign face in an electric sign cabinet that is manufactured with UL listed components. Based on the presentation of Peter Rappoccio, Peter and the Board were in general agreement that this work must be performed by either a C-7, C-8 or E-1, E-2 license holder however, the final opinion of the board would not be determined until they have had the opportunity to review and discuss the additional documentation that was requested by Chairman Vallieres, namely the written documentation from UL. Mr. Rappoccio said he would obtain that information and submit for our review.

This item will be placed on the May 13, 2022 Electrical Work Examining Board Agenda for further discussion and review of documentation.

**3. Proposed changes to statutes that impact electrical licensing**

Proposed changes were discussed under Sections Old Business 1 and 2.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**1. Email from Peter Rappoccio, President of Sign Pro USA regarding the maintenance and alterations of signs manufactured with UL listed components.**

**(See “New Business”)**

**COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:**

**1. Adoption of 2020 State Building Code**

Codes and Standards has scheduled a public review of the next state building code. This is one of the last steps in the process for the adoption of the 2020 Code, which may be adopted as of 10/01/22.

## **2. PSI exam review**

Paul Costello inquired about when the next PSI exam review meeting will be scheduled. It will be important for an exam review to take place in the fall of 2022 if the adoption of the 2020 Code takes place as of 10/01/22.

## **3. Board workshop**

John Yusza inquired about the possibility of having an official Board workshop soon to address some of the pending items that the Board has been discussing at meetings.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Layman,  
License and Applications Analyst

## **2022 BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE:**

May 13

August 12

November 4