January 8, 2019

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTRICIANS' BOARD
MINUTES

There was a meeting of the Electricians' Board held on January 8, 2019. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Peter Cicolini, Chairman. Also in attendance were Board Members – Matthew Connors, Henry Szumiesz, Jack Grube and Will Infantine, Joe Shoemaker – OPLC Director, Chief Electrical Inspector – Dean Sotirakopoulos and Electrical Inspectors –Denis Laurendeau and Michael Soucy. Also present: Jonathan Mitchell – IBEW local 490, Steven Rancourt - ECBA, Ada Alfonso – Director MA Licensing Board and Kim White – electrician.

1. Hearings –

   a. The Board held a Disciplinary Hearing in the matter of Louis Lessard from 9:00 a.m. – 9:35 a.m. Chief Inspector Sotirakopoulos prosecuted the case. He presented exhibits and testimony regarding alleged unprofessional conduct by Louis Lessard regarding failure to comply with his Decision and Order dated March 2, 2018. After review of the evidence and deliberation, Grube moved and Cicolini seconded and it was voted on by all members present to require that the remaining monthly probation reports be received by the first of each month through the final report due the first of August or another hearing would be held.

   b. Public Hearing for Rule Change Elec 404.05 began at 10:00 am. There were no public comments for the rule change.

   c. The Board held a Disciplinary Hearing in the matter of Ryan White from 10:08 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Chief Inspector Sotirakopoulos prosecuted the case. He presented exhibits and testimony regarding alleged unprofessional conduct by Ryan White regarding failure to comply with his failure to comply with the Decision and Order dated March 2, 2018. After review of the evidence and deliberation, Grube moved and Szumiesz seconded and it was voted on by all members present to require that the last remaining monthly probation report be received by the first of February or another hearing would be held.

   d. The Board held a Disciplinary Hearing in the matter of Joshua Lariviere from 10:08 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Chief Inspector Sotirakopoulos prosecuted the case. The Chair recused himself and the Vice Chair presided. Chief Inspector Sotirakopoulos presented exhibits and testimony regarding alleged unprofessional conduct by Joshua Lariviere where he did not take out permits for electrical work done as required and did not cooperate with State Inspector Laurendeau. The hearing was held in abstensia as Mr. Lariviere did not attend after being warned that after rescheduling the hearing twice the Board would not do so again and would hold the hearing in abstensia if he did not attend. Infantine moved and Szumiesz seconded and it was voted on by all members present to suspend Mr. Lariviere's license until such time as he could attend a hearing with the Board.

   e. The Board held a Disciplinary Hearing in the matter of Robert Brunelle from 11:04 a.m. – 11:19 a.m. Chief Inspector Sotirakopoulos prosecuted the case. He presented exhibits and testimony regarding alleged unprofessional conduct by Robert Brunelle regarding 2 unlicensed employees making electrical installations on a NH job site. Connors moved and Grube seconded and it was voted on by all members present to suspend Mr. Brunelle's license for 3 months for each offense for a total of 6 months, deferred for 12 months provided monthly reports are received by the Board by the first of each month.

2. Reading of the minutes of the December 4, 2018 meeting – Connors moved, Grube seconded and it was voted by all members present to approve the minutes.

3. Reading of Communications – none

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4. Applications for Board action –

a. Grube moved, Connors seconded and it was voted by all members present to approve Justin Stout's new apprentice application.

5. Requests for Board action –

a. Grube moved, Connors seconded and it was voted by all members present to table and keep on file the Request for Investigation for Joshua Lariviere until he meets with the Board to reinstate his license.

6. Unfinished Business –

a. Szumiesz is continuing to review the online NFPA code update course for the 2017 NEC. The Education Committee is reviewed schooling sent in by Melissa Ames recommending credit for 540 hours and recommended and an additional 60 hours which could include a code update, an exam prep and an OSHA course and Jeremy Latch recommending credit for 600 hours. Szumiesz moved, Connors seconded and it was voted on by all members present to credit Melissa Ames with 540 hours requiring an additional 60 hours which could include a code update, an exam prep and an OSHA course to complete her apprenticeship schooling. Grube moved, Szumiesz seconded and it was voted on by all members present to credit Jeremy Latch with 600 hours completing his apprenticeship schooling.

b. Inspector Sotirakopoulos reported that he attended the Building Code Review Board meeting and they are waiting for legislature.

c. The State Fire Marshal Representative Toomey was unable to attend but sent word that he would forward pending legislation which would affect us.

d. The new probation tracking form was reviewed Grube moved Szumiesz seconded and it was voted on by all members present to approve the tracking form and the probation reports.

e. Connors moved, Szumiesz seconded and it was voted on by all members present to accept the PROV exam results.

f. The Public Hearing for Elec 404.05 was held earlier in this meeting with no comments. The changes submitted for the 3rd party inspection rules at that public hearing have been made and those rules are continuing in the process. Szumiesz moved, Grube seconded and it was voted on by all members present to accept the rules update.

g. Grube updated the Board with the changes in the CTE programs to cover 10th and 11th grades requiring the high schools to create a work study, Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) or independent study electrical program in order to keep the students eligible to keep their apprentice cards. Szumiesz moved, Connors seconded and it was voted on by all members present to accept the CTE program report.

h. The Board reviewed the active licensee reports for 2017 and 2018 which included number of licensees living in NH, number of licensees by age, number of apprentices, number of new licenses issued each year and number of licenses renewed each year. Connors moved, Szumiesz seconded and it was voted on by all members present to accept the active licensee reports.

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i. Director Alfonso from the MA Board shared with us that the MA Governor's Office is interested in the Boards having reciprocity with other states and they will be getting in touch with Maine and Vermont and well as NERA. The Chair offered to go with them to Maine. Drafts of recent changes made to Maine and NERA agreements will be sent to MA for them to use as templates. The MA Board is also looking at telecommunication licensing and the delineation between the Utilities and license requirements. Their A-B license covers everything and the C-D is for limited licenses. They are looking to make changes to their law for the first time since 1984.

7. New Business –

a. Chief Inspector Sotirakopoulos reported on a rise in complaints and investigations. The Board requested a year to date column on the Chief's report to compare the monthly totals to the year to date totals. Grube moved, Infantine seconded and it was voted on by all members present to accept the Chief's report.

b. Upon the motion of Grube and the second of Szumiesz, the Board, by roll call vote, voted to conduct a non-public session for the purpose of discussing matters that if discussed in public would likely adversely affect the reputation of persons other than a member of the body itself and noting that such a non-public session is authorized by RSA 91-A:3, II(c), (j), RSA 91-A:5, IV, Lodge v. Knowlton, 11 N.H. 574 (1978), and the Board's executive and deliberative privileges. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by the unanimous vote of all members present.

c. Upon the motion of Grube and the second of Szumiesz, the Board, by roll call vote, resolved to withhold/seal the minutes of the preceding non-public session from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, III on the grounds that public disclosure would be likely to render the proposed action ineffective. Each member recorded his or her vote on the motion, which passed by the unanimous vote of all members present.

d. Date and time of the next meeting – ***Tuesday February 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., 121 South Fruit St, Concord.***

8. Adjournment –11:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Olin,
Administrative Assistant

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