

ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

-MINUTES-

JANUARY 8, 2016

The Regular Meeting of January 8, 2016 was called to order by Chairman Larry Vallieres at 8:32 AM in Room 126 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present: Ronald Bish, Unlimited Contractor
Faith Gavin-Kuhn, Public Member
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: David Munsill, Unlimited Journeyman

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

DCP Board Staff: Robert M. Kuzmich, Department of Consumer Protection

Others Present: John Pierlioni, Wallingford Electric
Matthew Bloom, M. L. Schmitt Electric
Greg Close, Meriden Housing Authority
Francis Boyer
Ben Kashi
Bill Schulz, Michels Corporation
Paul Costello, LATC 90
Kyle Aussant, John Ryan Company
David Marcassoli, Advanced Safety Systems
Chris Lehr, Tesla Electrical Solutions
Jonathan White, Berkshire Alarm
Keri Lamontagne, Connecticut Department of Labor
John Alba, Bozild & Alba Electric

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) 713-7230.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp

Division E-Mail: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

1. 8:30 AM call to order.

Chairman Mr. Larry Vallieres called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM.

2. Review Minutes of Previous Meeting: *December 11, 2015.*

After a thorough review by all, the Board voted to approve the minutes as submitted.
(Bish/Yusza)

3. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today:

There were no requests to speak from anyone present at today's meeting.

4. DCP Trade Practices Division Complaint Status Report; review of complaint report submitted by the DCP Trade Practices Division including open, closed, and dismissed cases for review by the Board. Mr. Kuzmich informed the Board that the Department has not received a report from the Trade Practices Division for this meeting.

5. Request to Appear before the Board;

(1) **Boyer, Frank** – regarding questions on electrical licensing.

The Board previously approved the applicant for the E-2 Unlimited Journeyman's Examination on October 10, 2012. The Testing Company was notified of the Board's decision on the same date. Mr. Boyer appeared before the Board today to ask them if he can get his license without testing in Connecticut for the same based upon reciprocity with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts where he is currently licensed. In response to the Board's questions, Mr. Boyer explained that at he did sit for the examination at the time he was approved based upon a personal decision he made relative to his expectations pertaining to a new job he had just started.

Mr. Vallieres explained to Mr. Boyer that Connecticut does not have reciprocity with any State. In addition, he advised the applicant that now needs to get OSHA 30 Certification since the requirements to sit for the E-2 Unlimited Journeyman's License examination have changed since the time he was originally approved. As such, the Board voted unanimously to conditionally approve the applicant to sit for the E-2 Unlimited Journeyman's License examination subject to receipt by the Department of his OSHA 30 Certification. (Soter/Gavin-Kuhn)

6. Review of Applications(s) for Licensure Examination: applicant(s) appearing in person.

Mr. Vallieres advised all in attendance at today's meeting of the Board general rules and guidelines as they apply to applicants appearing before them for consideration to sit for their respective license examinations. He made reference to the document sent to all applicants by the Department which details specific information the Board is expecting from the applicants in support of their equivalent experience and training in addition to other more general information.

In addition, Mr. Vallieres also made reference to the Board's Outline for Journeymen which gives the specific hours for related classroom instruction including course curriculums and the required on-the-job training hours for each license type.

(1) **Alba, John** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to table this application at today's meeting based upon a lack of on-the-job training, related classroom instruction, and OSHA 30 Certification. (Soter/Bish)

(2) **Bloom, Matthew L.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to table this application at today's meeting based upon a lack of related classroom instruction (720 hours) and OSHA 30 Certification. In addition, they also require a new letter be submitted from Goodless Electric Company containing a corrected notary expiration date and a more detailed breakdown of the applicant's work history with this company. (Bish/Soter)

(3) **Carpinelli, Derrick B.** - E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The applicant was not present at today's meeting as previously requested. Therefore, the Board took no action on this application.

(4) **Close, Gregory M.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to deny this application based upon a lack of the required on-the-job training hours. (Soter/Bish)

(5) **Marcassoli, David J.** – L-5 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The applicant changed his application type from an L-5 to an L-6 per the suggestion of the Board at today’s meeting. The Board voted unanimously to conditionally approve this application subject to receipt by the Department of OSHA 30 Certification. (Yusza/Bish)

(6) **Pierlioni, Jr., John D.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to deny this application based upon a lack of the required on-the-job training hours. (Soter/Bish)

(7) **Plewa, Marcin** – E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. Mr. Plewa e-mailed the Department on December 29, 2015 stating that he wishes to reschedule his appearance before the Board scheduled for today. Therefore, the Board took no action on his application.

(8) **Schulz, Wialliam G.** – L-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The applicant appeared before today and advised them that he wishes to withdraw his application based his lack of the required on-the-job training hours.

(9) **Smith, Kevin E.** – E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. Mr. Smith e-mailed the Department on January 4, 2016 stating that he wishes to withdraw his application based upon not having a Connecticut Journeyman's License (E-2).

(10) **White, Jonathan C.** – L-6 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to deny this application at today’s meeting based upon a lack of the required on-the-job training hours, related classroom instruction hours, and OSHA 30 Certification. (Yusza/Soter) In addition, the Board stated to the applicant, based upon his testimony to them, that he has been working illegally and should advise his employer of the same immediately. Further, the Board advised that the applicant's employer needs to register him as an apprentice with the Department of Labor.

6A. First Review of Application(s) for Licensure Examination – Applicants Not Appearing before Board.

With Apprenticeship Completion Letters:

The Board voted, unanimously, to approve the applicants listed below (including add-ons), except as otherwise noted, to sit for their respective examinations on the basis of a Certified Apprenticeship Completion Letter from the Connecticut Department of Labor or other Board-Approved Agency. (Bish/Yusza)

- (1) **Averill, Dylan C.** - L-6 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (2) **Bilek, Robert** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (3) **Cipolli, Ernie G.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (4) **Deer, Zachary M.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (5) **Deleon, Jr., Jovino** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (6) **Hummel, Lloyd J.** -E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (7) **Laneville, Jonathan E.** -E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (8) **Lewis, III, James W.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (9) **Marotta, Anthony** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship sponsored by Local Union #3 (New York City) of the I.B.E.W.
- (10) **McGovern, Christopher R.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (11) **Minoski, Jesse J.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (12) **Nolan, Jr., Edward T.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (13) **Ortiz, Allen G.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.
- (14) **Pinheiro, Tiago D.** - E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.

(15) **Piotrowski, Adam J.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.

(16) **Richard, John J.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.

(17) **Rodrigues, Scott** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.

(18) **Rufino, Matthew E.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship sponsored by Local Union #3 (New York City) of the I.B.E.W.

(19) **Russell, Matthew R.** – L-6 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.

(20) **Totton, Timothy M.** – T-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter. The Board conditionally approved this applicant subject to receipt by the Department of a revised Apprenticeship Completion Letter with an embossed gold seal attached.

(21) **White, Joshua P.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of Certified Apprenticeship Completion w/Letter.

On The Basis of Equivalent Experience and Training:

The Board voted, unanimously, to require the applicants listed below, except as otherwise noted, (including add-ons) to appear before them at their February 19, 2016 Regular Meeting for review of their applications to test for their respective license types. Mr. Kuzmich will mail back their original applications in addition to Board Meeting date information and information regarding education and on-the-job training for Journeyman license types. (Soter/Bish)

(1) **Handley, Kyle J.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(2) **Nolan, Paul F.** – C-5 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(3) **Perrine, William F.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to conditionally approve this application at today's meeting subject to receipt by the Department of OSHA 30 Certification. (Soter/Bish)

(4) **Powers, Karin A.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to conditionally approve this application at today's meeting subject to receipt by the Department of OSHA 30 Certification. (Soter/Bish)

(5) **Rathbun, Charles M.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(6) **Simpson, Jeffrey R.** – E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

(7) **Sookoo, Anil P.** – C-5 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training.

7. Applicant(s) for Licensure reappearing in-person;

The Board voted unanimously to add the below item to their January 8, 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda.

(1) **Aussant, Kyle G.** – E-2 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The Board voted unanimously to approve applicant for his respective examination type at today's meeting. (Soter/Silva)

8. Request for Reconsideration;

(1) **Kashi, Benjamin B.** – E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The applicant originally applied with an E-1 application and changed application at the Board's December 12, 2014 meeting to an E-2 type after an explanation by the Board of their policies. The Board approved the applicant for the E-2 license examination by unanimous vote at this same meeting. The applicant passed the E-2 examination on February 7, 2015.

Mr. Kashi appeared before today to appeal the two year requirement of holding the E-2 Unlimited Journeyperson's license for two years prior to sitting for the E-1 Unlimited Contractor's examination. After a detailed explanation by the Board to the applicant, they voted unanimously to deny his request based upon his lack presenting them a bonafide hardship. (Soter/Bish)

(2) **Lehr, Christopher M.** – E-1 applicant seeking approval on the basis of equivalent experience and training. The applicant changed his application type from an E-1 to an E-2 per the suggestion of the Board at their December 11, 2015 meeting. The Board

voted unanimously to approve applicant for his respective examination type. The Testing company was notified by e-mail of the Board's decision on December 11, 2015.

The applicant appeared before the Board today to request to sit for the E-1 Unlimited Contractor's Examination in lieu of the E-2 Unlimited Journeyman's examination he was approved for by the Board on December 11, 2015. He cited the Board's statutes and regulation as a basis for his appeal. Board Chairman Mr. Vallieres and Public Member Ms. Gavin-Kuhn also referred to the Board's statutes and regulation in support of their explanation to the applicant for their prerequisite of holding an Unlimited Journeyman's license (E-2) for two years prior to sitting for the Unlimited Contractor's Examination (E-1). The Board voted unanimously to deny the applicant's request based upon the lack of holding an Unlimited Journeyman's license (E-2) for two years prior to sitting for the Unlimited Contractor's Examination (E-1). (Soter/Bish)

9. Review of Correspondence:

(A) Evaluation Forms For Continuing Education Course; for the Board's review and information. The Board acknowledged receipt of this information.

10. New Business:

1. Mr. Vallieres distributed copies of the Board's Statutes, Regulations, and other related documentation to each Board Member for future reference and for each member to review.

2. Mr. Vallieres discussed the current qualifications to sit for the E-1 License Unlimited Contractor's Examination; specifically the requirement to hold the E-2 Unlimited Journeyman's license for a minimum of two (2) years prior. Mr. Vallieres asked the Board to consider changing this requirement to the applicant actively engaging in the electrical field, taking continuing education courses, and participating in a business and law course. He believes that the current requirement of simply holding the license for two years does not adequately prepare the licensee to become a contractor upon passing the examination for the same. Ms. Gavin Kuhn agrees and also noted that the current requirements have the potential to become a significant public safety issue.

Mr. Vallieres would like to continue this discussion at next month's Board meeting. He also stated that perhaps this amendment can be implemented through a regulation change and not require a change in the statutes.

3. Mr. Vallieres discussed a product currently being produce by Armstrong Ceiling Systems which is essentially a suspended ceiling grid system with an integrated low-voltage raceway for powering light fixtures and the like. He sees the installation of this

product as a potential jurisdictional issue in terms of separating the electrical work component from the balance of the work. He is also concerned that this product has the potential to become a major public safety issue take away work from the electrical trade. He will try to get a sample of this product for the Board in the near future.

4. Mr. Vallieres reviewed with the Board, for their information, the Apprenticeship Programs and Workforce Needs report, prepared by the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly. This study examines the effectiveness of Connecticut apprenticeship programs in meeting workforce demand. The study also analyzes the alignment of supply (i.e., apprenticeship program graduates obtaining a license) and demand (job openings by trade). The various types of apprenticeship programs offered are inventoried and described, including the programs' entry and completion requirements.

11. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today:

There were no requests to speak from anyone present at today's meeting.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 AM. The next Regular Meeting of the Electrical Work Examining Board is scheduled for Friday, February 19, 2016 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

Upcoming Electrical Board Meeting Dates:

February 19, 2016	August 12, 2016
March 11, 2016	September 9, 2016
April 8, 2016	October 14, 2016
May 13, 2016	November 18, 2016
June 10, 2016	December 9, 2016
July 15, 2016	