

ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD

Tel. No. (860) 713-6135

-MINUTES-

OCTOBER 14, 2011

The meeting of October 14, 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
Anthony Soter, Journeyman
John W. Yusza, Electronic Technician

Members Absent: David Munsill, Journeyman
Eric B. Collett, Public Member
Sandy Marino, Public Member
Mario Tolla, Public Member

Member Vacancy: Two (Journeyman & Contractor)

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

General Public: Robert Woytowich
Jerry Oles
Roy Pollack
Brian Jasinski
Paul Costello
Jason Kromer
Larry Liesner
Barry Stovall
Ekesandro Pires
Todd Desarro
Robert Pinto
Matthew Vouse

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

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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 September 9, 2011; Mr. Vallieres noted that that Deputy Commissioner Michelle Seagull should be listed in the minutes as in attendance at the September 9, 2011 Board Meeting. Mr. Kuzmich will make the correction. *The Board was not able to vote on these minutes due to the lack of a quorum as a result of Mr. Yusza abstaining from the vote. Therefore, the Board will act on this item at their December 9, 2011 Regular Board Meeting.*

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; no individuals.

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

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

A. Desarro, Todd A. - E-1 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 E-1 Unlimited Electrical Journeyman Examination on the basis of not having served as a journeyman in the trade for which the applicant seeks a license for not less than two years. (Soter/Bish)**

B. Jasinski, Brian T. - E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; **the Board voted unanimously to approve his application. (Bish/Halloran)**

C. Kirkik, Tayfun – L-5 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; Mr. Kirkik was not present at today’s meeting. **As such, the Board took no action on his application.**

D. Kromer, Jason D. - 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 720 related classroom instruction hours. (Halloran/Soter)**

E. Liesner, Larry – PV-1 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; It was noted that Mr. Liesner does not hold a PV-2 license and as such, the Board will not approve his application for the PV-1. When asked by the Board if he wishes to change his application type to a PV-2, he agreed and the change was made. Mr. Liesner stated that he presently works for Electron Solar in Westport Connecticut doing design and installations of grid tie PV. Mr. Liesner’s related classroom instruction was reviewed by the Board. Mr. Vallieres noted that nothing in the applicant’s submittal to the Board makes a comparison of the courses he has taken to the structured apprenticeship program for this license type.

Mr. Vallieres noted that Mr. Liesner’s previous installations were done without being licensed and therefore illegal. It was also noted that Electron Solar does not have an apprenticeship program and that all their installations are sub-contracted to an E-1 contractor. **At this point, Mr. Soter made a motion to deny this application based upon a lack of related classroom instruction and on-the- job training. The motion was seconded by Mr. Halloran and the motion carried.** Mr. Soter stated that Mr. Liesner has been notified by this Board on what he needs to do to become legal. If he gets caught in the future, he will be fined. It was noted that Mr. Michael Copolla of Copolla Electric in Trumbull, Connecticut is the E-1 contractor sub-contracted by Electron Solar.

Mr. Liesner stated that his Electron Solar is certified by the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund as an eligible installer. It was noted that this certification is required so a company and consumer can access monies to subsidize the jobsite. The Board further clarified Mr. Liesner’s duties with Electron Solar and what his future actions have to be in order for him to obtain the required license type.

After more detailed discussion, it was decided by the Board to have the Owner of Electron Solar as well as Michael Copolla of Copolla Electric appear before them at their December 9, 2011 to explain their working arrangements. The Board cannot take any action against them at this point or refer them to the Trade Practices Division for investigation until they are heard. **As such, Mr. Soter made a motion to the above. The motion carried unanimously. In addition, Mr. Vallieres made a motion to ask the Department to contact the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund and ask for a representative of that agency to appear before the Board, as well, to discuss their**

program with the Board so that there is a clear understanding of their requirements. The motion was seconded by Mr. Soter and carried unanimously.

F. Pinto, Robert O. – 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 insufficient documentation as it pertains to the E-2 Unlimited Electrical Journeyman License type. (Halloran/Soter)

G. Pires, Ekesandro R. – 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 lack of the required related classroom instruction and lack of documentation of the required on-the-job training hours. (Halloran/Soter)

H. Pollack, Roy S. – C-5 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; Mr. Pollack had his lawyer, Marcy Kovall, from a local area law firm, with him today. The applicant reviewed his training and work history background in response to questions from the Board. Mr. Bish noted that Mr. Pollack does not hold a Journeyman’s license in Connecticut for two years and was offered the chance by him to change his application type to a C-6 Journeyman. Mr. Pollack noted that his company has not done any work in Connecticut to date. Once he obtains his Contractors’ license in Connecticut, his company is hoping to expand and hire experienced individuals with their contractor’s license as he does not plan to actually be doing the field work. Mr. Soter explained that his company can be operated in Connecticut without Mr. Pollack getting his C-5 license type.

Ms. Kovall stated that her understanding that this Board can make the determination of Mr. Pollack’s qualifications for the C-5 license based upon the applicant’s experience and training notwithstanding the fact that he does not have the Journeyman’s license. Further she noted that the Board holding Mr. Pollack to the standard of requiring a Journeyman’s license is elevating form over substance is not fair.

The Board stands firm on its position of the holding the Journeyman license for the required two years. Mr. Vallieres noted that the applicant is required to present the Board with a qualified course comparison so that they can make a determination on his related school instruction which is not before them today. Mr. Vallieres also noted that there is correspondence to the applicant from a Board Member John Yusza and as such, he is advised to recuse himself from this application. He further noted that this information was presented to the applicant from Mr. Yusza’s position as a company owner and not a Board member. Because of this situation, the Board does not have a quorum and cannot act on this application today. Mr. Yusza clarified that the information he sent to the applicant is information readily available to anyone via the Department’s information portals.

Mr. Vallieres suggested to the Board that this application be tabled due to the Board’s lack of a quorum. This action will allow the applicant to provide the Board with a

course comparison, as required, to help speed up the review process. He also noted that the applicant may not necessarily have to be present at the next meeting due to his extensive traveling distance. Mr. Hurlburt suggested the possibility that the applicant contact the Connecticut Departments of Labor and Education and find out if the school he received training from has already been sanctioned by them as an approved school for the C-6 apprenticeship program. Ms. Kovall asked the Board if they would consider her client for the C-5 Contractor's license if he provides them with the information discussed here today. In response, he stated the Board will consider the applicant for the license type he is applying for. **As such, Mr. Soter made a motion to table this application until the applicant is ready to reschedule his appearance.**

I. Shing, Joshua J. - E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; Mr. Shing was not present at today's meeting. **As such, the Board took no action on his application.**

J. Vouse, Matthew E. - 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 an official Apprenticeship Completion Certificate and a detailed breakdown of the required 8000 hours of on-the-job training as it pertains to the E-2 Unlimited Electrical Journeyman License type. (Soter/Halloran)**

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

A. Oles, Jerry - E-2 applicant seeking approval to sit on the basis of equivalent experience and training; the Board, at their meeting held on August 12, 2011, 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 the applicant provide them with a concise breakdown of the approximately 9,000 hours of on-the-job training documented in his application. **The Board voted unanimously to approve his application. (Bish/Halloran)**

9. Applicant(s) for Licensure Appearing in Person

None before the Board today.

10. Request for Renewal of License: None

11. Request for Reinstatement: none before the Board today.

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 reviewed this documentation.

B. Letter from Mr. George Hufault, dated September 30, 2011, concerning a waiver request for his continuing education; for the Board's review and discussion. The Board noted that there many people in his situation that have completed the continuing education requisite despite the tough economic times. It was noted that perhaps some providers may recognize this and offer some payment options to the candidates. **The Board voted unanimously to deny his request to waive the continuing education requisite for the Calendar Year 2011. (Soter/Halloran)**

21. Old Business:

A. Mr. Vallieres noted that he spoke with Mr. Jack Guerra recently and that he is cancer free but still has other serious medical issues. His spirits were very good and expresses his sincere thank you to the Board.

B. Mr. Vallieres stated that Ms. Kathy Mason of the Department of Education, representative to the Labor Department Apprentice Training Division, has retired and it is not known if she will be replaced. Bob Albin with the Department of Labor who took over for Mr. Guerra has also retired. His replacement has not yet been named.

C. Mr. Vallieres noted that Bob Nuzzi, State Electrical Inspector, who was laid-off is back working for the State.

22. New Business:

A. The Board will recognize Monday, October 17, 2011 as the deadline for continuing education submittals in light of the fact that the original deadline date is a Saturday.

B. Due to the Veteran's Day Holiday, the November Board meeting for the Board was scheduled for the 4th. Mr. Vallieres suggested that the regular meeting for November be canceled since it is in such close proximity to today's meeting. Further, it was decided that the meeting for the review of the continuing education submittals will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011. The Board agreed to cancel the November 4, 2011 meeting. Mr. Kuzmich will advise the Secretary of the State's Office of these recent meeting amendments.

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 10:45 AM. (Halloran/Soter) The next regular meeting of the Electrical Work Examining Board is scheduled for Friday, December 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