

**STATE BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: July 25, 2023

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Via Google Meet Video and Teleconference + 321-465-5183
PIN: 457 489 090#

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Chet Brown, Chairman
Greg Kaderabek, Vice Chairman
Jose Anderson, Consumer Member
Steven Petri Sr., Industry Member
Francis Harrison, Consumer Member
Donald Steinman, Industry Member
Walter “David” Irvin, Industry Member
William “Eric” Smith, Industry Member

MEMBERS

ABSENT: None

STAFF

PRESENT: John Bull, Executive Director, Mechanical Boards
John Dove, Commissioner, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing
Sloane Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General
Johnston Brown, Administrative Specialist III
Danielle Anderson, Web and Outreach Coordinator, MD Dept. of Labor

OTHERS

PRESENT: Juan Ortiz, Instructor, Zitro Services, LLC

CALL TO ORDER:

After a roll call to establish a quorum, Chairman Brown called the Business Meeting of the Maryland State Board of Electricians to Order at 10:04 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Irvin moved to approve the June 27, 2023 meeting minutes without amendment. Mr. Petri seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Petri reported the following results of the Complaint Committee Meeting:

<u>Closed</u>	<u>Criminally Charged</u>	<u>Pre-Charge</u>
23-0021	23-0016	23-0004
23-0002	23-0017	23-0019
23-0012		23-0009

Mr. Petri stated that with the new procedures to process complaints, the Board has gotten caught up more efficiently.

A Motion to accept the report of the Complaint Committee was made by Mr. Harrison and seconded by Mr. Steinman. The Board unanimously voted to approve the report of the Complaint Committee.

APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice Chairman Brown reported that four (4) master license applications were reviewed, with three (3) having been approved, one (1) having been denied.

Mr. Anderson moved to accept the Application Review Committee report, which was seconded by Mr. Smith. The Board unanimously voted to accept the Application Review Committee’s report.

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER REPORT

Mr. Steinman received a request for a new CEU Provider (Lightwave), to be approved for in-person classroom hours. Lightwave still needs to send the Webinar info to the Board for review. Mike Holt submitted a course for review, Mr. Steinman is awaiting access to the class from the provider.

Mr. Smith moved to accept the report, Mr. Irvin seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to accept the Continuing Education Provider Report.

EXAM CHALLENGES REPORT

No exam challenges were submitted; no report was offered.

REVIEW OF EXAMINATION STATISTICS AND LICENSE TOTALS

PSI exams submitted the following statistical summaries for the month of June 2023:

Exam Type	Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass Rate %
Master Electrician	61	19	42	31%
Journeyman Electrician	10	4	6	40%
Total	71	23	48	32%

Director Bull also reported the year-to-date totals of 2023, for the Journeyman exams, there were 43 candidates tested, with 11 passing and 32 failing, for a pass rate of 26%. For the master's exams, there were 240, with 67 passing and 173 failing, for a pass rate of 28%. For an overall of 2023, 248 exams, 78 passes, 205 failing, 28% passing rate. Since the inception of the test for the Journey, we have 328 exams, 72 passing, 256 failing for a 22% passing rate. For the master's there were 6,892 exams, with 2,025 passing, 4,867 failing for a 29% passing rate. The overall is 7,220 exams candidates tested, with 2097 passing, and 5123 failing, for a pass rate of 29%.

Mr. Steinman made a motion to accept the examination statistics report; Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the report.

CORRESPONDENCE

None to be considered.

OLD BUSINESS

Reciprocal License Agreement Update

Mr. Bull stated that he and Chairman Brown signed the reciprocal licensing agreement with Virginia, which has been sent to Virginia for review and execution. Mr. Bull will update the Board when the agreement has been fully executed.

Mr. Irvin asked for the status on the West Virginia and Delaware reciprocity agreements. Mr. Bull stated that West Virginia Fire Marshall is reviewing the agreement and has not yet offered any feedback. The Delaware regulatory authority has not appointed an Executive Director yet and the regulatory authority will wait until a new Director is in place before they engage in discussions on the agreement.

Onsite Wastewater Management Update

Mr. Bull has not yet heard back from the Secretary's office with the approval to issue its letter to the Maryland Department of the Environment pertaining to registration for Onsite Wastewater Management to local jurisdictions. Mr. Bull has followed that up with an email and is awaiting approval.

Regulatory Amendment of COMAR 09.09.01.03 and 09.09.02.01

Counsel provided on the Board's proposed action to amend regulatory provisions applicable to Board fees, COMAR 09.09.01.03, and continuing education requirements for license renewal, COMAR 09.09.02.01, taken at the last meeting. Counsel AAG Kinstler prepared the documents required for submission to the Division of State Documents for publication of the proposed action in the Maryland Register and entered them into the electronic filing (ELF) system to begin the process. She requested an August publication date and will update the Board when the proposed action had been published.

NEW BUSINESS

Regulatory Amendment of COMAR 09.09.01.03—Fees

Mr. Bull explained that the wave of journeyman license applications submitted under the statutory waiver provision is the only reason the Board is currently not in the red. In the future, that will not be

the case. Mr. Bull asked the Board whether raising its fees is something they are willing to entertain. The consensus from the Board members is that they understand the need to raise fees but are concerned about the impact on licensees.

Mr. Harrison stated he would like to see the operating budget for the Electrical Board. Mr. Petri would like the fees to be reassessed, he thinks we should not raise the journeyman fees since the Board recently took over the journeyman process. The Board concurred that license fees of surrounding states are significantly higher.

Officer Elections:

Counsel reminded the Board that it has a statutory duty to elect officers whose terms begin in July pursuant to Md. Ann. Code, Bus. Occ. & Prof. § 6-203(b)(2). Counsel explained that the same individuals may be reelected, if the Board wished, but that it must conduct an annual election.

Mr. Anderson moved to nominate Mr. Kaderabek for Vice Chair Mr. Petri seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to elect Mr. Kaderabek as Board Vice Chair.

Mr. Anderson moved to nominate Mr. Brown as Chair; Mr. Steinman seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to elect Mr. Brown as Board Chair.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None offered.

COUNSEL'S REPORT

None offered.

CHAIR'S REPORT

None offered.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board convened in closed session to discuss and evaluate a license application for the purpose of evaluating a license application pursuant to § 3-305 (b)(2) and (7) of the Gen. Prov. Art., Md. Ann. Code, to protect the privacy and reputation of a license applicant and to obtain advice provided by Counsel regarding the license application.

Mr. Smith made a motion to convene in closed session, which Mr. Petri seconded. The Board voted unanimously to convene in a closed session at 10:49 a.m.

License Application 01:

Counsel, Sloane Fried Kinstler, presented the journeyman license application of an individual who voluntarily disclosed a prior criminal conviction from 1999 for attempted murder, a felony, for which the applicant was sentenced to incarceration for 25 years, as well as a handgun violation, a misdemeanor, for which the applicant was sentenced to incarceration for 20 years to run concurrently. The applicant was 21 years old at the time of the commission of these crimes.

The applicant was released on parole after 18 years; parole was completed in February 2023. Since these offenses, the applicant has raised a family; worked steadily since release from incarceration; and become an active member in their church and community. The applicant completed an electrical apprenticeship in 2022 and provided character several reference letters from union and work colleagues, their church Pastor, and a prior property management employer who indicated they found the applicant competent and trustworthy. The applicant relayed an incident in which they contributed to saving the life of a gunshot victim by providing life-saving CPR. The applicant serves as an instructor for a MATC apprenticeship program.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the journey person license application; Mr. Steinman offered a second for the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of approving the application.

The Board returned to the business meeting at 11:19 a.m. after a motion made by Mr. Harrison and seconded by Mr. Smith to adjourn the closed session and return to the business meeting. Mr. Peterson left the meeting.

Mr. Anderson moved to adopt the Board's findings of the closed session of July 25, 2023, which Mr. Irvin seconded. The Board voted unanimously to approve its findings from the closed session of July 25, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Kaderabek, seconded by Mr. Harrison, and unanimously carried by a vote of the Board to adjourn the July 25, 2023, business meeting at 11:21 a.m.

Signature On File

8/22/23

John Bull
Executive Director

Date

As voted and approved by the Board on: 8/22/23