**STATE BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS**

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** February 25, 2025

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** 100 South Charles Street Tower 1

 2nd floor Cherry Hill Conference Room

 Baltimore, MD 21201

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

**MEMBERS** **PRESENT:** Chet Brown, Chair, Industry Member

 Francis Harrison, Vice Chair, Consumer Member

 Walter "Dave" Irvin, Industry Member

 Greg Kaderabek, Industry Member

 Steven Petri, Industry Member

 William "Eric" Smith, Industry Member

**MEMBERS** **ABSENT:** Donald Steinman, Industry Member

 John Peterson, Consumer Member

**STAFF** **PRESENT:** John Dove, Commissioner, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing

 Sarah McDermott, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Occupational and

 Professional Licensing

Charles Marquette, Executive Director

Matt Mckinney, Director of Government Affairs

Sloane Fried Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General

Ritchie Blymer, Investigator

 LaKissha Thornton, Administrative Officer I II

 Tashera Savage, Administrative Officer I

**OTHERS** **PRESENT:** Larry Touchet, Electrical Solutions

 Johnnie Miller, Master Electrician

 Trey Stokley

**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 10:05 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve January 28, 2025 meeting minutes with the correction of the spelling of Mr. Harrison’s name, was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Irvin, and unanimously approved by the Board as amended and corrected.

**COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Petri reported the findings of the Complaint Committee as follows:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Closed Complaint** | **Under Investigation** | **Sent for A.G. Pre-Charge** | **Criminally Charged** |
| 24-0028 | Closed | Closed | Closed |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

Upon a motion by Mr. Smith, and a second by Mr. Harrison, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Complaint Committee’s report.

Before moving forward, Chairman Brown introduced the new investigator for the Mechanical Boards, Ritchie Blymer.

**APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairman Brown reported that the Board received 13 applications for the examination. 11 master applications have been reviewed. Out of the reviewed master applications, 6 were accepted, 2 were denied, and 3 applicants are pending. 2 Journeyman applications were received; 1 was accepted, and 1 applicant is pending.

Upon a motion by Mr. Petri and a second by Mr. Irvin, the Board voted unanimously to approve Chairman Brown’s report.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER REPORT**

Mr. Steinman was not available to provide the continuing education provider report.

**EXAM CHALLENGES REPORT**

No exam challenges were submitted; no report was offered.

**VOICE/DATA/VIDEO COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairman Brown reported the Voice/Data/Video Committee currently had no updates at this time. A Committee meeting was held, but Chairman Brown has not yet received the results of the meeting. He will report to the Board when details are made available.

**REVIEW OF EXAMINATION STATISTICS AND LICENSE TOTALS**

PSI exams submitted the following statistical summary:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Exam Type** |  **Tested** | **Passed** | **Failed** | **Pass Rate %** |
| Master Electrician | 39 | 9 | 30 | 23% |
| Journeyman Electrician | 23 | 5 | 18 | 22% |
| Total | 62 | 14 | 48 | 23% |

Ms. Thornton reported that since January 2025, 62 candidates were tested, 14 passed, 48 failed, for a pass rate of 23%. Since the inception of the exam, 8,326 candidates were tested, 2,381 passed, 5,945 failed, for a pass rate of 29%.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None to be considered.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Voice/Data/Video

Chairman Brown reported the Voice/Data/Video committee currently had no updates at this time

Comar 09.09.02.02

The Board considered language to propose action to update COMAR 09.09.02.02 to the latest NEC edition. The Board must adopt the NEC, the 2021 edition was recently adopted by the Division of Labor & Industry. The current edition is the 2020 edition, with plans to adopt the 2023 edition in the future. Counselor Kinstler has advised the Board of the necessary updated materials that Board members may need to access if the Board wishes to update its codes. Counselor Kinstler has also notified the Board that Director Marquette will communicate with the leadership of Occupational and Professional licensing to ensure that books and resources are available for this update.

A motion to accept the proposed action on COMAR 09.09.02.02 was made by Mr. Smith, with a second from Mr. Irvin, and unanimously carried by the Board.

Onsite Wastewater

Director Marquette informed the Board that Mr. Harrison’s Onsite Wastewater presentation has been presented to the Secretary’s Office to be given to the local jurisdictions. The Secretary’s Office has asked the Board to clarify whether this initiative comes from the Board or from an individual person. Despite the Board’s prior decision in April 2023 to present this initiative collectively rather than individually, a vote was taken to confirm that no member had altered their stance on the issue.

Mr. Irvin moved to present the Onsite Wastewater presentation on behalf of the Board, with a second from Mr. Smith. The motion unanimously passed by a vote the Board.

Public Response

Chairman Brown reminded the Board that, at the January Board meeting, Mr. Trey
(Stokley) raised questions that the Board requested he submit in writing. Mr. Stokley’s questions and concerns have been reviewed, and a detailed response will be provided by Director Marquette shortly.

**NEW BUSINESS**

House Bill 1170 concerns residential solar power installation and that a licensed home improvement contractor is required for this work. Chairman Brown, along with Mr. Miller, Mr. Touchet present to observe the meeting regarding this issue, and the industry members of the Board expressed their confusion with the language and the licenses that would be required under House Bill 1170. Counsel Kinstler suggested introducing an amendment to the bill and informed the Board of a meeting being held today to discuss the wording of an amendment and emphasized the significance of the Board members’ providing their input on this matter.

Mr. Irvin moved to confirm the Board’s opposition to House Bill 1170 and to affirm that solar installation work falls under Md. Ann. Code, Bus. Occ. & Prof., Title 6. Mr. Petri seconded Mr. Irvin’s motion, which was unanimously carried by the Board.

Assistant Commissioner McDermott indicated that she would convey the concerns expressed during the meeting on the bill to agency officials.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Director Marquette revealed that he is working on identifying a point of contact in Delaware to discuss reciprocal licensing and finalizing an agreement for reciprocal licensing. He will inform the Board of any updates.

**COUNSEL’S REPORT**

Counsel did not offer a report.

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

Chairman Brown did not offer a report.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board did not convene in a closed session.

Public Comments:

Mr. Trey Stokley reminded the Board of their duties and responsibilities, emphasizing that individuals who are not electricians should only serve as advisors and counselors rather than making decisions for the Board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the business meeting was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Kaderabek, and unanimously carried by the Board at 11:19 a.m.

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**Charles Marquette, Executive Director Date**

**Mechanical Boards**

**As voted and approved by the Board on: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**