

**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR AUGUST 17, 2017**

POSITION	MEMBER	PRESENT
ACTING CHAIRMAN	BERT MCALISTER	YES
SECRETARY	MARIAN SWINT	YES
CONTRACTOR		
ELECTRICAL ENGINEER	RAY LITT	NO
ELECTRICAL UTILITY	JAMES BROWN	YES
EX-OFFICIO	MICHAEL CRONK JR.	YES
JOURNEYMAN	RIC PREUSS	YES
MASTER ELECTRICIAN	WARREN COKLOW	YES
PUBLIC LIGHTING REP.	VACANT	
RESIDENT TAXPAYER	BERT MCALISTER	

This month's meeting convened at 10:49 a.m. Mr. Vincent Cooley, Electrical Supervising Electrical Inspector and Mr. Don Deachin, from *DTE Energy* (possible replacement for Mr. James Brown) were present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Mr. Preuss made a motion to approve the agenda. Unanimous Decision. **Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Mr. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of July 20, 2017. Unanimous Decision. **Motion Carried.**

BOARD HEARINGS/CONSIDERATIONS:

Kenneth Walls Re: Application for Journeyman Exam: Mr. Walls has appeared before the Board to make an application to sit for the Journeyman exam. Presently, he does not possess any Apprentice Registrations, nor attend classes in an approved program. After review of Mr. Walls' application, he addressed the Board: Mr. Walls started in the electrical field in 1978 under his father, and has performed work at *The Detroit Zoo*, worked on DC transformers, and currently works for *James White Electrical*. Mr. Walls stated his father had an electrical license during his employment with the *Ford Motor Company*, was also a contractor, and worked with Cal Hardison of *West Electric* in 1980. Mr. Walls stated he has accrued well over 80,000 hours in the industry, including having worked in several states. Mr. Walls attended the *National Institute of Technology* but did not finish. He also enrolled in the military in 1983, but did not sign up for selective service, signifying the military would not pay for his education. Mr. Walls stated he could not at that time pay for classes out of pocket.



MINUTES OF MEETING FOR AUGUST 17, 2017**BOARD HEARINGS/CONSIDERATIONS CONT.:**

Mr. Walls has a son that wants to be an electrician, and wants to lead by example. Mr. Walls has a job offer in the wings, but requires a Journeyman License prior to employment. He assured the board that he would pass the exam, and just needs the chance to do so.

Mr. McAlister thanked Mr. Walls for coming before the board and expressing his sincerity and desire to take the Journeyman exam. However, in reviewing Mr. White's letter, it does not meet the criteria required of a letter of work experience. Specifically, the absence of the stated number of hours worked during the specified time frame (1987-1991). Mr. Preuss stated there needs to be confirmation that Mr. White was a licensed Master electrician during the specified time of the letter. Mr. McAlister stated that the board will have to research this matter. Mr. Preuss asked Mr. Walls, if he is currently working with Mr. White, is he a registered apprentice? Mr. Walls' stated he is not a registered apprentice, and did not do what was required. He is now trying to take the corrective steps to become a licensed electrician.

After deliberation, the Board found the following:

1. Mr. Walls must re-submit his letter from Mr. White attesting to the specific number of hours covered in Mr. White's letter (1987-1991). It must also be notarized, on company letterhead, and signed by Mr. White.
2. Research must be completed to ensure Mr. White was a Master Electrician during the abovementioned time frame stated in the letter.
3. Mr. Walls must register as an Electrical Apprentice, which includes enrollment in a bona fide apprentice program. The classes must equate to 144 hours/year.
4. Once Mr. White's letter is re-submitted, the Board will then review and determine how many work hours may be credited towards the 8,000 hour Journeyman requirement.

Mr. Walls was thanked for attending the board meeting, and wished good luck in his endeavors. Mr. Walls exited the meeting.

David Bell, Director, BSEED: Mr. Bell did not attend the meeting. Mr. McAlister presented certain key points he wanted to discuss with Mr. Bell:

1. Conducting meetings off site is very helpful, especially with regards to parking. Mr. McAlister would like to propose having board meetings off site once a quarter at a City facility (i.e. *Northwest Activities Center, Butzel Family Recreation Center*) so that the board is more accessible and open to the public.
2. Providing validated parking for invited attendees of the Board: For example, Mr. Walls would have had to pay for parking if the board had met at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center.



MINUTES OF MEETING FOR AUGUST 17, 2017**David Bell, Director, BSEED (CONT.):**

3. Mr. McAlister spoke with Dean Austin, Chief, State of Michigan Electrical Division, yesterday regarding *Public Act 407*. Mr. Austin suggested the City's Law Department review *Public Act 407*, specifically, the City implementing enforcement of fines for expiration of licenses:

339.5411.new Failure to renew license; prohibited practice; lapse; late renewal fee; relicensure; conditions; individual on active duty in armed forces; temporary exemption.

Sec. 411. (1) A person that fails to renew a license on or before the expiration date of the license shall not practice the occupation, operate, or use the title of that occupation after that date. A license shall lapse on the day after the expiration date.

(2) A person that fails to renew a license on or before the expiration date is permitted to renew the license by payment of the required license fee and a late renewal fee within 60 days after the expiration date.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the department shall relicense a person that fails to renew a license within the time period set forth in subsection (2), without examination and without meeting additional education or training requirements in force at the time of application for relicensure, if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The person applies within 3 years after the expiration date of the last license.

(b) The person pays an application processing fee, the late renewal fee, and the per year license fee for the upcoming licensure period.

(c) Any penalties or conditions imposed by disciplinary action in this state or any other jurisdiction have been satisfied.

(d) The person submits proof of having completed the equivalent of 1 year of continuing education within the 12 months immediately preceding the date of application or as otherwise provided in a specific article of this act or by rule, if continuing education is required for that license under a specific article.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the department shall relicense a person whose last license expired 3 or more years before the application for relicensure if the person shows that the person meets the requirements for licensure established by the department in rules or procedures. The rules or procedures may require that an individual pass all or part of a required examination, complete continuing education requirements, or meet current education or training requirements.



MINUTES OF MEETING FOR AUGUST 17, 2017**David Bell, Director, BSEED (CONT.):**

(5) Unless otherwise provided in this act, a person that seeks relicensure shall file a completed application, on a form provided by the department, pay the application processing fee, and file a petition to the department and the appropriate board stating reasons for relicensure and including evidence that the person can and is likely to serve the public in the regulated activity with competence and in conformance with all other requirements prescribed by law, rule, or an order of the department or board. The department shall review a petition for relicensure in the same manner as a petition for review under sections 527 to 531. If approved for relicensure, the person shall pay the per year license fee for the upcoming license period if appropriate.

*(6) Notwithstanding any provision in this act to the contrary, an individual or qualifying officer who is a licensee under this act and who is on active duty in the armed forces is temporarily exempt from any renewal license fee, continuing education requirements, or other related requirements of this act applicable to that license. It is the obligation of the licensee to inform the department by written or electronic mail of the desire to exercise the temporary exemption under this subsection. If the licensee applying for the temporary exemption is the individual responsible for supervision and oversight of licensed activities, the licensee shall provide notice of arrangements for adequate provision of that supervision and oversight to the department. The licensee shall accompany the request with proof, as determined by the department, to verify the mobilized duty status. If it receives a request for a temporary exemption under this subsection, the department shall make a determination of the requestor's status and grant the temporary exemption after verification of active duty status under this subsection. A temporary exemption is valid until 90 days after the licensee's release from the active duty on which the exemption was based, but shall not exceed 36 months from the date of expiration of the license. **History:** 2016, Act 407, Eff. Apr. 4, 2017.*

Currently, Detroit does not implement a late fee until March 1st. From January 1st through the end of February of the following year, licensees are only charged the standard license fee.

Mr. McAlister has already begun working on the PowerPoint presentation for notifying the public about *Public Act 407*, and displayed some of the presentation slides. Mr. McAlister stated that with the Board's approval, he will try to address some of these matters with Mr. Bell between now and the next scheduled board meeting. The Board expressed their approval and will look forward to an update at the September meeting.



MINUTES OF MEETING FOR AUGUST 17, 2017

Mr. Nathaniel Wimbley Re: Master Electrician examination: Mr. Wimbley is a Journeyman electrician, and has an electrical contracting company, *Wembley Electric*. Can Mr. Wimbley's Master electrician/employee, Reginald Tucker, write the letter of work experience for Mr. Wimbley? Is there a conflict of interest? The Board has determined that no conflict exists, and Mr. Tucker may write the letter for Mr. Wimbley in order to apply for the Master's exam. The secretary will contact Mr. Wimbley this afternoon, and inform him of the Board's decision.

Mr. Tarif Kumasi Re: Skills & Trade Preparatory High School:

Mr. McAlister invited Mr. Kumasi to speak about his proposed non-profit school slated to open in the fall of 2018. Mr. Kumasi thanked the Board in taking the time to hear him, and gave an overview of his school:

Skills & Trade Preparatory High School is a private, non-profit, online educational institution based in inner city Detroit. Our Mission is to provide an alternative education to lower income students and to have them intern/learn trade skills while gaining their high school diploma.

Students typically will attend classes three hours a day through the Michigan Virtual School, while the remainder of the day will be spent learning a trade of the student's choice. This will enable the student to be employable at graduation. This will not be an 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. school. There will be a flex-set schedule where each student will have his/her own tailor-made schedule based on individual employment and education needs. Mr. Kumasi has been in the education field for 20 years. Because college is not for everyone, he feels there should be alternative educational vehicles/options available that lead to employment.

Mr. Preuss raised the question of the school's accreditation. Mr. Kumasi stressed that the term "accredited" in the state of Michigan only applies to public schools, not private ones. He has done extensive research into this matter, and assured the board that his school will be equivalent to "accredited" schools in Michigan. Mr. Kumasi stated that he specifically wanted to attend today to touch base with Local 58 and ask for assistance/guidance in placing the students in the field. Mr. McAlister asked does Mr. Kumasi mean placing students after graduating? Mr. Kumasi stated he would like the students to be placed while attending school, as well, as after graduation.

Mr. Brown stated that even though hours accrued during school would not count towards an electrical license, the students will have valuable physical experience and foster a relationship with an employer, which in turn, would perhaps see them through a possible apprenticeship with that employer.

**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR AUGUST 17, 2017****Mr. Tarif Kumasi Re: Skills & Trade Preparatory High School (cont.):**

Mr. Preuss stated that in order to work on a construction site, you have to be insured. The minimum age to work on a job site is 18. Exceptions do occur, but only if someone indemnifies the students. Mr. Preuss suggested Mr. Kumasi speak with *Detroit Cristo Rey High School* as well as, *Randolph Technical Center*, to gain more insight into the process. Mr. Preuss also offered Mr. Kumasi an opportunity to set up a tour of Local 58's school, the Detroit EIT (Detroit *Electrical Industry Training Center*). Mr. McAlister suggested that the board could come and speak to the students and make a presentation after securing the approval of the BSEED Director, David Bell. Mr. McAlister also invited Mr. Kumasi to attend one of his classes at *Henry Ford Community College*. Mr. Kumasi thanked the Board for their time, stated he would like to come back for future board meetings, and exited the meeting.

APPRENTICE REGISTRATION APPLICANTS APPROVED:

Allen, Angienetta
Bliss, Brian
Hovarth, Eric
Hunter, Isaac
Scott, Darnelle
West, Ratorysean

APPRENTICE REGISTRATION APPLICANTS NOT APPROVED:

Smith, Sean-Mr. Smith works for *Chrysler Fiat* and submitted an "Employment Data Record" instead of a letter of work experience by his employer. Mr. Smith informed the secretary when turning in his application that *Chrysler Fiat* no longer provides a letter of work experience. The employee must call and obtain their data record.

The employee record is ambiguous at best. Mr. McAlister called the Apprentice representative Mr. Dave Thompson. In speaking with Mr. Thompson about the requirements, he stated the majority of their Apprentices are registered through the State of Michigan, which no longer requires a letter of work experience, only completion of their Apprentice application. Mr. McAlister offered to email Mr. Thompson the City's Apprentice requirements. At this time, Mr. Smith's application will be denied until a letter of work experience is submitted by *Chrysler Fiat*.

APPLICATION FOR EXAMINATIONS:

Abbas, Bassem-Denied for Journeyman exam: inadequate letter of work experience

JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN

None

**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR AUGUST 17, 2017****MASTER ELECTRICIAN**

None

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S LICENSES & REGISTRATIONS

Portland Electric	Registration
Power Home Solar Inc.	Registration
R. King & Sons Electric	Registration
Seiter Electric	Registration

FIRE ALARM CONTRACTOR

None

FIRE ALARM TECHNICIAN'S LICENSE

None

FIRE ALARM APPRENTICE

None

SIGN SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE

None

SIGN SPECIALIST LICENSE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board By-laws: As there has not been any feedback, Mr. McAlister asked Mr. Brown to re-send the draft to the board members again for review.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Michigan Residential Code Removal: There is talk of legislation regarding the possible removal of the *Michigan Residential Code*. Mr. McAlister stated there is a *Reciprocal Council* seminar scheduled for September 6, 2017, and perhaps by the October board meeting there will be more information available.

Proposed Accela Meeting: BSEED will be upgrading their licensing and permitting software by *Accela*. The secretary would like to show the board a preview of the new program at the October meeting. The preview will be scheduled for the October meeting at *DTE Energy*.



MINUTES OF MEETING FOR AUGUST 17, 2017

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CORRECTIONS

None

ACTING CHAIRMAN LITT

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 21, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. at Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Fourth Floor, Room 418, Conference Room, Detroit, MI, 48226.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marian Swint

Secretary, Board of Electrical Examiners