



**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015**

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

**NOTICE OF THE MEETING WAS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD, LOCATED IN THE FIRST FLOOR EAST LOBBY, OF THE COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER, TWO WOODWARD AVENUE.**

The meeting convened at 11:45 a.m. Supervising Electrical Inspector, Mr. Durand Capers was also present at the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Mr. Preuss made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Litt asked the Chairman to prioritize the Agenda and move Mr. Vance ahead of the approval of the minutes of the last meeting. **Motion Carried.**

**BOARD HEARINGS:**

***David Vance Re: Application for Journeyman Examination:*** Mr. Vance appeared before the Board to discuss his work experience at *Motor City Utilities* in order to sit for the Journeyman examination. He has been denied previously based on his work experience primarily with an electrical company that performs utility work, instead of performing work under the auspices of the National Electrical Code. Also present at this hearing is Jeff Mitchell, Assistant Business Manager for *IBEW Local 17*. Mr. Mitchell disagreed with this assessment and stated that MDOT requires an electrical license under the State of Michigan or City of Detroit, for their roadway lighting traffic signals. Mr. Litt stated the Board is not questioning whether a license is required, but whether Mr. Vance has an issue in his history and/or background that caused the denial and how to resolve the issue.



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**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015****BOARD HEARINGS (CONT):**

Mr. Vance has previously worked for *Dan's Excavating* and it is the Board's understanding that *Dan's Excavating* is more involved in utilities, and not electrical contracting. Mr. Vance stated *Dan's Excavating* started an electrical division and has a Master electrician. Mr. Mitchell stated that in order for companies to bid on MDOT work a master electrician of record is required. The majority of Mr. Vance's hours comes from *Motor City Electric Utilities* (7,114.50 hours). The question becomes, what type of work does Mr. Vance perform under this branch of *Motor City Electric Co.*? Mr. Vance stated *Motor City Utilities* has Master electricians in its employ. Mr. Vance stated under the utility company, certain guys perform underground work and certain guys perform overhead work. Mr. Vance stated he performs overhead electrical work involving underground cable splicing, street lighting, freeway lighting, traffic signals, and maintenance. Mr. Mitchell interjected with stating Mr. Vance also wires the controller cabinets, all the load centers for the lighting going down the expressway, the electrical portion and everything from the ground up. Mr. Brown asked if Mr. Vance does everything from the point of service and for the most part are you constructing that according to the NEC (*National Electrical Code*)? Mr. Vance answered yes.

Mr. McAlister stated he understands, but the letter provided does not specify these things, and that some of the work Mr. Vance just listed is not inspected by any municipality in terms of doing an electrical inspection, and certainly not permit work. Mr. Mitchell stated Mr. Vance has been through hours and hours of apprenticeship work and the apprenticeship is approved by the DOL (Department of Labor). Mr. McAlister stated a lot of programs are approved by the DOL but they have their own particular line of work. Typically, the Board has not licensed those under Local 17 apprenticeship because they have not met what the Board considers to be the guidelines for licensure, such as working electrical construction. Working on traffic signals and street lighting is different than working on residential, commercial, and/or industrial establishments. Mr. Vance inquired if bringing in the feed for a particular building qualifies as electrical work? Mr. McAlister stated if it is on the line side of the service than no. Mr. Brown stated he heard Mr. Vance state he worked on the load side of the service.

Mr. Vance stated as far as residential and commercial buildings, there have been situations where he has worked alongside Local 58 bringing in a feed for a particular commercial building such as King High School. Mr. Vance stated he has been taking additional courses from Mike Donnelly, and also took a 10 week course with the State. Mr. Litt inquired if Mr. Vance is knowledgeable about the code, has done inside wiring, is familiar with ground fault receptacles, and it is Mr. Vance's hope to become an electrician. Mr. Vance stated he does. Mr. Mitchell stated by taking Mr. Donnelly's class, Mr. Vance has gone over and beyond what is required by Local 17's Apprenticeship.



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**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015****BOARD HEARINGS (CONT):**

Mr. Litt stated he does not have a problem allowing Mr. Vance to sit for the exam. Mr. McAlister stated the Board alone needs to have a discussion.

Mr. Vance and Mr. Mitchell exited the room and the Board conferred.

**After much deliberation, the Board decided as follows:**

Mr. Vance cannot sit for the Journeyman exam based on his work experience documenting only utility work, and not being in a Board approved Apprentice program. The Apprentice program must be related to electrical construction and/or maintenance.

Mr. Mitchell stated their apprenticeship is approved, and you have to follow the NEC (*National Electrical Code*) code whenever you are pulling cable into a conduit, how many cables, and what size cable can fit into a conduit.

McAlister reiterated that the work being done by Mr. Vance, the jurisdiction of the NEC, is clearly stated in **Section 90.2** what the code covers and what is not covered. When you are on thoroughfares, traffic signal controllers and the like, that is beyond the jurisdiction of the Board or any inspection agency. Mr. Vance asked if street lighting is included. Mr. McAlister stated yes, unless the lighting is on private property such as for parking lot lighting that comes from a service that is supplied from the premises.

Mr. Mitchell stated that Mr. Vance is aware of all the Codes, knows the code book, he's safe to work around electricity, and has logged over 10,000 hours, and the Board still will not allow him to take the test? If Mr. Vance did not know what he was doing, would he not fail the test? Mr. McAlister stated that is not necessarily so, there are applicants who can pass the exam, yet cannot do the work and vice versa. Mr. McAlister can appreciate Mr. Mitchell standing up for Mr. Vance. Mr. McAlister offered the following option: Mr. Vance can go work for a licensed electrical contractor part time. For instance, it could be *Motor City Electric*, not *Motor City Utilities*. Mr. Mitchell stated that Amanda Frantz made a mistake in the documentation and that she put Mr. Vance's documented hours on *Motor City Utilities* letterhead instead of *Motor City Electric Co.* Mr. Mitchell stated he could get someone to confirm this mistake. Mr. McAlister stated that is not what the Board is looking for. Mr. Mitchell stated the Board is biased and there is a conflict of interest in favor of Local 58 due to the fact that Ric Preuss is sitting on the Board. Mr. Preuss offered to recuse himself from the Board.



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**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015****BOARD HEARINGS (CONT):**

Mr. McAlister stated the Board will call the State of Michigan for their position regarding this issue. Mr. Vance will receive a letter from the Board after the Board confers with the State of Michigan Electrical Division, and if the Board makes a different determination, that will also be included in the letter as well.

Mr. Preuss stated this would be precedent setting. Mr. Vance would be the first applicant allowed to test as a utility worker, and regardless of who was sitting here from Local 58, it was always an established practice that people who sit for the exam go through a bona fide apprentice program sanctioned by the DOL, approved by, and sanctioned by, the Board that approves the apprentice program based on the course curriculum. It is not Mr. Preuss himself, it is the way it has always been done.

Mr. McAlister stated that he wanted to give a little bit of background on himself. He was with BSEED (*Buildings, Safety Engineering & Environmental Department*) for about 25 years before retiring as Supervising Electrical Inspector, was the previous examiner, and the previous Secretary for this Board. The Board thoroughly discussed this issue without bias. Historically, when applicants came before this Board working in utilities, they were denied based on the above criteria, Mr. Mitchell interjected with reiterating about a previous Apprentice registration being issued. Mr. McAlister stated everything will be reviewed. Mr. Brown asked if the Board requires Local 17 to provide additional details on their training program.

Mr. McAlister stated that would be helpful and reiterated the State will be contacted.

Mr. Mitchell stated several members of their Local are taking the Journeyman test this week at the State with the exact work experience as Mr. Vance. Mr. Vance stated the State is allowing anyone that applies take the exam. Mr. Mitchell stated you do have to be a Registered Apprentice.

Mr. Vance and Mr. Mitchell exited the meeting.

Mr. McAlister contacted the State of Michigan Electrical Division. In speaking with Mr. Dean Austin, Chief, State of Michigan Electrical Division, Mr. Austin stated that it would be up to the City to decide if they would accept it. Mr. Brown posed the question if the applicant did not live in the City and was going through the State, would such an applicant be accepted for a Journeyman License? Mr. Austin stated no, it has to be an approved apprenticeship program based upon the USDOLA (*United States Department of Labor & Apprenticeship*) and *Public Act 217 of 1956 Section 338.883 apprentice Electrician; registration; form; certificate of registration; apprenticeship training program; apprentice electrician ratio.*



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**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015****BOARD HEARINGS (CONT):**

As well as **Sec. 338.881(2) Definitions:** *"Electrical wiring" means all wiring, generating equipment, fixtures, appliances, and appurtenances in connection with the generation, distribution, and utilization of electrical energy, within or on a building, residence, structure, or properties, and including service entrance wiring as defined by the code.*

Mr. Brown stated service entrance wiring which could be considered the structure and could apply. Mr. Austin agreed and stated that that is where the Board must make the decision to accept or deny. Mr. Brown stated that the applicant's experience is very narrow and Mr. Austin agreed and stated even though the applicant's scope may be narrow, he posed an example: Take an applicant who solely worked with an electrical contractor who only did residential, and you ask him to wire up a motor circuit, the applicant would not be familiar with this type of work, yet he still qualifies for the exam.

Mr. McAlister stated at least when you do only one facet, your work is under the jurisdiction of the NEC, as opposed to wiring a traffic signal. Mr. Brown stated wiring is under the Code. Mr. Brown brought up the issue of co-workers of the applicant with the same experience having no problem sitting at the state level. Mr. Austin stated it entirely rests on what documentation was sent in with the application. Mr. Brown posed the question, if someone's experience was strictly doing street lighting control and work beyond the point of service for that particular street lighting, would that qualify? Mr. Austin stated he would question it, and refer back to the statute, then make a determination. Mr. McAlister thanked Mr. Austin for his time and expertise on behalf of the Board.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

A motion was made by Mr. Brown to approve the minutes of October 15, 2015. **Motion Carried.**

**BOARD CONSIDERATIONS:**

**C.E. Broker:** The Board, as well as, Diane Martin-Parker, BSEED Project Manager, viewed a demonstration (Ms. Marcia Mann, Moderator) of the *C.E. Broker* software that is sponsored on the State of Michigan Electrical Division's web site.

*C. E. Broker* is a software program based in Florida to originally assist the health care industry keep track of required educational requirements for License renewal. *C.E. Broker* tracks anything regarding continuing education and professional development, specifically in the nursing industry. Their program is not for initial licensure, nor to issue licenses. This software has been helpful to this industry in reducing costs in regard to auditing and reduction of paperwork. Presently, they have branched out to different states including Michigan. The State of Michigan's Electrical Division is their first foray into tracking required accreditation for electricians.



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**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015****BOARD CONSIDERATIONS (CONT):**

*C.E. Broker* offers full mobile support and three levels of subscription for the Licensees to use:

1. **Basic Account(free):** The Licensee uploads and keeps track of their account themselves with very basic information (whether or not Licensee is complete with Code requirement) and the Licensee can also report anything missing or upload documentation.
2. **Professional Account (\$29/year):** The Licensee gets at a glance, their renewal requirement, what is needed to complete the requirement, along with email reminders. (i.e. license renewal reminder 120 days before expiration date, and then one a month until renewed, and an email when continuing education requirements have not been met)
3. **Concierge Account (\$99/year):** For Licensees that have confusing requirements. This account does everything but take the courses for the Licensee.

The course provider uploads their course outline and registers for approval to the State. Once approval is granted by the State through *C.E. Broker*, the provider can then choose to advertise their courses through *C.E. Broker's* course search (free of charge). With this service, municipalities can see what course providers are approved through the State, and Licensees can get a list of approved course providers, where the courses are being offered, the fee charge (if provided), and the provider will then upload their roster of attendees to *C.E. Broker*.

There is a full support center available Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. eastern time, where licensees can call *C.E. Broker* instead of the municipality, regarding questions on how the system works, or questions about course information (i.e. when will their update be uploaded to the site or where classes are being offered.)

This software offers auditing for Code Update classes for the municipality requiring accreditation, to make sure the classes being offered meet the requirements, and are approved. Mr. McAlister asked Ms. Mann about auditing. About 2 weeks ago he attended an Inspector's forum. The Inspector's hours in relation to the course was brought up, and it was stated at the forum that proof would be in the hard copies from the course provider, and the State would accept the copies for auditing purposes.



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**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015****BOARD CONSIDERATIONS (CONT):**

Ms. Mann stated the course provider will either upload a list to *C.E. Broker* of all the attendees or the Licensee can upload the Certificate to *C.E. Broker* given to them by the provider. The Licensee will have to attach the Certificate of Completion so the State can see they have completed the course, instead of mailing it in to the office.

Mr. McAlister asked Ms. Mann about tracking Act 54 training classes. Ms. Mann stated so far only the Code Update is being tracked but, Act 54 and the Plumbing Division is in line to be added next to the State's pilot program. As for Boards that currently use C.E. Broker, the State of Michigan's Electrical Administrative Board will be the first non-healthcare Board to utilize the site.

*C.E. Broker* is a green initiative company, and most of their offices are powered by wind or renewable energy certificates, which ties into their initiative to eliminate as much paper as possible.

If the City were to utilize *C.E. Broker*, they would need to know what is the level of need for the City of Detroit? The City can use *C.E. Broker* without the provider approval piece, and can implement being able to see what the Licensees are required to complete, and who is lacking in regard to course approval. Once the contract is signed, it is 120 days for implementation, but the State of Michigan can be used as a foundation to help build the City's database.

Mr. Litt asked about a mechanism to keep track of violations issued to a contractor, and can the Electrical Division see an overview of past violations. Ms. Mann stated the software is capable of tracking this information which would be done by license number.

Ms. Martin-Parker stated the City will be implementing a new permitting system in the fall of 2016, which will have the ability to track this kind of information. Does the City have the capability/authority to require a contractor who is flagged a lot to take additional training or withhold licensure, or will this be for information purposes only? Mr. McAlister stated if a contractor was constant or repetitive in performing bad work, the Board can request the contractor come before the Board, and at that time the Board can make a determination of the next step. Mr. Litt stated for instance, the Board can refer the contractor to court and/or suspend their license(s).



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**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015****BOARD CONSIDERATIONS (CONT):**

Ms. Mann stated they have not done this type of tracking previously, but it is well within their capability. All they require is more information on what exactly the City needs in regard to this type of performance tracking. Ms. Mann asked if the City's License records are maintained at the state level. Mr. McAlister answered no and in fact there are three licensing entities in the state (Detroit, Grand Rapids, and the State). Each municipality maintains separate records, and there is not any interaction. Also, the format of licensing numbers are different as well.

Ms. Mann stated they would need a file of licensing data, license number, first and last name, and date of issue of the license, as well as an email address (for reminders). Mr. Brown asked if email information is shared or sold to third parties. Ms. Mann stated no, and is used only for the company's purposes, and providers are not provided this information either. Mr. McAlister asked if the state wanted to inquire about a Licensee in Detroit, would they be able to do so through *C.E. Broker*? Ms. Mann stated only if the City granted the State permission to this information and vice versa for the State.

Mr. McAlister asked when will Act 54 be available on their website? Ms. Mann stated Shane Hall can follow up when the implementation takes place. Data gathering (i.e. requirements for ACT 54) with Jocelyn Krueger from the State of Michigan will be taking place within the next two weeks. Mr. Litt asked about sending out a recap of today's demo. Ms. Mann stated Mr. Hall will follow up with an email.

Mr. Preuss asked how does CE broker receive funding for their site? Ms. Mann stated they are funded by Licensees who choose to pay for subscriptions (Professional and Concierge accounts). They currently have 1.2 million Licensees, facilities that have licensees working for them that use their service to manage employees, continuing education requirements, and associations that partner with *C.E. Broker* to provide their services to their Licensees to help them track, and this way they are able to provide their service to regulating entities for no charge. Mr. Brown asked if they receive funding for advertising on their site? Ms. Mann stated they do not. Mr. Shane Hall will follow up for any questions/concerns regarding *C.E. Broker*.





**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015**

**BOARD CONSIDERATIONS (CONT):**

- **The Board's December Meeting-**Mr. Litt proposed the Board hold their meeting at *Traffic Jam* Restaurant (the same place the Board held its last December meeting). Mr. Litt will make the reservation. The Board meeting will be for 11:00 a.m. when the restaurant opens, and guests are welcome. Mr. Brown asked that Mr. Phil Clark be invited to this meeting as well. Mr. McAlister stated he will call Mr. Clark and extend to him an invitation.

**APPLICATION FOR EXAMINATIONS:**

None

**APPRENTICE REGISTRATION**

Bolden, Anthony  
Bradley, Gregory  
Burton, Nicholas  
Dobson, Jerome  
Lewis, Terrance  
Lloyd, Mark  
Moore, Carl  
Muniz, Alex  
Redd II, Percy  
Redding, Patrick  
Torma, Michelle  
Ward, Tracy

**APPRENTICE REGISTRATION APPLICANTS NOT APPROVED**

None

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S LICENSES & REGISTRATIONS**

3 Phase Electric	Registration
303 Power Co.	Registration
Diversified Wireless	Registration
Diederich Electric	Registration
Elite Power	Registration
EC Communication	Registration
DLG's Electrical	Registration
Galaxy Sign & Hoisting	Registration
Guerriero Enterprises LLC.	Registration
Hav-Tech Electrical	Registration



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**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S LICENSES & REGISTRATIONS (CONT.)**

JMC Electric LLC.	Registration
Lakeview Heating	Registration
LJ Electric LLC.	Registration
Mancina Electrical	Registration
Martus Electric	Registration
MJB Electric LLC.	Registration
Powerlink Electrical	Updated Paperwork Submitted
R.D. White Co.	Registration
Riverside Electric Service	Registration
The ELEC	Updated Paperwork Submitted
Town & Country	Registration
Tristar Electrical & Lighting	Registration
Wiring Solutions Electric	Registration
Zachary Electric	Registration

**JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIAN**

Evans, Raynard  
Flowers, Harold  
Ligons, Dujuan

**MASTER ELECTRICIAN**

Theford, Ronald

**ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR'S LICENSES & REGISTRATIONS**

None

**FIRE ALARM CONTRACTOR**

None

**FIRE ALARM TECHNICIAN'S LICENSE**

None

**FIRE ALARM APPRENTICE**

None



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**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015****SIGN SPECIALTY CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE**

None

**SIGN SPECIALIST LICENSE**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Mr. Litt inquired to a notice going out to the members regarding missing attendance at the previous meetings. Ms. Swint stated an email went out to the members shortly after last month's meeting.
- **Board Meetings:** Should the Board consider cutting the meetings down to every other month or more? This issue will be tabled to December's meeting.
- **House Bill 4813:** Mr. Litt suggested a letter to the State legislature regarding the Board's concern regarding the new proposed Apprentice to Journeyman ratio.
- **Board General Rules:** Mr. McAlister reminded the Board that no movement has been made regarding drafting the Board Rules. Ms. Swint asked Mr. Capers to recap the meeting he attended with Dennis Muzerik, City of Detroit Law Department, who is trying to create an updated City Code covering all Departments. Mr. Capers stated the *Michigan Part 8 Rules* are being reviewed to merge with the City Ordinance to see if there is duplication, or does the City still need to keep the Ordinance. At this time the section regarding the Board makeup will not be reviewed. Mr. McAlister asked who is going to stipulate the Board's composition? It appears this section of the Ordinance will be kept as presently written for the time being.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **January 2016 Board Meeting-**The Board meeting is scheduled along the same time as the *Detroit Auto Show*. Due to this event, Mr. McAlister recommended the Board push the meeting back a week, have the meeting off site, or no meeting. Mr. Litt suggested the decision be made at the December meeting. During discussion of Board meetings under Unfinished Business, Mr. Brown suggested having the January meeting at DTE. Mr. Litt suggested Mr. Brown tentatively reserve a room for January 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Brown stated he will do so.



**MINUTES OF MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2015**

**CORRECTIONS:**

Under *Board Hearings* for the November 19, 2015 *Agenda* it should read: ***Mr. David Vance Re: Application for Journeyman Exam***

**ACTING CHAIRMAN MCALISTER**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 10:30 a.m., location to be determined at the December 17, 2015 meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Marian Swint*

Marian Swint  
Secretary, Board of Electrical Examiners