

# **STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

## **ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD**

**-MINUTES-**

**JUNE 14, 2018**

The Special Meeting of June 14, 2018 was held in the Department of Consumer Protection - North Building, Hearing Room J, 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, Connecticut 06103.

**Members Present:** Ronald Bish, Unlimited Contractor  
Peter L. Jennings, Unlimited Contractor  
Bruce A. Silva, Unlimited Journeyman  
Anthony Soter, Unlimited Journeyman  
Laurence A. Vallieres, Unlimited Contractor, Chairman  
Robert Woytowich, Unlimited Journeyman  
John W. Yusza, Electronic Technician

**Members Absent:** None

**Member Vacancies:** One (1) Unlimited Journeyman  
Three (3) Public Members

**DCP Board Staff:** Robert M. Kuzmich, License/Applications Specialist, DCP

**Others Present:** Marcie Addy, Construction Education Center  
Victor Mitchell, Tunxis Community College  
Paul Costello, I.B.E.W.  
Joanne Errera, Independent Electrical Contractors  
Cheryl Dudus, Independent Electrical Contractors  
Joel Kent, FBH  
Russ Hassman, RKW Construction/National Sign  
George Ballard, Sr., Ballard Electrical Safety Training  
Todd Reizel, Ballard Electrical Safety Training  
Rick Fosten, Tunxis Community College  
Fred Mertz, IQ Electrical Training West  
Richard Bird, Independent Electrical Contractors – New  
England  
Alex Carosella, Carosella Seminars  
Peter Childree, Connecticut Electrical Training Center

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) 706-1202.

Agency Website: [www.ct.gov/dcp](http://www.ct.gov/dcp) Division E-Mail: [dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov](mailto:dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov)

**1. Call to Order:** 9:00 AM

Mr. Laurence A. Vallieres, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

**2. Comments of concerns of anyone present.**

There were no comments.

**3. Continuing Education Discussion** (with Continuing Education Providers)

The Board held a general discussion with the Continuing Education Providers which included the current continuing education curriculum and content areas of courses.

Mr. Vallieres addressed all the continuing education providers thanking them for their attendance today. He emphasized the requirement that continuing education providers must only teach to the license types for which they were approved by this Board. In addition, he stated the importance of teaching the course for the full length of time required and being sure that proper text materials are being used by both the students and instructors. Mr. Vallieres also informed the providers of the importance of student – teacher interaction and the learning benefit that comes from this interface. The Board is considering holding a special Continuing Education Instructors Meeting scheduled for some time in the Fall of 2018.

At this point of the meeting, the continuing education providers gave the Board their input on various areas of their approved curriculum. As an example, it was suggested that more information be provided for the T-1 and T-2 (telephone interconnect) limited license types. The subject of complaint enforcement was raised by several providers. The Board noted that this is an ongoing concern and has been and is, at present, a subject of discussion between the Board and the Department of Consumer Protection. The Board was also asked if they have seen any impact on the electrical industry in Connecticut since the implementation of continuing education requirement. Speaking on behalf of the Board, Mr. Vallieres stated that continuing education has benefitted both the consumer and the electrical industry.

The Board concluded the Continuing Education Providers portion of the meeting at 9:55 AM. Mr. Vallieres, again, thanked all in attendance noting that their input at today's meeting is very important and beneficial to the Board going forward with the continuing education program

#### **4. Powers and Duties of the Board:** (with Board Members and their Counsel)

The Board believes their duties have been diluted by the legislative process. Mr. Vallieres noted that he and Mr. Richard Hurlburt, Director of Occupational and Professional Licensing and Commissioner Michelle Seagull had met prior to today's meeting and developed the draft letter to be sent to all approved Continuing Education Providers. This letter asks for dates for each course; (2) the start and end times of each course; (3) course location(s); and (4) the specific license type and category applicable to the course.

The Board also discussed the history of Public Act 16-185 (from Senate Bill 15) and its impact on this and other Boards in the Department. Mr. Vallieres stated that this Bill received a majority of legislative report. He also cited others that spoke to the legislature who had concerns about the Bill. Mr. Vallieres noted that he spoke with their Counsel about the potential to make changes to legislation. He was advised that any potential legislative changes should be made by industry representatives on behalf of the Board.

The Board now discussed recent legislative changes and how these changes may impact their powers and duties in addition to other areas of concern the Board relative to their authority. Mr. Vallieres gave the Board a draft letter addressed to their Counsel, Mr. Raul Rodriguez, Assistant Attorney General. The letter outlines the following questions which are being asked for formal interpretations by Mr. Rodriguez so the Board can move forward working within their legal authority.

1. An explanation of their Statutory functions relative to Connecticut General Statutes (CGS) Chapter 416; Section 21a-7 (1) such as licensing, registration, accreditation of schools and the rendering of findings, orders and adjudications.
2. Does the Board have the right to challenge the Department's action on particular cases and move the same to formal hearings? This question is relative to CGS Chapter 416; Section 21a-8 (8) – in reference to complaints the Department have received and are investigating and the Board's concern regarding the resolutions reached.
3. Does CGS Chapter 416 Section 21a-9(c) in conjunction with Section 21a-7 (7) provide the Board with the authority to call for a hearing on any of those items identified within Section 21a-9 (c) that have been identified within a complaint that the Board has been made aware of, regardless if an Assurance of Voluntary Compliance (AVC) was issued? If not, please explain.
4. Regarding the Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 2016 between the Department of Consumer Protection, Department of Labor, and the Electrical Work Examining Board, does this document take precedent over CGS Chapters 393 and 416 and their respective regulations?
5. Since the Electrical Work Examining Board was never given or offered the opportunity to have this Memorandum of Understanding reviewed by their Counsel,

should the Board decide to make changes to the document or want to terminate this agreement, what procedures would be required?

In conclusion of their discussion, the Board voted unanimously to have Mr. Vallieres forward this letter to Mr. Raul Rodriguez from the Attorney General's Office. (Soter/Bish) Mr. Vallieres indicated he will send this letter the next day.

#### **5. Comments of concerns of anyone present.**

There were no further comments from anyone present.

#### **6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM. (Soter/Yusza)

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert M. Kuzmich, R.A.  
License and Applications Specialist

#### **Upcoming Electrical Board Meeting Dates:**

July 13, 2018  
September 7, 2018  
November 9, 2018

Meetings take place at the Department of Consumer Protection, 450 Columbus Boulevard, North Building, Hearing Room J, Hartford, CT, 06103 beginning at 8:30 AM.