

# **STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

## **ELECTRICAL WORK EXAMINING BOARD**

**-MINUTES-**

**JULY 13, 2018**

The Regular Meeting of July 13, 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  
Bruce A. Silva, Unlimited Journeyman  
Anthony Soter, Unlimited Journeyman  
Laurence A. Vallieres, Unlimited Contractor, Chairman  
John W. Yusza, Electronic Technician

**Members Absent:** Peter L. Jennings, Unlimited Contractor  
Robert Woytowich, Unlimited Journeyman

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

**DCP Board Staff:** Robert M. Kuzmich, License/Applications Specialist, DCP  
Pamela Brown, Director, DCP  
Janita Hamel, Supervisor, DCP

**Others Present:** Ada Alfonso, Massachusetts, BSEE

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.**

Chairman Mr. Larry Vallieres called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM.

**2. Review Minutes of Previous Meetings: May 11, 2018 and June 14, 2018.**

The Board voted to approve the minutes of May 11, 2018 as submitted. (Bish/Soter)

The Board voted to approve the minutes of June 14, 2018 as submitted. (Bish/Yusza)

**3. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today:**

There were no comments.

**4. DCP Investigation Division:**

(A) Board to review quarterly report when provided. Ms. Hamel gave the Board a second quarterly report covering the time period from April 2018 to June 2018. Both Ms. Hamel and Ms. Brown answered questions from the Board on the report and responded to comment. Mr. Vallieres thanked the Department for the report and asked that in the future, if possible, the Board receive the report in advance of the meeting

**5. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE:**

(1) Continuing education for all contractors recommended; information from the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety – 2018 Edition. Below is an excerpt from this document for the Board’s information and review. The Board acknowledged receipt of this information.

**Connecticut**

**BUILDING CODE ADOPTION**

The state is currently enforcing the 2012 edition of the IRC and as of December 2017, was in the process of updating to the 2015 edition of the code. The Connecticut Division of Construction Services has been developing initiatives to improve resilience of the residential dwellings in the state, focusing in particular on properties located in coastal areas at risk for high wind, flooding, and storm surge.

<b>CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATION OF BUILDING OFFICIALS</b>	The state has a program for certifying building officials. The program requires education classes prior to becoming certified as a residential code inspector.
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<b>LICENSING OF CONTRACTORS</b>	Although Connecticut requires licensing for all construction trades, only electrical and plumbing contractors are required to take continuing education to maintain their licenses. The state has a system for consumers to file complaints against licensed contractors and may institute disciplinary action as appropriate.
<b>KEY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT</b>	The state should consider requiring continuing education for all contractors.

(2). Notice to State Licensure Boards regarding changes to walk-in center at 450 Columbus Boulevard. The Board acknowledged receipt of this information.

(3) Request for Analysis of Related Instruction and On-the-Job Training. The Board acknowledged receipt of this information.

(4) Application Review Checklist. The Board acknowledged receipt of this information.

(5) Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection Licensing Process. The Board acknowledged receipt of this information.

## 6. Old Business:

(1) The Board, at their May 11, 2018 meeting asked to Department to contact the following 2018 Continuing Education (CE) Providers and request that they provide them with the dates, times, and Fire Marshal Certificates for all their upcoming CE classes for both the limited and unlimited license types. Mr. Robert Kuzmich, License and Applications Specialist will accommodate this request.

Alternative Energy Solutions  
2031 Little Meadow Road  
Guilford, CT 06437

Continuing Electrical Needs Association, LLC  
75 Main Street, Suite 316  
Norwalk, CT 06851

The Board noted the lack of response from Alternative Energy Solutions on both the above request as well as the Department audit conducted in May of this year. As such, they voted, unanimously, to recommend to the Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection that approval to provide continuing education be withdrawn due to a failure to respond to the Board's May 11, 2018 request and the Department audit of all Continuing Education providers conducted in May of 2018. (Bish/Soter)

(2) Department of Labor website changes for Apprentice Education. Mr. Vallieres noted that he recently checked their website and it still indicates a discrepancy between the Board's requirement and the Federal requirement for related instruction hours as it relates to the Unlimited Electrical Journeyman's license.

(3) Review of submittals from all Continuing Education Providers. It was noted by Mr. Vallieres that Alternative Energy Solutions is the only provider who did not respond to the Department's May 2018 Audit.

The Board voted to add the following item to their agenda at today's meeting:

(4) Memorandum from Mr. Raul A Rodriguez dated July 6, 2018 concerning Responses to Electrical Work Examining Board's Questions of June 14, 2018. The Board voted to table further action on this item until their next regular meeting scheduled for September 7, 2018 when all Board members are present for discussion. (Soter/Yusza)

## **7. New Business:**

The Board voted to add the following items to their agenda at today's meeting:

(1) Discussion concerning the 2019 Electrical Continuing Education Curriculum; Mr. Vallieres and Mr. Jennings will be working together on this document. The Board discussed some suggestions submitted to Mr. Vallieres from Mr. Jennings prior to today's meeting including possibly combining the Photovoltaic Curriculum with that for the Unlimited Electrical license types. In addition, it was suggested exempting sign installers from the continuing education requisite because they are working from existing branch circuits installed by other licensees. Mr. Soter suggested an alternative of requiring two (2) hours since there are hazards present in their work.

Mr. Vallieres asked other Board Members to submit their suggestions for continuing education to him by e-mail which will be incorporated into a draft curriculum. The Board will review this document at their September 7, 2018 regular meeting.

(2) Ms. Ada Alfonso, Executive Director, Board of State Examiner of Electricians, Commonwealth of Massachusetts addressed the Board. Ms. Alfonso explained that she recently joined the Massachusetts Electrical Board on December 4, 2017. She is canvassing regional Boards and gathering information regarding the practices of other regional states pertaining to licensing, fines and delinquencies, and other disciplinary action concerning electricians.

In response to a question from Mr. Vallieres, Ms. Alfonso gave the Board a brief history of her professional experience in the electrical field prior to her accepting the position she has now. Mr. Vallieres noted the limited license types the State currently has and will discuss these license types in more detail with her subsequent to today's meeting. He noted that, in general, the Board believes that there are too many license categories. He gave Ms. Alfonso some statistical information regarding the number of various

limited license holders. The Board, along with Ms. Janita Hamel and Ms. Pamela Brown, answered other general questions for Ms. Alfonso.

**8. Comments or Concerns of any Person Present Today:**

There were no further comments from anyone present.

**9. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 AM. (Soter/Yusza)

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Upcoming Electrical Board Meeting Dates:

September 7, 2018

November 9, 2018