



State of Idaho
Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses
Idaho Electrical Board

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Minutes of 11/08/2023

Board Members Present:	Rick Stark, Chair Casey Wilson Greg Eagy Chad Fields Jim Swier Alex Owens Jeff Bradley Jim Marchetti Josh Madsen	Division Staff:	Amy Lorenzo, Executive Officer Lea Kear, Legal Counsel Jessica Spoja, Lic./Regis. Prog. Mgr. Renee Bryant, Board Support Super. Ashlee Boyle, Licensing Supervisor
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The Board meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM MT by Chairman Rick Stark.

AMENDED AGENDA

There was a slight variation between the original and revised agenda. The revision added the language “Vote to go Proposed to Pending – IDAPA 24.39.10”, and “Action Item” to the topic *Zero-Based Regulation* under Board Business. The good faith reason why the language was not included in the original agenda was a clerical error and was reposted to correct that.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the agenda pursuant to Idaho Code 74-204; adding “Action Item” under Zero-Based Regulation. Roll call vote: Rick Stark, aye; Jim Marchetti, nay; Alex Owens, aye; Jeff Bradley, aye; Casey Wilson, aye; Jim Swier, aye; and Greg Eagy, aye. Six ayes and one nay, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF 08/24/2023 MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 08/24/2023 meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD BUSINESS

2024 Meeting Dates: The Board agreed on the following 2024 meeting dates: 1/24, 4/24, 7/24, and 10/16.

Zero-Based Regulation: Vote to go Proposed to Pending–IDAPA 24.39.10: Comments received were grouped into four major categories: 1) Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI), 2) Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter (AFCI), 3) Continuing Education, and 4) General recommendations related to the codification of the National Electrical Code (NEC) 2023. Executive Officer Amy Lorenzo paraphrased comments from stakeholders on the following items:

GFCI: The Idaho Homebuilders Association (IHA) submitted recommendations asking the Board to reconsider the requirements in 210.8.d., exempting certain appliances. IHA cited cost prohibited concerns related to those, and expressed concerns that new appliances may not function properly and could possibly cause unnecessary nuisance tripping.

B and B Electric submitted written comments and had several items related to the deletions of subparagraphs seven through twelve. They stated that GFCI's add unnecessary costs to homebuyers and in the current economic climate that is a huge consideration. If an appliance needs GFCI protection, their recommendation is it should be provided by the manufacturer and not part of the state requirements.

AFCI: Idaho Association of Counties (IAC) stance is the NEC 2023 should be adopted in its entirety without any amendments. IAC has conceded to the AFCI protection in bedrooms but would like to reiterate their recommendation to have those installed in the entire house.

Continuing Education: The conversation at previous hearings was primarily focused on the public safety aspect and the need to maintain the 24 hours in its entirety. There was ongoing conversation from a variety of stakeholders related to keeping the 24 hours, as well as a discussion about the split. Currently, the proposed rule is a 16/8 split. There is ongoing concerns about not maintaining the integrity of the trade if we lower those hours.

NEC: The last discussion from Kelly Lamp, National Electrical Contractors Association, Idaho Chapter, highlighted the statutory framework now that 2023 will live in perpetuity unless there is future statutory changes. Given the upcoming changes to 2026 and the entire restructuring of the NEC, there are some concerns with Idaho's ability to remain current with evolving electrical trends and also some of the challenges for new electricians that are being trained on future versions of the code when Idaho is still bound by the 2023.

Currently, there are two locations in the NEC with regard to GFCI protection for appliances. A lengthy discussion ensued and the following change to be made to the redlines. In Article 210.8.(D), after laundry areas listed, exceptions to be added are clothes dryers, and appliances in dwelling units.

Board Member Jim Marchetti asked for clarification on the definition of "Independent Study". Should Board Members want to add a component of independent study, staff can work with them to figure out its definition and whether an agency form needs to be created that the company would need to complete.

The topic *Independent Study* will be added to the agenda for the January 24, 2024 Board Meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to go from proposed to pending and to include adding the exception to remove dishwashers and clothes dryers from Article 210.8(D) in dwelling units. Six ayes and one nay. The motion carried.

2023 Financials: Executive Officer Amy Lorenzo provided a high-level overview of the Board's

year-end financials. A significant adjustment under *Misc Expenditures*, just under \$900,000 in quarter three, was addressed. The amendment relates to the transition of creating DOPL and moving into the building at the State of Idaho's Chinden Campus in Boise.

Limited Licenses Presentation: Licensing/Registration Program Manager Jessica Spoja presented a PowerPoint presentation titled *Limited Installer License Types in Idaho*. The nine installer license types are: 1) Solar Photovoltaic; 2) Limited Energy; 3) Outside Wireman (Lineman); 4) Sign; 5) Well Driller/Water Pump; 6) Irrigation Sprinkler; 7) Elevator, Dumbwaiter, Escalator, or Moving Walk; 8) Refrigeration, Heating, and Air-Conditioning; and 9) Manufacturing/Assembling Equipment. In addition, FY23 Data; i.e., exam types, administered, and average was provided.

Chairman Stark asked, and Executive Officer Lorenzo explained, the progress on the residential licensing procedure in DOPL.

Tom Brown, B and B Electric, asked if the public will no longer receive board packets. The financials will be provided to the Board and industry. Chairman Stark asked that moving forward the Board receive packets in a timely manner.

2023 NEC Code Adoption Process: This topic was discussed throughout the meeting.

Public Comment: Public comments were made throughout the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM.

01/30/2024/krb