

BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS AND PLUMBERS
Professional and Vocational Licensing Division
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING

- Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018
- Time: 10:30 a.m.
- Place: King Kalakaua Conference Room
King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, 1st Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813
- Present: Peter Akamu, Industry Member, Chairperson
Matt Brady, Industry Member, Vice Chairperson
Randall Kaya, Public Member
Randal Hiraki, Industry Member
Vernon Ta'a, Public Member
Krishna Jayaram, Deputy Attorney General
Christine Rutkowski, Executive Officer
Charline Tamanaha, Executive Officer
Olga Reppun, Secretary
- Excused: Phillip Lucero, Industry Member
- Guests: Ryan Takahashi - Hawaii Electricians Market Enhancement Program ("HEMEP")
Bruce Conway, Power Electric
Keali'i Lopez, Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing
Joy Kimura, Hawaii Laborers Employers Cooperation & Education Trust ("LECET")
Peter Lee, Hawaii Laborers Employers Cooperation & Education Trust ("LECET")
Al Itamoto, Electrical Contractors Association
Robert Aquino, Hawaii Electricians Training Fund
Jeffrey Pong, Hawaii Electricians Training Fund
Travis Yara, Hawaii Electricians Training Fund
Terry Uyehara, Hawaii Electricians Training Fund
Mimi Sroat, Hawaii Electricians Training Fund
Peter H.M. Lee - Hawaii Laborers Employers Cooperation & Education Trust ("LECET")
- Agenda: The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, as required by section 92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS").
- Call to Order: There being a quorum present, Chairperson Akamu called the meeting to order at 10:51 a.m.

Approval of
the Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Kaya, seconded by Mr. Hiraki, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2017, Board meeting with the following amendment:

pages 5 and 6, New Business (b): Ms. Keali'I Lopez's last name should be spelled Lopez ~~[Lopes]~~.

Executive
Officer's Report:

Executive Officer Rutkowski informed the Board that she is retiring and this is her last board meeting. Board members thanked Ms. Rutkowski for her service and wished her all the best for this new chapter of her life.

Ms. Rutkowski introduced Ms. Tamanaha who will be the interim Executive Officer. The Board members welcomed Ms. Tamanaha back to the Board.

Examinations:

- a. The Executive Officer distributed the following results of the Electricians' and Plumbers' examination:

Electricians' Exam (administered January 2018)

	EJ	ES	EM	EJI	EJS	ESS	ESI
Exams Administered	18	7	0	5	3	0	0
Successful	9	3	0	1	1	0	0
Unsuccessful	9	4	0	4	2	0	0

Plumbers' Exam (administered January 2018)

	PJ	PM
Exams Administered	13	0
Successful	8	0
Unsuccessful	5	0

Applications:

It was moved by Mr. Kaya, seconded by Mr. Brady, and unanimously carried to approve/defer the following applications as noted.

- a. ELECTRICIANS
1. Journey Worker Electrician ("EJ") – Approved
ACOSTA, Harold
ADACHI, Ryan
AGBIGAY, Jan
BIXLER, Trevor
CHIEM, Phong
CREITH, Lucas
DUGAY, Brian

EICH, Michelle
FOWLER, Chris
HESS, William
LAURIN, Malama
LUM, Stanford
MANALO, Joseph
MATSUNAGA, Aaron
MOEN, David
MURAKAMI, Corey
NARTATEZ, Joseph
OSHIRO, Kevin
PASION, Michael
PUANA, Brandt
SIMON, Nicklaus
THEDFORD, Billray
TODD, William
WATANABE, Sean
WATSON, Matthew

2. Journey Worker Industrial Electrician (“EJI”)- Approved
NONE
 3. Journey Worker Specialty Electrician (“EJS”)
ANDRES, Nelson
COLBURN, Chinnough
DECOITE, Wesley
DOLE, Brittany
KUPUKAA, Jason
MAYORGA, Guillermo
 4. Supervising Electrician (“ES”) – Approved
FERGERSTROM-KALALAU, Ashlee
LYLES, Gregory
YOSHIMI, Jaryl
 5. Supervising Industrial Electrician (“ESI”)
NONE
 6. Supervising Specialty Electrician (“ESS”)
NONE
 7. Maintenance Electrician (“EM”) - Approved
DAMEG, Dominique
- b. PLUMBERS
1. Journey Worker Plumber (“PJ”) – Approved
BALIOS, Robert
DOCTORELLO JR, Randolph

HADDIN, Cody
HE, Minghua
NAKASONE, Stan
NEMETI, Robert
OSHIRO, Richard
PAAAINA, Shaun
TELLS, Deven
VALLENTE JR, Abraham

2. Master Plumber ("PM")
MOORE, Richard
WARD, Chaz

c. DEFERRED APPLICATIONS
BLOOM, Jake (EJ)
HANSEN, Kevin (EJ)
MAIERS, Christopher (EJ)
VALENTINE, Jason (EJ)
WONG, Len (EJ)

d. RATIFICATIONS

It was moved by Mr. Hiraki, seconded by Mr. Ta'a and unanimously carried to ratify the following individuals for examination:

CUSTARD, Claude
FOSTER, Corin
MASSEY, Kenneth

Act 35, SLH 2010
Update

Executive Officer Rutkowski informed the Board that in January and February, 2018, University of Hawaii Honolulu Community College approved the following electrical academic coursework:

- Shasta Builders' Exchange's Trade School
- Nevada State Apprenticeship Program and Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. Nevada Chapter
- Penn Foster Career School

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Executive Officer Rutkowski provided an update regarding current status of the following bills:

- a) **H.B. No. 1878 RELATING TO ELECTRICIANS.**
Clarifies that employees performing high voltage electrical work for electrical contractors licensed under Chapter 444, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are exempt from Chapter 448E, Hawaii Revised Statutes under certain conditions.

b) **H.B. No. 1880, H.D. 1 RELATING TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS.**

Extends the sunset date of the limited exemption from licensing requirements for electrical contractors who are retained by a public utility within the State to perform high voltage (600 volts or higher) electrical work and are deemed qualified by the public utility. (HB1880 HD1)

c) **S.B. No. 2937 RELATING TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS. (Companion H.B. No 2549)**

Provides an exemption to the licensing requirements for certain qualified individuals in situations when high voltage (six hundred volts or higher) electrical work is performed while employed by a Hawaii licensed electrical contractor.

d) **S.B. No. 2297 RELATING TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS.**

Extends the sunset date of Act 65, SLH 2013, which provides a limited exemption to the licensing requirements for certain individuals in situations when an electric utility must retain qualified individuals to work with high voltage (six hundred volts or higher) who are not licensed in the State but are otherwise deemed qualified by the electric utility.

Several guests addressed the Board regarding bills HB1878 and SB2937 (companion HB 2549), which were deferred after hearings in respective committees.

Ms. Keali'i Lopez of Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing distributed to the Board additional materials depicting work performed by Power Electric. Ms. Lopez addressed the Board's concerns regarding demarcation of high voltage vs. low voltage work and Hawaii requirement of 1:1 supervisor/apprentice ratio.

Ms. Lopez also stated that during the hearings she and her client realized that, perhaps, the wording of the bills did not adequately reflect their intent.

Mr. Bruce Conway of Power Electric addressed the Board to provide information regarding the kind of work his company's journeymen linemen perform. He stated that the licensed worker/apprentice ratio his company has is based on the OSHA requirement, which exceeds Hawaii requirement. Mr. Conway also stressed that the intent of the introduced measures was to enable contractors from outside the State of Hawaii to bid for contracts offered by solar power industry along with Hawaii contractors. He added that he was not trying to change the law so that unlicensed workmen would perform any of the electrical work; that he fully supports regulation for electrical workers.

Mr. Ryan Takahashi of HEMEP stated that his organization was sympathetic to the intent of the bills, but considered the language of the measures to be inadequate.

Mr. Robert Aquino, Hawaii Electricians Training Fund (“HETF”), stated that the State of Hawaii has electricians who are trained and qualified to do high voltage electrical work.

Chair Akamu asked Mr. Aquino how NEC currently defines “high voltage” work. Mr. Aquino responded that, according to NEC, it is defined as voltage above 1000V.

Ms. Rutkowski inquired whether HETF had examinations for electricians performing high voltage work. Mr. Aquino said that some workers take examinations required by the electrical equipment manufacturers.

Mr. Hiraki asked Mr. Aquino whether HI had adequate manpower to perform high voltage work, and Mr. Aquino replied in the affirmative.

Chair Akamu thanked the guests for their presentations and comments.

It was moved by Chair Akamu, seconded by Mr. Kaya and unanimously carried to oppose the following bills: HB 1878, SB2937 (companion HB 2549); if the measures were to proceed to other committees for hearings as is written.

New Business:

a) Request from Michelle Thomas, License and Compliance Manager, ADT, LLC

The Executive Officer stated that she requested additional information from Ms. Thomas and that the information has not been submitted yet.

Board members agreed by consensus to defer this matter until a response is received from the requestor.

b) Academic Requirement Act 35, SLH 2010 Applicability to Supervising Electrician (“ES”) – Revisit Board Previous Discussion.

Ms. Rutkowski informed the Board that the matter was placed on the agenda by mistake.

There was no discussion on this matter.

Old Business:

a) Discussion Regarding Journey Worker Photovoltaic/Solar

Electrician License Category (deferred from December 12, 2017 meeting).

Chair Akamu reminded Board members that the question regarding this matter came up due to a number of exam and license applications from candidates whose electrical work experience is exclusively from PV installations.

Discussion followed, in which Board members recalled their previous discussion that applicants be required to demonstrate they have experience in the full scope of the trade, such as HARRIETT.

Board member agreed by consensus to not amend the license categories for electricians.

Public Comment: None.

Chapter 91, HRS
Adjudicatory
Matters:

Chairperson Akamu called for a recess from the Board's meeting at 12:04 p.m. to discuss and deliberate on the following adjudicatory matter pursuant to HRS Chapter 91:

a) In the Matter of Electrician's License of Jeffrey N. Furtado; ENP-2015-15-L

Settlement Agreement Prior to Filing of Petition for Disciplinary Action and Board's Final Order

Mr. Ta'a left the meeting at 12:07.

After discussion, it was moved by Mr. Hiraki, seconded by Vice Chairperson Brady, and carried by a majority to approve the Settlement Agreement Prior to Filing of Petition for Disciplinary Action and Board's Final Order.

Mr. Ta'a returned at 12:14.

Following the Board's review, deliberation and discussion on this matter, pursuant to HRS Chapter 91, Chairperson Akamu announced that the Board was reconvening to the agenda at 12:19 p.m.

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Executive Officer Tamanaha requested that the Board confirm their position on Bills H.B.1880 and S.B. 2297.

The Board agreed by consensus to continue to support Bills H.B. 1880 and S.B 2297.

Announcement: a. Next Applications Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 10, 2018
9:30 a.m.
King Kalakaua Conference Room
335 Merchant Street, 1st Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

- b. Next Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 10, 2018
10:30 a.m.
King Kalakaua Conference Room
335 Merchant Street, 1st Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned
at 12:23 p.m.

Reviewed and approved by:

Taken by:

/s/ C. Tamanaha

/s/ O. Reppun

Charlene Tamanaha
Executive Officer

Olga Reppun
Secretary

CT:or

04/09/18

[x] Minutes approved as is.

[] Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of _____