



State of Alabama

The Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors

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MINUTES

Board Meeting

November 18, 2019

The Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors met on Monday, November 18, 2019 at the Board's Office located at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, Alabama, to conduct business. Those members in attendance were Mr. Mike Custred (Board Chair), Mr. Johnny Grimes (Vice Chair), Mr. Mac McCreless (member), Mr. Fred Moore (member), Mr. Terry Wallace (member), Mr. Bruce Taylor, and Mr. Richard Meadows (member). Member not in attendance was Mr. Jay Stutts, III (member) and Mr. Mark Lamborne (member). Also in attendance were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Ms. Hendon Coody (General Counsel), Mr. Randy Barrows (Administrator), Mr. Mike Weeks (Legislative Affairs) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary). Guests were present.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Custred, Board Chair. Mr. Warren called roll of the members and a quorum was present to conduct business. The meeting was advertised on the Board's website, www.aecb.alabama.gov, and the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov, in accordance with requirements of the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

The Board meeting minutes from the September 16, 2019 meeting were presented by Chairman Custred for the Board's approval. The Board members were provided a copy of the minutes prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the September minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wallace and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director's Report that included a financial summary for the period ending September 30, 2019. The report included line-item expenditures for the same period, along with the number of current licensees and complaints received during FY 2019 (report filed for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Warren also presented the Administrator's Report on the activities accomplished by the staff since the last Board meeting.

Mr. Wallace made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren reported that he had no addition information to report regarding the Sunset Committee meeting held in October and indicated that further discussions about legislation would be discussed later in the meeting. Mr. Warren introduced Mr. Mike Weeks with Legislative Affairs for Warren & Company.

Ms. Coody presented the General Counsel's report. Ms. Coody introduced Mr. Tim Baker with B&B Signs and Lighting. Mr. Baker provided information to the Board regarding his sign company's services regarding the complaint, #2019-012, to the Board. Following a discussion of Board jurisdiction and sign company services, the Board recommended to Mr. Baker the he employ a full-time licensed electrical contractor to provide electrical installation and electrical maintenance services for the company. Mr. Moore made the motion that local licensing and permit departments be notified of the Board's jurisdiction concerning lighting and sign installation and maintenance electrical services. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Coody reported on the following complaint cases:

- Case #2019-064 - Mr. Mike James had filed a misdemeanor criminal warrant concerning the Respondent for doing electrical work without a license.
- Case #2019-040 – the Respondent continues to provide electrical services without a license after being issued a cease and desist, and based on charges by the homeowner in the case and having been found guilty, along with his serious criminal history, she recommended the Respondent/applicant be denied to sit for the Electrical Contractors examination. Mr. Wallace made the motion to rescind previous Board action and the applicant be denied to take the exam. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously approved by the Board.
- Case #2019-052 – the Respondent had closed one company due to bankruptcy and opened another company to provide electrical contracting services. Board discussed any violations, moral turpitude and good character in consideration of this case. Ms. Coody indicated that she was disturbed by the allegations in the complaint, however, the Board had no statutory authority to discipline the Respondent and the Board concurred that the case lacked Board jurisdiction.

Mr. James reported on cases that involved a licensed electrical contractor pulling permits for unlicensed individuals and recommended the following disciplinary actions by the Board:

- First offense results in \$1000 fine per violation, with a \$5000 cap on multiple violations in the same complaint.
- Second offense result in immediate suspension of license, pending an Administrative Hearing outcome, which would determine further disciplinary action by the Board.

The Board agreed that selling one's license was a grave and growing problem and resulted in unlicensed individuals having no oversight in work being performed which presented a danger to the public. Mr. Moore made the motion that the Board's licensees be notified, in a mass email and posted on the Board's website, about the Board's position on the matter that is an increasing problem and threat to public safety. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously approved.

Mr. James also reported on changes in licensing and permits in Jefferson County requiring state licensing of electrical contractors. The Board concurred with efforts by local governments to enforce state licensing requirement and they would encourage the local governments to go forth in enforcing and prosecuting violators and that the state licensing board not be the first level of enforcement of this law, but instead be notified of any court action taken by local government regarding licensing.

Mr. Barrows reported that PROV, the Board's examination administrator, was offering to provide unofficial pass/fail scores onsite to applicants taking the Electrical Contractors and Journeyman examinations. He asked if the Board was interested in providing unofficial scores to applicants. Mr. Moore made the motion for PROV to issue unofficial exam score to applicants at the end of their exam and official notice of examination scores would be provided by the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Meadows and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the annual renewal of the Administrative Services Contract for the Board's approval. Mr. Meadows made the motion to renew the contract for another year, with no changes to the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wallace and unanimously approved by the Board.

Chairman Custred presented a list of 2020 dates for the Board to meeting. Following some discussion, Mr. McCreless made the motion to approve the following dates for the Board to meet in 2020: January 27th, March 16th, May 11th, July 13th, September 14th, and November 9th. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Barrows reported that the 2020 NEC had been released. Mr. Wallace made the motion to approve the 2020 NEC for examination purposes. The motion was second by Mr. Meadows and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. Barrows indicated that PROV would update the examinations, to incorporate the 2020 NEC, and the updated examination may be available in June or July 2020.

Mr. Barrows presented licensure applications for the Board's approval. Mr. Meadows made the motion to approve the Reciprocity Electrical Contractor applications as presented (a list available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the Journeyman Electrician applications for examination as presented (a list available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Meadows and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Moore made the motion to approve new provider of continuing education for electrical contractors, North Forty Training. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Wallace made a motion to approve the Electrical Contractor applications for examination as presented (a list available in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Meadows and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren reported on the new Apprenticeship Program Act, potentially for any discipline. Following a discussion of the program, Mr. McCreless made a motion on behalf of the Board in support of the Act. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grimes and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren discussed proposed legislation for the Board's consideration. He distributed a copy of the North Carolina EC licensing law. For discussion, Mr. Warren reviewed topics concerning

provisional licensing, low volt limits, handyman services, journeyman licensing requirements, commercial and residential delineation in licensing, commercial experience and service calls, etc. Following discussion, Ms. Coody reported that a draft of proposed changes in the Board's statute would be presented at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Warren also distributed a summary brochure regarding NASCLA's electrical examination program for the Board's review.

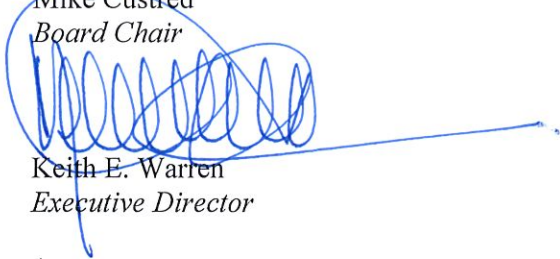
Chairman Custred announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was January 27, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

There was no further business to discuss and Mr. Wallace made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Taylor, and Chairman Custred adjourned the meeting at 1:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Custred
Board Chair



Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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