



State of Alabama
The Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors

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MINUTES
Board Meeting
September 14, 2020

The Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors met on Monday, September 14, 2020 at the Board's Office located at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, Alabama. Due to the COVID 19 State of Emergency, the members attended the meeting virtually. Those members in attendance virtually were Mr. Johnny Grimes (Board Chair), Mr. Fred Moore (Board Vice Chair), Mr. Terry Wallace (member), Mr. Mac McCreless (member), Mr. Robert Lamborne (member), Mr. Theodore Blunt (member), Mr. John Thomas (member), Mr. Jeremy Atchley (member), and Mr. Shon Rogers (member). Ms. Hendon Coody (General Counsel) also participated virtually in the meeting and others in attendance onsite were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Mr. Randy Barrows (Administrator), Mr. Mike James (Board Investigator), Mr. Mike Week (Legislative Liaison), Mr. Dennis Trammell (Investigator), Ms. Karen Harlow (Legal Assistant) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary).

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Mr. Grimes, 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 August 3, 2020 meeting were presented by Chairman Grimes for the Board's approval. The Board members were provided a copy of the minutes prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Wallace made a motion to approve the August minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCreless and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director's Report that included a financial summary for the period ending August 31, 2020. The report included line-item expenditures for the same period, along with the number of current licensees and complaints received during FY 2020 (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 that was held in August.

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

Ms. Coody presented the General Counsel Report. She reported that the definition of an employee was not defined in the Board's statute and recommended a definition to include a full-time, W-2 employee, for the purposes of licensure of an electrical contractor. Mr. Moore made a motion to authorize the Board's General Counsel to request an opinion from the Attorney General's office on definition of an employee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wallace. Following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Coody reported that the respondent in complaint case 2020-058 was working in a geographical area that he was not licensed to work and cited incidences of violations. Mr. Atchley made the motion to issue a Cease and Desist and file a criminal warrant for the respondent. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wallace. Chairman Grimes called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Grimes stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Coody reported that the respondent in complaint case 2020-41 was a non-licensee, with non-licensed employees working in Alabama and performing services under a business name that is not affiliated with business owner's Florida license. Mr. Moore made a motion of citing a violation of operating under a different business name that was not licensed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wallace. Chairman Grimes called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Grimes stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren recommended the Board consider upgrading their current licensee database to an online application platform. He proposed approval of proposal submitted by iGov Solutions for \$2,500 per month that would allow applicants and licensees to create an online account to apply and upload documents for licensure. He commented on the competitive proposal price from iGov. Mr. Wallace made a motion to approve the proposal from iGov Solutions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers. Chairman Grimes called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Grimes stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren reported that the management services contract with Warren & Company was scheduled to expire in November and explained that the State Purchasing Department was not currently conducting bids for these services. Mr. Warren presented for the Board's consideration an emergency contract with Warren & Company to continue management services. Mr. Moore made the motion to approve an emergency contract for management services with Warren & Company for 12 months, to allow time for bidding of services to be reestablished. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lamborne. Chairman Grimes called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Grimes stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren reported changes in staffing for both the licensing specialist position as well as the Legal Assistant position. The reminded the Board that the office continued to be closed to the public, except by appointment, as safe-guard measures during the COVID 19 State of Emergency.

Mr. Warren reported that the Office of Apprenticeship (AOA), established to develop and register apprenticeship programs, had asked to meet with the Board. Chairman Grimes asked for three members of the Board to meet with AOA and Messrs. Moore, Rogers and McCreless volunteered on behalf of the Board.

The Board discussed licensing requirements for employees of a utility company whose services were expanding into residential electrical work. Due to the utility company in question, Ms. Coody recused herself from the discussions and left the conference call. Mr. Warren reported that the Attorney General's office would appoint an attorney to represent the Board in this matter, if necessary, and the matter may result an Attorney General's opinion. The Board requested clarification of electrical contracting work being performed by the utility employees, whether on the utility-side of the meter or on the homeowner's side of the meter. Mr. Warren indicated that he would obtain additional information for the Board's further consideration.

Mr. Warren reminded the members of Board action authorizing the Executive Director to review and approve EC applications and Board ratify this action.

Mr. Lamborne made the motion to approve the Reciprocity Electrical Contractor applications as presented by Mr. Warren (a list available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Blunt. Chairman Grimes called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Grimes stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the Journeyman Electrician applications for examination as presented by Mr. Warren (a list available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Atchley. Chairman Grimes called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Grimes stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. McCreless made the motion to approve the Electrical Contractor applications for examination as presented by Mr. Warren (a list available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Blunt. Chairman Grimes called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Grimes stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board members discussed their role when being contacted by the public in matters of complaints. Mr. Warren advised the members against becoming involved and discussing complaints and to advise the public to contact the Board's office.

Mr. Warren commented on the continued COVID 19 State of Emergency guidelines and conducting meetings virtually. He reported that should onsite meetings be required during the pandemic conditions for safe-distancing, he had secured another facility for the Board to conduct their meetings, which would allow for social-distancing onsite.


Mr. Grimes announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was November 9, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

There was no further business to discuss and Mr. Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCreless, and having no objections from the members, Chairman Grimes, adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Johnny Grimes
Board Chair



Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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