



State of Alabama
The Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors

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MINUTES
Special/Called Board Meeting
August 7, 2023

The Alabama Board of Electrical Contractors met on Monday, August 7, 2023, at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery, Alabama. Board members in attendance at this special/called meeting were Mr. Jeremy Atchley (Board Chair), Mr. Shon Rogers (Board Vice Chair), Mr. Fred Moore (member), Mr. Theodore Blunt (member), Mr. Johnny Grimes (member), Mr. Terry Wallace (member attending virtually), Mr. Mac McCreless (member), Mr. Robert Lamborne (member), and Mr. Ben Freeman (member attending virtually). Others present were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Mrs. Hendon Coody (Board General Counsel), Mr. Randy Barrows (Board Administrator), Mr. Mike James (Investigator), Mr. Alva Lambert (Liaison), and Ms. Renee' Reames (Recording Secretary).

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Mr. Jeremy Atchley, Board Chair, and following roll call of the members by Mr. Warren, he reported that a quorum was present to conduct business. The special/called 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.

Sunset Committee: Ms. Coody commented about the Board's meeting with the Sunset Committee and the audit findings concerning Provisional licenses issued by the Board. The Board discussed efforts over the past many years to address this matter legislatively and failed attempts by the Legislature to resolve, and the Board being unaware of the legislative temperament to no longer work with the Board in identifying a path for licensure for Provisional licensees. Mr. Warren reported that a proposed resolution by the Board, to be discussed later in the meeting, would be included in all future official correspondence to the Sunset Committee.

Provisional Licensees: Mr. Warren presented a list of Provisional licensees currently licensed with the Board. The Board discussed the licensure activities after the 2010 Law change to license individuals who were currently working as electrical contractors and not licensed by the Board. For unlicensed individuals to become licensed, evidence of having been licensed locally was required to establish a geographical area for continued authority to work. These individuals had not taken a standardized, proctored examination.

The Board discussed developing an examination for Provisional licensees who met the criteria of continuous licensure, waiving the initial examination fee, setting a deadline for examination registration and completion of the examination.

The Board considered licensure for residential and other categories when creating the examination. Ms. Coody reminded the members that the Board did not have jurisdiction to establish electrical categories and would require changes in the Board's statute.

The Board also discussed preparing examination study guides and conducting seminars for licensees to prepare for the examination.

The following criteria was discussed:

- Establish a standardized examination – 2023-2024 Special Electrical Contractors Exam.
- One free examination – no charge to licensee for initial exam, whether licensee appeared for exam or not.
- The licensee pays for successive examinations.
- All Provisional licenses would cease (sunset) as of midnight, June 30, 2024.
- No Provisional license fee charged as of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- All Provisional licenses that expired between July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 would be sunset to June 30, 2024, without charge of a license fee, if CE and other requirements are met.
- Every Provisional licensee must register for the examination no later than January 1, 2024.
- After registering and successfully passing the 2023-24 Special Electrical Contractors' examination, the licensee would be issued statewide EC license expiring 12 months after submitting licensing fee (\$150).

Mr. Warren indicated that he would discuss with PROV developing a standardized exam for Provisional licensees and information would be presented at the next Board meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Moore made the motion to cease collecting any licensing fees and no longer charge \$75 for Provisional licenses as of July 1, 2023, and to sunset all Provisional licenses to June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lamborne and unanimously approved by the members attending in-person, with Mr. Wallace and Mr. Freeman abstaining as members attending virtually.

MOTION: Mr. Grimes made the motion to adopt and approve a nationally, standardized, proctored electrical examination to be given to Provisional licensees that qualify by holding a current Provisional license and have practiced electrical contracting for at least 10 years continuously in the state of Alabama as a Provisional licensee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers and unanimously approved by the members attending in-person, with Mr. Wallace and Mr. Freeman abstaining as members attending virtually.

MOTION: Mr. Rogers made the motion to require examination for Provisional licensees to continue to practice electrical contracting after June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grimes and unanimously approved by the members attending in-person, with Mr. Wallace and Mr. Freeman abstaining as members attending virtually.

MOTION: Mr. Grimes made the motion that all Provisional licensees must pass with 75% or greater to be eligible for the statewide Electrical Contractors license. The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and unanimously approved by the members attending in-person, with Mr. Wallace and Mr. Freeman abstaining as members attending virtually.

MOTION: Mr. Rogers made the motion that the Board would pay the initial examination fee and Provisional licensees would pay for successive examinations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grimes and unanimously approved by the members attending in-person, with Mr. Wallace and Mr. Freeman abstaining as members attending virtually.

MOTION: Mr. Moore made the motion that no Provisional licenses would be renewed after June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers and unanimously approved by the members attending in-person, with Mr. Wallace and Mr. Freeman abstaining as members attending virtually.

MOTION: Mr. Lamborne made the motion that every Provisional licensee would be registered by January 1, 2024, to take the exam and receive a passing score of 75% no later than June 30, 2024, to continue practicing electrical contracting after June 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rogers and unanimously approved by the members attending in-person, with Mr. Wallace and Mr. Freeman abstaining as members attending virtually.

Mr. Freeman left the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Chairman Atchley called a recess of the Board at 12:46 p.m. for 10 minutes.
Chairman Atchley reconvened the Board meeting at 12:55 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Grimes made the motion to repeal 303-X-2-.01(12) and adopt the following as Rule 303-X-2-.01(13):

“No provisional license will be renewed after June 30, 2024. A person who currently holds an active provisional license issued by the board, and has held that license for at least ten (10) years, continuously, may apply to take a nationally standardized proctored examination approved by the board before the current provisional license expires. The board will pay for the first examination for each provisional licensee; if the provisional licensee does not appear for the exam after registering or fails the first exam, they will be responsible for the costs of successive exams. Every provisional licensee must be registered to take the examination no later than January 1, 2024 and must have passed the examination no later than June 30, 2024 to continue to practice electrical contracting after June 30, 2024. All provisional licenses will expire on June 30, 2024. If the provisional licensee passes the board’s examination at a rate of at least 75%, he or she is entitled to receive a state electrical contractor’s license from the board upon payment of the license fee. Practicing electrical contracting in this state without a license issued by the board is a violation of Ala. Code §34-36-16(b).

The motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and unanimously approved by the members attending in-person, with Mr. Wallace abstaining as member attending virtually.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Atchley reminded the members that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board was September 18, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Board’s office.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board had no further business to discuss.

MOTION: Mr. Grimes made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCreless, and having no objections from the members, Chairman Atchley adjourned the meeting at 1:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeremy Atchley
Board Chair



Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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