

Meeting Minutes
ELECTRICAL COMMISSION

Via Microsoft Teams

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January 13, 2022 8:30 A.M. CST

President Lyons called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. JJ Linn, Executive Director called the roll.

Members Present: Sean Lyons, Doug Fuerst, John Hoffman, Tor Sorlien and Russ Vanderwerff.

Others Present: JJ Linn – Executive Director and Roxie Mobley – Office Secretary Graham Oey – Legal Counsel.

The meeting agenda was presented. President Lyons requested additions or comments on the agenda. President Lyons declared the agenda correct as amended.

The July 20, 2021 Commission minutes were presented. President Lyons declared the minutes correct as presented as no comments were received from members.

President Lyons opened the floor to public input. No comments were received.

Inspectors report:

President Lyons requested Director Linn to conduct an inspector update.

- Stan Rogers and Scott Ochsner have resigned.
- An inspector was hired in the Yankton area and resigned in the first week.
- Inspector salaries have been increased in addition to the amount recommended by the legislature and approved in FY 2021. The increases ranged from 17-48%. It is important for the Commission to offer competitive salaries for hiring and the retaining of personnel. Director Linn will continue to attempt to make improvements regarding inspector salaries.
- Joel Hanson has been hired in the Sioux Falls area.
- The Aberdeen district has not been filled and the Commission has not received any qualified applicants for this location. The range of the offering salary has been increased depending on experience. Additional job openings have been posted in multiple areas across the state.

Old Business:

- President Lyons stated there is no old business on the agenda.

New Business:

- None.

Reports:

- The reports for July 2021 to December 2021 were reviewed.

Code Committee Report:

- No pending items at this time.

President's Report:

- No pending items at this time.

Executive Director's Report:

- Director Linn noted the Commission is not current on billing installers for permits that have been fined due to COVID, the loss of a 42-year employee, and the hiring of two new staff of which

all occurred close to or during renewal and an inspection fee increase. The Commission has been diligent to inform licensees multiple times of the delay in billing. Roxie stated we are almost caught up.

- Director Linn informed the members the Commission has started the preliminary process of updating the licensure/permit database. Director Linn will update the Commission on progress and estimated timeline for completion once they have been established.
- Director Linn informed the members the Commission will email license cards starting immediately. The issuance of plastic cards will be discontinued.
- Director Linn informed the members of the change in documentation of continuing education by the Commission: The Commission is no longer keeping track of your continuing education hours. Licensees are required to retain their copies of certificates of completion. The licensee will check a box at renewal stating they have attained the required continuing education to renew. Any licensee may be picked for an audit in the future. Failure to provide the appropriate documentation during the audit may result in disciplinary action. (Disciplinary action includes a fine; suspension, revocation, refusal to issue of a license; or limit the scope of practice.) Starting with the biannual ending 6/30/2022 the commission will request the certificates be submitted when a licensee applies for the next level of licensure. Documentation prior to the 6/30/22 biannual will be kept on file at the Commission (classes remitted to the commission and taken prior to 6/30/20).
- Director Linn stated the Commission office will be moving to 217 W. Missouri Ave, Pierre in February.
- Director Linn reviewed HB 1062. The members instructed Director Linn to monitor HB 1062. If HB 1062 passes, the members unanimously instructed Director Linn to provide the members options to eliminate a homeowner's ability to utilize the exemption for a lot zoned commercial if the issue is not addressed in the updated law or current administrative rule. Oey stated at first glance at the bill and current law/rule it does not appear a homeowner would be able to utilize the exemption for a lot in an area with a commercial zoning. Oey also stated the Commission would be able to pass a rule on the matter if they felt it was needed.

President Lyons noted the next Commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2022.

President Lyons requested comments from the members:

- None noted at this time.

Sorlien made a motion to adjourn the Commission meeting. Hoffman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held. **MOTION PASSED.** (Fuerst-aye, Hoffman-aye, Sorlien-aye, Vanderwerff-aye, Lyons-aye).

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.