

State Board of Electricians 1100 N. Eutaw St. 5th Fl. Baltimore, MD 21201

# STATE BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** June 27, 2023

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** Via Google Meet Video and Teleconference + 321-465-5183

PIN: 457 489 090#

**MEMBERS** 

**PRESENT:** Chet Brown, Chairman

Jose Anderson, Consumer Member Steven Petri Sr., Industry Member Francis Harrison, Consumer Member Donald Steinman, Industry Member Walter Irvin, Industry Member William Smith, Industry Member

**MEMBERS** 

**ABSENT:** Gregg Kaderabek

**STAFF** 

**PRESENT:** John Bull, Executive Director, Mechanical Boards

John Dove, Commissioner, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing

Sloane Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General Johnston Brown, Administrative Specialist III

Danielle Anderson, Web and Outreach Coordinator, MD Dept. of Labor

**OTHERS** 

PRESENT: None

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Brown called the Business Meeting of the Maryland State Board of Electricians to Order at 10:21 a.m.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Petri moved to approve the May 23, 2023, Board meeting minutes. Mr. Irvin seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

## **COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Petri reported the following results of the Complaint Committee Meeting:

| Closed  | <b>Criminally Charged</b> | <b>Pre-Charge</b> |
|---------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 23-0013 | 23-0005                   | 23-0012           |
| 23-0018 |                           | 23-0002           |
| 23-0021 |                           | 23-0004           |
|         |                           | 23-0019           |

The Committee agreed to delegate authority to Director Bull to pursue a settlement of minor, civil offenses to include a reprimand and a \$1,500 civil monetary penalty. Counsel advised that the Board's statutory authority was the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$5,000.00 per violation pursuant to Business Occupations and Professions Article, § 6-608(d), Maryland Annotated Code.

A Motion to approve the report of the Complaint Committee was made by Mr. Steinman and seconded by Mr. Irvin. The Board voted unanimously to approve the report of the Complaint Committee.

# **APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT**

Chairman Brown reported that four (4) master license applications were reviewed, with three (3) having been approved, one (1) having been denied.

Mr. Petri moved to accept the Application Review Committee report, which was seconded by Mr. Steinman. The Board voted unanimously to accept the Committee's report.

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER REPORT

Mr. Steinman accepted a CEU Provider for five (5) CE hours. Mr. Anderson motions to accept the report, Mr. Petri seconds, motion passed.

### **EXAM CHALLENGES REPORT**

No exam challenges were submitted.

# REVIEW OF EXAMINATION STATISTICS AND LICENSE TOTALS

PSI exams submitted the following statistical summaries for the month of May 2023:

| Exam Type   | Tested | Passed | Failed | Pass Rate % |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|
| Master      | 35     | 6      | 29     | 17%         |
| Electrician |        |        |        |             |
| Journeyman  | 6      | 2      | 4      | 33%         |
| Electrician |        |        |        |             |
| Total       | 41     | 8      | 33     | 20%         |

Director Bull also reported the year-to-date totals of 2023, there were 209 candidates tested, with 55 passing and 154 failing, for a pass rate of 26%. Since the inception of the test there were 7,146 candidates tested, with 2074 passing, and 5072 failing, for a pass rate of 29%.

Mr. Petri asked Director Bull if the breakdown for Journeyman could be provided. Director Bull stated that he will send the journeyperson statistics to Mr. Petri after the meeting. Mr. Bull stated that starting at the July 2023 Board meeting, he will break down the master and journeyperson statistics.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None to be considered.

### OLD BUSINESS

### Reciprocal License Agreement Update

Per Director Bull, Virginia has accepted the reciprocal licensing agreement for master and journeyperson licensure and the Secretary's Office has approved it. Director Bull stated he expects to have two copies of the agreement executed by Chairman Brown after the meeting. The agreements will be forwarded to the Virginia Board and will be signed at their next Board meeting, returning one executed copy to the Maryland Board and retain one. The Board will then accept journey level licensees from Virginia and vice versa, which includes Virginia Apprenticeship programs.

Director Bull reported that the Delaware Board is also close to signing a reciprocal licensing agreement. However, it must wait until a new Executive Director is installed as the Acting Executive Director does not want to enter into the negotiating process, so the Delaware Board await the appointment of a new Executive Director.

The West Virginia State Fire Marshall Office has the reciprocal licensing agreement and is still reviewing it with their legal team.

### Onsite Wastewater Management Update

Director Bull stated that he has not received approval of the Secretary's Office rto send the Board's Onsite Wastewater letter to local jurisdictions, but he will send a reminder through Commissioner Dove. Director Bull is in process of putting together the next edition of the Mechanical Newsletter for all the Mechanical Boards. He will submit an article on the status of this matter in the Newsletter. Danielle Anderson confirmed that the Newsletter will be forwarded to all the jurisdictions and all the licensees of every Mechanical Board.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Regulatory Amendment of COMAR 09.09.01.03—Fees

Director Bull asked the Board to update its fee schedule to make fees non-refundable. He explained that current fees have not covered Board expenses over the past couple of years and had to borrow money from other Mechanical Boards. Chairman Brown asked what other Mechanical Boards are doing regarding fees. Director Bull stated that all the other Boards have been or will be asked to approve proposed action to make fees non-refundable. In addition, Director Bull reminded the Board of regulatory changes required to correct references to license fees that were statutorily amended by recent legislation.

Mr. Harrison moved to take proposed action to amend COMAR 09.09.01.03 pending the approval of the Secretary's office; Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, the Board approved proposed action on COMAR 09.09.01.03.

### Regulatory Amendment of COMAR 09.09.02.01—Continuing Education Requirements

Counsel explained a regulatory amendment to amend continuing education requirements for uninsured electricians who wish to be insured to work. Director Bull requested that the Board approve proposed action on COMAR 09.09.02.01.

Mr. Smith moved to propose action to adopt amendments to COMAR 09.09.02.01; Mr. Steinman seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Bull discussed a proposal that the Mechanical Board Chairs meet periodically to discuss topics that affect multiple boards and to share information and common issues of interest to the Mechanical Boards. Mr. Anderson suggested the Commissioner be invited to sit in at the proposed meeting.

Director Bull discussed his participation in a meeting held by the Secretary's Office to discuss the direction and strategies of occupational and professional licensing boards. Director Bull reported that he discussed the work of the Mechanical Boards to update reciprocal licensing agreements with neighboring states and the promotion of apprenticeship programs.

#### **COUNSEL'S REPORT**

None offered.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

None offered.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board did not convene in closed session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Steinman, and unanimously carried to adjourn the June 27, 2023, business meeting at 11:21 a.m.

| Signature on file               | 7/25/23          |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| John Bull                       | <br>Date         |
| <b>Executive Director</b>       |                  |
| As voted and approved by the Bo | oard on: 7/25/23 |