

**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & TRAINING
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF ELECTRICIANS
1511 PONTIAC AVENUE
Building 70 – 2nd Floor Conference Room
Cranston, RI 02920**

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2007

In attendance William Lepore, Jr., Chairperson

Glenn Dusablon

Stanley Davies

Frank Benell, Jr.

Keith Burlingame

Ronald Racine

Allen Durand

Kathy Serrecchia

Those not in attendance: Herbert Joslin

Mr. Lepore, Chairperson, called to meeting to order at 9:35a.m. Mr. Lepore asked if the Board had reviewed the minutes from the February 21, 2007 meeting and if there were any comments in regard to the minutes. Frank Bennell made a motion to approve the minutes

and Keith Burlingame seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

There were no hearings scheduled for today.

Adelita Orefice, Director addressed the Board:

Adelita Orefice, Director of the Department of Labor and Training addressed the Electrical Board.

The Director would like to have vacancies filled for the Workforce Development office, and the Trade Occupation Boards at the Department of Labor and Training. The Director would like to have reappointments and vacancies filled first. She would like to dispel any and all myths the public may have about us. She would like to advertise for the Trades and also be able to advertise the trade on the Web site. Once resumes are submitted, the Director would like to have a nominating committee to review applications, to interview and to make recommendations to the board members to determine the best candidate and give other Board members a chance to resign, if they desire, or be re-elected to the Board, and also have an opportunity to recruit other people. Once resumes are submitted and reviewed, and the candidate chosen, there will be specific training to each trade on ethnic training, when is the time to go into Executive Board and when not to, and to have an all around training for everyone, including refresher courses for professional development

and hopefully to help strengthen our legal force so that there is less litigation, and by having the training, to specifically hold better hearings across the boards within all the trades. Director and the boards will be looking at people who are motivated to serve, who are qualified.

-2-

She is looking to fill vacancies for expired terms and regular vacancies that currently exist on the Boards. She would like the trade boards to be consistent.

The Director is looking into ways that we can strengthen the apprenticeship program. She also reiterated the fact that the 1 to 1 ratio is legally in the laws (Article 10) and is enforceable for 60 days and already exists on the apprenticeship program and this is on hold for now so that public hearings can be made to see what the appropriate ratio is and is currently working on revising the addendum to this ratio. A consultant will be coming in April for the Apprenticeship Program to do a survey of what we currently do compared to what other states do and how we can extend the program and make it better. It was mentioned to the Board by the Director that there should be an Executive meeting where the client comes in and pleads his/her case and then leaves the room for the

Board to conclude the findings of fact and come up with a decision and then have the client come back into the room. Director also suggested coming up with orientation packets for new board members. Allen Durand brought up the fact that he applied and sent in an application for the Telecommunication's Board and he did not get an appointment/interview. The Director stated that she is waiting for things from the Governor's office and that the Director has to go by advice and the consent from the Senate's office. Director suggested that her door is always open for suggestions in making the trade boards more professional in hearings, and any other questions pertaining to the training should be placed on a list and brought to her attention. She would eventually like businesses, unions and workforce come together to increase a need for more skilled, experienced people who would be working in the trades. Questions were brought up by Ronald Racine in regards to changing the test questions which the Director stated should be put on a list for the training.

Glen Dusablon brought up the fact that he is short an electrical position, but the Director stated that there is a budget crisis and she already had to give up a position so that a person would not get laid off.

Other Business:

Glenn Dusablon mentioned an issue that came up concerning

5-6-24-1 Apprentices Certified by Other States (Reciprocal Apprentices) from our last board meeting.

Discussion was made concerning the ability under law for a Massachusetts reciprocal apprentice that has completed this program in Massachusetts, but has not passed the Massachusetts licensing test, if he can continue as a reciprocal apprentice in Rhode Island. The Rhode Island law requests confirmation of current schooling prior to a Rhode Island renewal, which Glen provided. The information was passed out to Board members and since Justin Masse could not pass the test in Massachusetts and has completed the program, he is not enrolled in school. He is not a journeyman and that he can't enroll as an apprentice in Rhode Island if he is not an apprentice in Massachusetts. Allen Durand made a motion that Justin Masse does not qualify and Keith Burlingame seconded the motion. All other members were in favor.

There was no other further business.

Motion to adjourn was made by Stanley Davies, and Keith Burlingame seconded the motion. All members were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 11:05.

The next meeting of the Electrician's Board will be April 18, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. in Building 70, Department of Labor and Training, second floor conference room, Cranston, RI 02920.

Respectively submitted by Elaine J. Heiss, March 21, 2007