

Meeting Minutes: Board of Electricity

Date: January 11, 2022
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Location: WebEx Event

Members Present

1. Alfreda Daniels
2. Cole Funseth
3. Sarah Gudmunson
4. Duane Hendricks – Chair
5. Steve Haiby
6. Mike Hanson
7. Jeff Heimerl
8. Dean Hunter – CO’s Designee
9. Todd Huttner
10. Peter Lindahl – Vice-Chair
11. Travis Thul
12. Desiree Weigel – Secretary

DLI Staff & Visitors

Jeff Lebowski (Gen. Counsel, DLI)
Lyndy Logan (DLI)
Charlie Durenberger (DLI)
Steve Dudley (DLI)
Todd Green (DLI)
Barbara Conti (Commerce)
Michelle Dreier (MN Electrical Assn.)
Nick Erickson (Housing First)
David Frary (IBEW 292)
Adam Hanson (MN/ND ABC)
Nicholas Judge (IBEW 110)
Andy Snope (IBEW 292)
John Williamson

Members Absent

None

1. Call to Order

- A. **Roll Call:** Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken by Secretary Weigel and a quorum was declared with 12 of 12 voting members present via WebEx.
- B. **Announcements/Introductions – Chair Hendricks**
 - Remote Meeting Statement: Thank you for joining this remote meeting via WebEx. As the board chair, I have determined today’s meeting is via the WebEx platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.021, of the Open Meeting Law, electronic meetings are acceptable when an in-person meeting is “not practical or prudent because of a health pandemic or an emergency declared under Chapter 12.” It is not practical or prudent to hold an in-person meeting because, consistent with MDH guidance, the usual meeting place is not open to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - All handouts discussed and WebEx instructions are posted on the Board’s website at: <https://www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/board-electricity>
 - Everyone present on this WebEx can hear all discussions; all votes will be taken by roll call.
- C. WebEx instructions and procedures were read aloud.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Heimerl, seconded by Lindahl, to approve the agenda as presented. The roll call vote was unanimous with 12 votes in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

3. **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Lindahl, seconded by Heimerl, to approve the October 12, 2021, regular meeting minutes as presented. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor of the motion and one abstention (Haiby); the motion carried.

4. **Regular Business**

- A. **Expense Approval** – Lyndy will review, sign, and send per diems to Financial Services for approval/payment.
- B. **Enforcement & licensing update** – Charlie Durenberger provided [enforcement/licensing handouts](#) and gave a brief update.
- C. **Inspection update** – Hunter summarized the [electrical permits/inspection handouts](#).

5. **Special Business**

- A. [NERA Update](#) – Steve Dudley
 - Dudley said to disregard COVID updates due to ongoing changes.
 - Discussion on providing multi-language exams: Lebowksi commented that there is no state law in Minnesota requiring these particular exams to be presented in alternate languages and that adding that requirement would most likely be beyond the statutory authority of the Board and would require a statutory change.
 - Discussion on bringing in new municipal members into NERA: Lebowksi commented that Minnesota reciprocity is statutorily authorized for state entities only and that a statutory change would be needed to recognize municipal or local jurisdictions.
 - Dudley said no other states have reached out regarding reciprocity – if he receives anything he will turn this information over to the Board.
- B. 2023 NEC Update – Dean Hunter
 - Hunter said ballots were due by Dec. 21, 2021, on the second draft. The correlating committee will review the 2nd draft in February and then it will go public in early spring 2022. There are a few other steps in the process; however, to review the document Hunter said a committee may need to be established at the next meeting to discuss/review prior to the board’s annual meeting (July 2022).
- C. Sherco Development Project update
Lebowksi said the department was able to reach out to the Vice President of Corporate Development at Xcel and verified that the project is fully constructed, owned, and operated by Xcel and would meet the utility exemption.

6. **Committee Reports**

Construction Codes Advisory Council (CCAC)

Daniels said the CCAC met on September 23, 2021 – [View the presentation here](#).

7. **Complaints**

No complaints

8. **Open Forum**

No discussion

Desiree Weigel departed the meeting resulting in 11 voting members.

9. Board Discussion

10. Announcements

Next regularly scheduled meeting – 9:00 a.m., WebEx/In-person – TBD

- April 12, 2022

11. Adjournment

A motion was made by Hunter, seconded by Haiby, to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 a.m. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Desiree Weigel

Desiree Weigel
Secretary

Green meeting practices

The State of Minnesota is committed to minimizing environmental impacts by following green meeting practices. DLI is minimizing the environmental impact of its events by following green meeting practices. DLI encourages you to use electronic copies of handouts or to print them on 100% post-consumer processed chlorine-free paper, double-sided.