

BOARD OF ELECTRICIANS AND PLUMBERS
Professional and Vocational Licensing Division
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Tuesday, May 29, 2012

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: King Kalakaua Conference Room
King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, 1st Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Present: Lindsey Kimura, Public Member, Chair
Maurice Torigoe, Industry Member, Vice Chair
Peter Akamu, Industry Member
Matt Brady, Industry Member
Randall Kaya, Public Member
Vernon Ta'a, Public Member
Rodney J. Tam, Deputy Attorney General
Charlene L.K. Tamanaha, Executive Officer
Christine Hironaka, Secretary

Excused: Morris Kaneshiro, Industry Member

Guests: Troy Silva – Hawaii Electrical Market Enhancement Program (“HEMEP”)
Ryan Takahashi – HEMEP
Harold McDermott – Plumbers Union Local 675
James Drumgold – Laborers Union 368
David Yokoi – Bowman Connectivity Solutions, Inc. (“BCS”)
Al Itamoto – Electrical Contractors Association of Hawaii (“ECAH”)
Peter Lee – Hawaii Laborers Employers Cooperation & Education Trust
 (“LECET”)

Agenda: The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, as required by section 92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”).

Call to Order: There being a quorum present, Vice-Chairperson Torigoe called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Additions/
Revisions to
the Agenda: None

Approval of
the Minutes:

It was moved by Vice-Chairperson Torigoe, seconded by Mr. Akamu, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2012 Board meeting as circulated.

Executive
Officer's Report:

- a. Office of Information Practices
None.
- b. Ethics Commission
None
- c. Board Policies and Procedures
None.
- d. Other
None.

Examinations:

- a. The Executive Officer distributed the following results of the Electricians' and Plumbers' examination:

Electricians' Exam (administered May 2012)

	<u>EJ</u>	<u>ES</u>	<u>EJI</u>	<u>ESI</u>	<u>EJS</u>	<u>ESS</u>	<u>EM</u>
Exams Administered	64	4	5	0	6	1	3
Successful	40	1	2	0	3	1	1
Unsuccessful	24	3	3	0	3	0	2

Plumbers' Exam (administered May 2012)

	<u>PJ</u>	<u>PM</u>
Exams Administered	24	0
Successful	11	0
Unsuccessful	13	0

- b. Prometric fka Thomson Prometric Report/Announcements
None.

Appearances: None

Chairperson Kimura announced he was taking the agenda out of order to address # 9, Unfinished Business, and # 12, Scope.

Unfinished
Business:

a. Rule Revisions

1. Local 675/PAMCA Proposal to Amend HAR §§16-80-2 and 16-80-3

This issue was deferred to the next meeting.

b. Implementation of Act 35 Update

The Executive Officer stated the Honolulu Community College was ready with the syllabi for the electrician's education component and will be submitting the academic coursework to the Board for review.

c. Proposed Amendment to the Honolulu City & County Plumbing Code

The Executive Officer reported that she has yet to hear whether revisions to the plumbing code clarifying that both a contractor's license (C-37) and a journey worker's license (PJ or PM) are required to contract for and to perform plumbing work.

Scope:

a. Re: Electrician License

The Board reviewed the email from the Department of Human Resources Development ("DHRD") asking if there is a hierarchy of licensure in terms of scope of practice for electricians.

A prior Board decision determined that low voltage work can be performed by all classes; however, electrical devices that are plugged in do not require a license.

The DHRD email contained several questions and the Executive Officer provided the following responses.

Q1: If someone works on low voltage, they would minimally require a Journey Worker Specialty Electrician (EJS) license. Could someone with either a Journey Worker Electrician (EJ), Journey Worker Industrial Electrician (EJI), Supervising Electrician (ES), Supervising Industrial Electrician (ESI) or Supervising Specialty Electrician (ESS) license also perform such work?

A1: Yes.

I assume that someone with a Maintenance Electrician (EM) license cannot perform such work.

They may if the work is electrical maintenance work keeping in repair and operation of any and all existing electrical installations, apparatus, and equipment, and any extensions to these installations, apparatus, and equipment that do not exceed one branch circuit capacity for each specific extension; provided that electrical maintenance work shall not include new installations; new branch circuit wiring; additions or modifications to any existing electrical installations, apparatus, and equipment; repairs to electrical service equipment; or any other work that requires a building or electrical permit from the counties; and provided further that any replacements of existing electrical installations, apparatus, and equipment shall be done with the same electrical fixtures, devices, and equipment.

Q2: So, is it safe to assume that if someone has a license at a 'higher' level than is required, they could also perform the work, based on the hierarchy below?

JW Electrician (EJ) - highest level; can do all types of electrical work.

Supvlg Electrician (ES) - highest level; can do all types of electrical work.

JW Industrial Electrician (EJI) - can do industrial electrical work, and everything below.

Supvlg Industrial Electrician (ESI) - can do industrial electrical work, and everything below.

JW Specialty Electrician (EJS) – can-also do maintenance electrical work.

Supvlg Specialty Electrician (ESS) - can also do maintenance electrical work.

Maintenance Electrician (EM) - lowest level; can only do this kind of electrical work.

A2: JW Electrician (EJ) - highest level; can do all types of electrical work. **(OK)**

Supvlg Electrician (ES) - highest level; can do all types of electrical work. **(OK)**

JW Industrial Electrician (EJI) - can do industrial electrical work and everything below. **(OK)**

Supvlg Industrial Electrician (ESI) - can do industrial electrical work, and everything below. **(OK)**

JW Specialty Electrician (EJS) – **No**, can only perform electrical wiring or maintenance work on installations or equipment limited to 50 volts or less.

Supvlg Specialty Electrician (ESS) – **No**, can perform electrical wiring or maintenance work on installations equipment using 50 volts or less.

Maintenance Electrician (EM) - lowest level; can only perform electrical maintenance work which includes maintenance work on low voltage installations.

Q3: If someone is a *working supervisor* over journey worker electrical work, they need to have a Supervising Electrician (ES) license?

A3: No. They need at least an EJ license because an EJ can supervise another EJ.

Q4: If someone supervises maintenance electrical work, they can have any of the licenses higher than the EM?

A4: Except EJS/ESS (because this is strictly low voltage). The maintenance electrician may do work on 110v which is higher than the EJS (50 v) and an EM can supervise another EM.

After review, it was moved by Mr. Akamu, seconded by Mr. Kaya and unanimously carried to accept the responses with additional clarification.

b. Inquiry from Clark A. Tyler, TG Electric LLC regarding license requirements for Smart Meter Installations.

The Board reviewed Mr. Tyler's memorandum dated May 22, 2012 that questions the Board's informal and unbinding opinion to Utility Partners of America, LLC ("UPA"), that the proposed work of removing old meters and installing new "Smart Meters" did not require licensure in accordance with HRS chapter 448E. The memo also states that "The work described is covered in the definition of "electrical work" as stated in Hawaii Administrative Rules section 16-80-3, and is within the scope and purpose of the National Electrical Code ("NEC"), furthermore, the inherent safety risks to the public, the worker, and properties associated with this work being performed on energized circuits would require a qualified person trained in NEC and related National Fire Protection Association ("NFPA") 70E (Standards for Electrical Safety in the Workplace), which would at minimum require licensure in accordance with HRS chapter 448E."

The Executive Officer stated that the Board based their decision on the premise that if there is no wiring involved, no license is required and Utility Partners of America, LLC ("UPA") stated that if there is a problem, they would contact the utility company.

Mr. Akamu stated that problems will most likely occur in older meters (e.g., corrosion) and only an individual that has had safety training will be able to recognize hazardous conditions.

The Board and guests viewed the Smart Meter Installation video provided by Mr. Tyler. Mr. Akamu stated that Mr. Tyler also submitted a bid for the Kauai Utility installation of Smart Meters.

Mr. Itamoto stated that according to the NFPA 70E, the installer should be wearing personal protective equipment ("PPE"), but the individual in the video is only wearing gloves.

Mr. Akamu stated that the meter is a standard piece of equipment. The Executive Officer asked that if the installer is not a licensed electrician, will the installer be able to recognize a potential problem? Deputy Attorney General Tam advised the Board to request from Kauai Utility a description of the installation of the Smart Meters. Mr. Takahashi stated that the installation can be interpreted from the description UPA submitted but the safety standards still apply.

After further discussion, it was moved by Mr. Akamu, seconded by Mr. Brady, and unanimously carried to defer the Board's opinion until more information is obtained on the project, Kauai Utility's oversight of UPA, and the level of training for Kauai Utility employees.

Chairperson Kimura announced he was resuming the order of the agenda.

Mr. Kaya left the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

New Business: None.

Correspondence: None.

Legislation: None

Executive Session: It was moved by Mr. Akamu, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Torigoe, and unanimously carried to enter into executive session pursuant to HRS sections 92-4 and 92-5, to consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities at 12:04 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Akamu, seconded by Vice-Chairperson Torigoe, and unanimously carried to reconvene to the Board's regular order of business at 12:04 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Akamu, seconded by Mr. Brady, and unanimously carried to request Jason Jacinto who was approved to take the EJI exam but passed the EJ exam, to submit a resume

of his work experience (a list of projects) that details the electrical jobs and projects that verifies commercial and residential wiring for an EJ license.

Applications:

It was moved by Mr. Brady, seconded by Mr. Akamu, and unanimously carried to **approve/defer** the following applications as noted:

a. ELECTRICIANS

1. Journey Worker Electrician ("EJ") – Approved

BAUM, Keith M.
COSTALES, Shaun K.
CRABBE, Ian G. K.
FORD, Jethro D.
FREDDINO IV, Carney L.
GUTIERREZ, Brenden
HUDSON, Jason K.
KIM, Allen Y.
KIM, Jong H.
MAKEKAU, Darrin K.
MALACAS, Renee G.
MEREDITH, Francis P .
NEILL III, Peter C.
OMEROD, Ronald A.
PASCUAL, Kimo
RICKETSON, Kipling J.
SAMESHIMA, Kevin M.
SCHAEFFER, James L.
SOARES, William A.
YOUNG-OSBORNE, Thomas J. H.

2. Supervising Electrician ("ES") – Approved

OSHIRO, Keith M.
WHITING, Scot W.

3. Journey Worker Industrial Electrician ("EJI") - Approved

GUBICH, Randell S.
OLSEN, Jonathan K.

4. Supervising Industrial Electrician ("ESI") - Approved

None.

5. Journey Worker Specialty Electrician ("EJS") - Approved

AGARAN, Adrian I.T.

6. Supervising Specialty Electrician (“ESS”)

None

7. Maintenance Electrician (“EM”) - Approved

GOMEZ, Jesse M.
MIGUEL, Jefferson L. P.

b. PLUMBERS

1. Journey Worker Plumber (“PJ”) – Approved

AUKAI, Brandon-Wallace K.
DENIGRIS, ALFRED L.
EDAYAN, Jerome A.
HOCSON, Turner K.
KANESHIRO, Ryan H. K.
KIMBALL, Ryan
OGAWA, Thomas H.
SALVA, Sterling K.
WATSON, Lewis D.
WIRTZ IV, Edward J.

2. Master Plumber (“PM”)

None

b. Deferred Applications

COMPARAN, Hector R. (PJ)
GORDON, Richard A. (EJ)
HEE, Henry K. (PJ)
HOLDT, Shawn P. (PM)
JACINTO, Jason (EJ)
LONG, Daniel T. (EJS)
PRUSINSKI, Kevin G. (EJ)
RECTOR, Ron (EJ)
SMITH, Cameron S. (PM)
TANAKA, Ken K. (EJ)
THOMPSON, Michael G. (ESS)
UEMOTO, Christopher (EJ)
USITA, Barry G. (EJ)
WATERHOUSE, Guy D. (PJ)

d. Denials

None

e. Renewals

None.

New Business: None.

Correspondence: None

Announcement: a. Next Applications Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 14, 2012
9:30 a.m.
King Kalakaua Conference Room
King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, 1st Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

b. Next Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 14, 2012
10:30 a.m.
King Kalakaua Conference Room
King Kalakaua Building
335 Merchant Street, 1st Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Adjournment: There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Review and approved by:

Taken by:

/s/ Charlene L.K. Tamanaha
Charlene L.K. Tamanaha
Executive Officer

/s/ Christine Hironaka
Christine Hironaka
Secretary

CLKT:cmh

6/29/12

[X] Minutes approved as is.
[] Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of _____.