

MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM

**OKALOOSA COUNTY ELECTRICAL COMPETENCY BOARD
MINUTES
January 5, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Okaloosa County Electrical Competency Board was held Thursday, January 5, 2012, 3:00 PM, at the Okaloosa County Water & Sewer Administration Building, third floor Large Conference Room, 1804 Lewis Turner Blvd., Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Board members in attendance were Brent Smith, Bill Sullivan, Kenneth King, Jeff Linn, Debra Ripley, Robert Garcia, and Ellis Boudreaux. Joel Richardson was not in attendance.

Growth Management staff in attendance were Renée Lucas, License Specialist; and Teresa Mullins, Administrative Assistant II.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Brent Smith called the meeting to order.

A. Roll Call

Teresa Mullins took roll call.

II. ACKNOWLEDGE GUESTS

Chairman Smith acknowledged the guests.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 4, 2011

Motion to approve the minutes made by Robert Garcia, seconded by Kenneth King; approved unanimously.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Low Voltage Information

Renée Lucas stated that staff members have not received any comments from any of the Board Members regarding low voltage permitting to date and reminded the Board that they could email suggestions to staff.

Ms. Lucas reminded the Board that Mr. Patterson's last probation appearance would be at the February meeting at which time his probation will expire. She noted that if there are no applicants for that meeting, Mr. Patterson will be the only agenda item.

A brief discussion ensued.

Ms. Lucas asked the Board to move the discussion of Mr. Patterson to the end of New Business on the agenda to allow the requests of the applicants attending to be heard.

Chairman Smith agreed that the discussion should take place after the applicants present are heard.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Swearing in Applicants/ Speakers

Ms. Mullins swore in the applicants.

b. Candidates for Testing

1. Stephen L. Harakal – Master Electrical

Mr. Harakal was present.

The Board had no questions for Mr. Harakal.

Motion to approve Mr. Harakal for testing made by Robert Garcia; seconded by Kenneth King; approved unanimously.

2. William Russell, Jr. – Residential Electrical

Ms. Lucas informed the board that, although Mr. Russell's experience qualified him for Master Electrical, the person who signed his experience affidavit was a Licensed Residential Electrical Contractor so Mr. Russell is limited to a Residential Electrical license.

Mr. Russell was present and answered questions from the board.

A brief discussion ensued.

Motion to approve Mr. Russell for testing made by Kenneth King; seconded by Jeff Linn; approved unanimously.

c. John Patterson discussion

Ms. Lucas stated that Mr. Patterson has met all of the Board's requirements so far and he has recently purchased permits. She further stated that there have been no complaints, but if 3 complaints are received regarding Mr. Patterson's work or business practices he will be brought back before the Board as required by the Ordinance.

A brief discussion ensued.

Motion that we drop his probation effective today made by Bob Garcia; seconded by Debra Ripley; approved unanimously.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Before proceeding with the other business Ms. Lucas presented the Board with a hand-out detailing the Sunshine Law. She stated that she wanted to begin the New Year by making sure the Board members understand all the requirements of the law and explained the requirements, noting that Board members can always talk to staff freely if they want more information regarding any applicant or case before them.

a. Chairman/Vice-Chairman Election

Chairman Smith opened the floor for nominations/motions for the office of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Motion to retain Brent as Chairman made by Jeff Linn; seconded by Bill Sullivan; approved unanimously.

Motion to retain Joel Richardson as Vice-Chairman made by Kenneth King; seconded by Bob Garcia; approved unanimously.

Bill Sullivan requested that the Board discuss the Low Voltage issue. He stated that he is primarily concerned with the commercial side due to the complexity of the data networks.


A discussion ensued.

Mr. Sullivan was directed by the Board to meet with the Building Official to discuss the issue and bring what he learns back to the Board.

Ms. Lucas again reminded the Board Members that there are currently two vacancies on the Board, of which, one must be an Electrical Contractor and the other a Consumer Representative. Ms. Lucas further stated that the Electrical Contractor must have been licensed with the County for at least 5 years, must have a current Competency Card and have no open code violations, and the Consumer Representative must not be licensed or involved in the trade.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kenneth King to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Bob Garcia; approved unanimously, approved unanimously.

Prepared by: 
Teresa A. Mullins, Recording Secretary