

WORCESTER COUNTY ELECTRICAL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
October 10, 2023

The Worcester County Electrical Board met on Tuesday October 10, 2023 in the meeting room of the Government Center Building, One West Market Street Room 1102, Snow Hill, MD 21863. Members present were Kenny Lambertson, Chairman, Carl Smith, Roy Case, Duane Duncan, Steve Kolarik, Jeffrey Novak and Michael Patchett Members. As well as Roscoe Nelson, County attorney, Deputy Director of DRP, Laurie Campbell, Document Imaging and Deborah Mooney, License Permit Clerk III. In attendance was also Bill Bradshaw, Building Administrator, Ronald and Leslie Chrisner, Adam Smith of First State Inspection Agency, Kevin Hawke and Joseph Halferty of United Inspection Agency.

The meeting was called to order by Kenny Lambertson chairman, at 3:01 PM.

The minutes of the last meeting held on April 11, 2023 and the agenda for this meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Carl Smith to accept, and Jeffrey Novak seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried to approve the minutes and agenda, as presented.

The following is the Treasurer's Report to be included in the minutes:

April:

69 permits were issued in April \$1725.00 for electrical permits, \$600.00 for electrical registrations and \$25 for exams. Total for April is \$2350.00. Subject to confirmation by department.

May:

92 permits were issued in May \$2275.00 for electrical permits and \$340.00 for electrical registrations. Total for May is \$2615.00. Subject to confirmation by department.

June:

127 permits were issued in June \$3175.00 for electrical permits and \$600.00 for electrical registrations. Total for June is \$3775.00. Subject to confirmation by department.

July:

71 permits were issued in July \$1775.00 for electrical permits, \$340 for registrations. The Board approved via email a Limited registration for low voltage, 50V or less, cable, alarms, music, tv and camaras for Melvin Bowen Jr., he reciprocated with Howard County. Total for July was \$2115.00.

August:

97 permits were issued in August \$2425.00 for electrical permits, \$400.00 for registrations. Total for August was \$2825.00.

September:

59 permits were issued in September \$1450.00 for electrical permits, \$200.00 for registrations. Total for September was \$1650.00.

After the treasurer's report the meeting moved on to Old Business. There being no Old Business the Board moved on to New Business.

New Business:

The first item of new business, the Board reviewed a complaint filed by Mrs. Leslie Chrisner against Mr. Duane Duncan, electrical inspector for First State Inspection Agency in reference to the electrical work done at her residence 106 Park Side Place in Ocean Pines Md 21811. The chairman, Mr. Lambertson read her complaint and the list of electrical items that John Palmer, Commercial – Service Estimator Project Advisor of Hawkins Electric provided her. The chairman went through the list individually and explained the code violation if there was one and gave the correct code reference numbers. Mrs. Chrisner addressed the board stating that she felt unsafe in her home with the electrical issues and was very unhappy at how the work was performed. After addressing each item on the complaint list with much discussion it was decided that Mr. J.T. Novak will go on Thursday to investigate the issues and report back to the Board with his findings at the next meeting. Mrs. Chrisner just wants the violations addressed. After all of the details of the complaint were dispensed with, Mr. Lambertson informed Mrs. Chrisner that Mr. Palmer of Hawkins Electric Services does not hold an electrical license with the state of Md and a Worcester County registration. Both of those are required to do electrical work in Worcester County. Mr. Palmer also does not hold an inspector's registration for Worcester County as well. The Board does take lightly when individuals do such inspections without the proper qualifications. Deborah Mooney will send Mrs. Chrisner a list of Worcester County approved electricians that have the proper credentials. A motion was made to table this complaint until the next meeting, so that J.T. Novak could investigate the complaints, have the approved construction plans presented, and ask Gregg Smith the electrician who did the work to appear to answer some questions about the electrical work performed. J.T. Novak motioned to table the complaint until the next meeting and Carl Smith seconded the motion the vote was unanimous.

The next item of business was a request from Development, Review and Permitting wanting confirmation from the Board if a ground resistance test is sufficient for proof of bonding on a swimming pool, where a proper bonding inspection was not done. The owner did not get a permit for the pool and now has a permit in house but has not been issued due to verification that the grounding and bonding is acceptable. Mark Adams, Inspector for Middle Department Inspection Agency has been out and signed off on the inspection. As in past incidents where a bonding inspection had failed to be performed, a ground resistance test by a proper testing agency was accepted to prove that the bonding was done. The Board did determine that the owner will need to get a licensed Master electrician with a Worcester county registration to get an electrical permit, upgrade the wiring to the pool equipment, the adjoining spa, and bonding of the fence to meet the requirements of the NEC 2017 code. J.T. Novak motioned to accept the grounding resistance test report conducted for the pool located at 12353 at Southampton Drive, Bishopville, MD. Carl Smith seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Next, the Board reviewed Kevin Hawkins and David Kilroy application to take the Inspectors Exam and if they pass would like to establish a third party inspection agency know as United Inspection Agency. After the Board reviewed both applications Carl Smith motioned to approve both applications to take the exam and Mike Patchett approved the motion. The vote was unanimous to allow them to take the inspector's exam.

Next, the Board reviewed an application for Douglas Damron for a Limited Registration. After reviewing the application the Board could not approve at this time. The Board will invite Mr. Damron to attend the next meeting to ask some questions in regards to the type of electrical work he is doing. Carl Smith motioned to invite Mr. Damron to the next meeting for questioning, and Mike Patchett seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Next, the Board reviewed Michael Riffey's Inspectors exam. Unfortunately, Mr. Riffey did not have a sufficient score to pass the exam. Deborah Mooney will send him a letter to inform him of the results. Mr. Riffey can take the exam again in April if he desires.

Matt Laick the Deputy Director of DRP and Laurie Campbell from Document Imaging went over our electrical registration application going online this year and how it works. The board agreed with the process. J.T. Novak made a motion to accept either a copy of the State of Md electrical license or a snap shot of the State of Md data base on their website as proof of valid licensure with the State of Md. Mike Patchett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

There being no other business to discuss Mike Patchett motioned to adjourn the meeting and Carl Smith seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 4:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah Mooney, License Permit Clerk III
Electrical Board