

Montana Electrical Board
Motions pertaining to National Electrical Code

SENATE BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

TRIBUT NO. 8

DATE 2/10/05

BILL NO. SB 265

4-18-1967

All board members present including John Hale, Director

Cities present – Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Chester, Columbus, Fairfield, Forsyth, Glasgow, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Livingston & Missoula.

“Representatives of the above cities including inspectors, city engineers, councilmen, electrical contractors, mayors & city attorneys had voted to present to the electrical board certain recommendations for consideration – Group spokesman William Geagan, Butte City Attorney – “In keeping with the resolution passed by the MT House of Representatives the following suggestions are made: 1. Set as a minimum standard for the state of Montana the National Electrical Code.”

4-15-1969 / Page titled July 15, 1969

Motion made by Mr. Palmquist, seconded by Mr. Hilley & passed that the State Electrical Board adopt the 1968 National Electrical Code as the minimum standards of safety in Montana.

10-28-1971

The 1971 National Electrical Code discussed & presented to the board for approval. Motion by Palmquist second by Brunell that the 1971 National Electrical Code be adopted as the electrical standards for the state of Montana & be effective 1-15-1972.

10-26-1973

Mr. Sternhagen mentioned that the Building Code Council had adopted the National Electrical Code for the Electrical Board. Mr. Hale stated that they had, but that the Electrical Law provides that the National Electrical Code be the minimum wiring standards & provides for more stringent rules & regulations.

10-11-1974

Mr. Christman moved that the Board adopt the 1975 edition of the National Electrical Code, except as modified in the M.A. code, as the standard by which electrical work shall be performed effective 1-1-1975. Mr. Herriott seconded. Motion carried.

4-21&22-1983

Letter from IBEW 768 regarding conduit installation for low voltage was reviewed by the board. Mr. Olsen moved that since the Electrical Licensing Act does not differentiate between high and low voltage, then conduit work covered by the National Electrical Code must be done by licensed electricians. Seconded by Mr. Bersanti. Motion Carried.

1-31-1985

Letter from Paramount Sound Systems, regarding the installation of sound systems by unlicensed personnel was discussed. Mr. Olsen moved Mr. Powell seconded to inform Paramount Sound Systems that the pulling of all wire & installation of conduit requires a license. Motion carried.

4-25&26-1985

Elver Madsen, Chief Electrical Inspector, came to the meeting to discuss Fergus Electric Co-op. F.E.C. wants to do wiring on outside meter devices & on the outside wiring for their member owners of the co-op. Mr. Powell moved to send them a letter explaining that it is the Board's interpretation that their ownership stops at the meter. A license will be required to do any electrical work outside the meter. Mr. Olsen second and motion carried.

4-20&21-1989

Discussion of Federal lawsuit with Malmstrom Air Force Base. We contend that all individuals operating in Montana should be licensed for protection of the public.

4-12&13-1990

Mr. Justesen moved Mr. Olsen second & carried to send a letter to all state & local inspectors informing them licensing is required for any type of control voltage if it is used in conjunction with higher voltage wiring.

6-17&18-1991

Ron Burke – low voltage controlling higher voltage issue – same result as 4-12&13-1990 meeting.

7-10&11-1997

Communications Systems is requesting, in writing, the requirements for low voltage licensing in regards to 70 volts or less. Motion: A letter will be written stating that we do not require an occupational license in the installation of low voltage wiring, however, installation of raceway systems must be done by a licensed electrical contractor. Chairman Sweet will review the letter for signature. Motion by Mr. Sweet second Mr. Van Diest motion carried.

Northwest Fuel Systems is requesting clarification as to what is required to install low voltage. Mr. Sweet motioned Mr. Kolstad second – Letter be sent stating that a license is not needed to install low voltage wiring. However, a license is needed to install the conduit. Motion passed.

July 1998

IBEW & UA (plumbers) dispute – Motion by Mr. Kolstad second by Mr. Stoddard – Letter to IBEW and Mr. Desjarlais (Mountain States Electric) stating that the board does not get involved with disputes but the board's standing is that all electrical work needs to be done by licensed electrician.

10-21-1999

Liberty Electric letter – Clarification on demolition of electrical work.

Motion Mr. Van Diest second Mr. Wolfe – It is the board decision that ONLY licensed electricians do demolition of any electrical devices or equipment that can be reinstalled for electrical use.

Motion Mr. Van Diest second Mr. Wolfe – Anything covered by the National Electrical Code must be done by licensed electricians. Letter sent to Montana Power Company, Scott Construction, IBEW

4-20-2000

Board motioned that any work that is covered by the National Electrical Code is subject to licensure in the state of Montana.

7-20&21-2000

MT DOT requests clarification as to what is licensed work. Mr. Van Diest to compose a letter for Chairman Stoddard signature stating that "Historically, work done under the protection of the National Electrical Code must be done by licensed personnel."