2003

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MEETING

Minutes of Meeting

The Peabody Hotel
Orlando, FL
October 1, 2003
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcement of Convention Committees</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll Call</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome from Host City</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition of Fellows of the Academy of Electrical Contacting</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval of Previous Minutes</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report of the President</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report of the Secretary-Treasurer</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report and Recommendations of the Chief Executive Officer</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remarks by Mel W. Horton</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remarks by Michael Cullinane</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report of the Governance Task Force</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report on NECA Political Leadership Council</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action On:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaffirm Standing Policy Statements</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Proposal #1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Proposal #2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Election of Member Officers</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announcement of Executive Committee Selection for Vice President At Large</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Peabody Hotel October 1, 2003 Orlando, FL

Chairman: Ben Cook Secretary and Director, Sergeants-at-Arms:
Parliamentarian: Carl Ann Stickeler J. Michael Thompson

Call To Order: Chairman Cook called the regular meeting of the Board of Governors of the National Electrical Contractors Association, Inc. to order at 8:30 a.m. October 1. Mr. Cook welcomed the members of the Board and guests. He explained that the agenda was arranged so that the morning session would be devoted to presentations and an afternoon session devoted to “action” items and the election of officers. Robert’s Rules of Order will govern such discussion as may be desired on these proposals.

The Constitution (Article VI, Section 3) requires that the voting shall be by ballot on elections (where there is more than one candidate), on Proposals to amend the Constitution or Bylaws, or any other matter if requested by any member of the Board of Governors. Each chapter governor has votes as provided in the Bylaws (Article II, Section 4) for members in good standing within that chapter. Effective date of these proposals shall be immediate upon passage unless otherwise indicated.

Board of Governors Convention Committees: President Cook announced that in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the NECA Constitution and Bylaws, he had appointed the following committees to function at the meeting of the Board and during the Convention:

Credentials Committee
Chairman: Dan McCracken, West Texas Chapter
Steve Kohnen, St. Louis Chapter
Tom Curran, Northern California Chapter
Selma Ulrich (Secretary), Bethesda, Maryland

Tellers Committee
Chairman: Bob Mooty, Lubbock, Texas
Bill Birkett, Casper, Wyoming
Bill Tuinstra, Hudsonville, Michigan
Selma Ulrich (Secretary), Bethesda, Maryland
Roll Call: The following is a list of the members of the NECA Board of Governors that were in attendance:

Executive Committee

President: Ben Cook, Brownwood, Texas
Vice President, District 1: Edward T. "Ted" McPhee, Jr., Bristol, Connecticut
Vice President, District 2: Rex A. Ferry, Girard, Ohio
Vice President, District 3: E. Milner Irvin, III, Miami, Florida
Vice President, District 4: Gervase Rose, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Vice President, District 5: Howard D. Hughes, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Vice President, District 6: James E. Mackey, Seattle, Washington
Vice President, District 7: David F. Firestone, Lincoln, Nebraska
Vice President, District 8: William G. Dale, Cheyenne, Wyoming
Vice President, District 9: Robert F. Daoust, Alamo, California
Vice President, District 10: Walter T. Parkes, Victor, New York
Vice President at Large: Robert Egizii, Springfield, Illinois

Chapter and Governor

Alaska .............................................................. James Fullford
Albany .................................................................. Donald Hart
American Line Builders ......................... Richard V. Miller
Arizona ............................................................ Gregory Russell
Arkansas............................................................ Robert Cortese
Atlanta .............................................................. Jarrett D. Hayes
Atlantic Coast .................................................. Joseph Guedri, III
Augusta .............................................................. Tim Mundy
Baton Rouge .................................................... Hermen L. Milton
Boston ............................................................... John A. Penney
California Central Coast ......................... John L. Russell
Cascade ........................................................... Mel A. Buttrum
Central Florida ................................................ Terry W. Davis
Central Illinois ................................................ James E. Gardner
Central Indiana ............................................. M. Thomas Cummins
Central Massachusetts .......................... Jonathan Ostrow
Central Mississippi ...................................... Donald G. Jordan
Central Ohio ..................................................... Charles R. Scherer
Central Texas ................................................... Don B. Kanetzky
Chicago & Cook County ....................... Thomas C. Halperin
Cincinnati ....................................................... Ronald R. Pennington
Connecticut ..................................................... Ian M. Logie
Contra Costa ..................................................... Michael S. Dias, Alt.
Dakotas ............................................................ Gregory A. Rick
East Central California ........................... Shawn Rinehart
East Tennessee ................................................. Robert B. Johnson
Eastern Illinois ................................................. Stephen R. Stump
Eastern Oklahoma ....................................... Alan J. Cook
El Paso .............................................................. Kenneth Henderson, Alt.
Finger Lakes ..................................................... James A. Engler, Jr., Alt.
Florida West Coast ...................................... Frank Carpenter
Georgia ............................................................. Patrick D. McCarthy
Greater Cleveland ....................................... Eugene J. Trela
Greater Sacramento ..................................... Frank E. Schetter
Gulf Coast ......................................................... Adrian Yarbrough
Hudson Valley .................................................. Jeffrey L. Seidel
Idaho ................................................................. Douglas W. Keith
Illinois ............................................................. Richard H. Jakowsky
Inland Empire .................................................. Andrew R. Dahlman
Intermountain ............................................... Tom DeVoge
Iowa ................................................................. John J. Negro, Alt.
Kansas ............................................................. Ron E. Burnhart
Kansas City .................................................... James Lacy
Kern County ..................................................... Richard Traynor
Long Island ..................................................... James T. Giorgio, Sr.
Los Angeles County ....................................... Steve Watts, Alt.
Louisville ....................................................... William B. Lich
Maryland ......................................................... James H. Cornelius
Memphis .......................................................... Claud O. McCrory, III
Michigan ........................................................ Ronald C. Lindberg
Middle Tennessee ........................................ Bertram B. Noll
Milwaukee ....................................................... Gregg B. Eisenhardt
Minneapolis .................................................... Douglas L. Olson
Missouri Valley Line Constructors .......... Jay R. Jack
Montana .......................................................... Richard Zier
Monterey Bay California ......................... Frederick A. Jensen
Nebraska ........................................................ Don Fitzpatrick
New Mexico .................................................... Troy L. Beall
New York City ................................................. Ciro J. Lupo, Alt.
North Central Ohio ........................................ James Abbott
North Florida ................................................... Ron A. Autrey
North Louisiana ............................................. G. Kirk Davis
North Texas ..................................................... Darrell Harwood
Northeast Louisiana ..................................... Garland Meredith
Northeastern Illinois .................................... Craig R. Martin
Northeastern Line Constructors ............ George Troutman
Northern California ...................................... Thomas Curran
Northern Illinois ........................................... David E. Morse
Northern Indiana .......................................... James B. Stouffer
Northern New Jersey ................................. Thomas J. Figliolino, Sr.
Northern New York ...................................... Leo J. Villeneuve
Northwest Line Constructors ................. Donald M. Wilson
Ohio/Michigan ................................................ Dan Saad
Orange County ............................................... Robert L. Douglass
Oregon-Columbia ........................................... Brian N. Christopher
Oregon-Pacific-Cascade ................................. Nathan Philips
Penn-Del-Jersey ............................................. Gabriel Noto
Penn-Ohio ..................................................... David A. Dickey
Puget Sound ................................................. Thomas M. Fairbanks
Red River Valley ............................................ Randy Cox
Redwood Empire ............................................ Ben Cantarutti
Rhode Island & S.E. Massachusetts .................. William O’Rourke
Rochester New York ....................................... Victor Salerno
Rocky Mountain ............................................ John C. Malone
Saguar o ....................................................... John F. Kostyo
St. Louis ..................................................... Stephen Kohnen
St. Paul ...................................................... Robert T. Werden
San Diego County .......................................... David A. Raspolich
San Francisco .............................................. Kenneth A. Paganini
San Joaquin Valley ....................................... Eugene Gini
San Mateo County ......................................... Robert Gonzales
Santa Clara Valley ......................................... Patrick L. Mark
South Florida ............................................. Edward Woodward, Sr.
South Louisiana ........................................... James J. Frischhertz
South Texas .................................................. John M. Gueldner
Southeast Texas ............................................. Charles M. LeBlanc
Southeastern Line Constructors ..................... William H. Green
Southeastern Michigan ................ .................. Clyde Jones
Southern Colorado ....................................... James L. Peterson
Southern Indiana ........................................... Johnny Dyke
Southern Nevada .......................................... Gary R. Sutton, Alt.
Southern New Jersey .................................... Thomas J. McAdam, Jr.
Southern Sierras ........................................... Francis E. Fehlman
Southern Tier .............................................. William G. Emmons, Alt.
Southwest Louisiana .................................... James M. Stark
Southwest Washington ..................................... Jerome S. Geissler
Southwestern Line Constructors .................. Robert A. Asher
Twin Ports-Arrowhead .................................. Jeff D. Tyllia
Washington, DC ........................................... Michael B. Birckhead
West Texas .................................................... Daniel G. McCracken
West Virginia-Ohio Valley .............................. Daniel E. Bane
Western Line Constructors ............................ William Hamlin
Western Massachusetts ................................. Thomas Schmitt
Western New York State ................................ Robert E. Hobba
Western Ohio ................................................ Dennis F. Quebe
Western Oklahoma ....................................... Stephen F. Young
Western Pennsylvania ................................. Robert J. Bruce, Jr.
Wisconsin .................................................. Bruce Companik
Wyoming .................................................... Bob Blackham

International Chapter and Governor
Canadian Electrical Contractors Association, Inc.
Toronto, Ontario, Canada ................................. Rick Lavergne

NECA (Australia) - National Office
Victoria, Australia ........................................ Peter Vandenheuvel

Electrical Contractors Association Queensland
Queensland, Australia .................................. Kev Sellwood

Electrical Contractors Association of New Zealand
Wellington, New Zealand ................................. Murray Hughes

Electrical Contractors Association of Western Australia
Western Australia, Australia ............................. Rocky Mussilino

NECA (Australia) - New South Wales
New South Wales, Australia ............................. Reg Young

NECA (Australia) - South Australia
South Australia, Australia ................................. Peter Vandenheuvel

NECA AMERIC – National Office
Mexico City, Mexico ...................................... Andrés C. Quintana

ACEN NECA Monterrey (Mexico)
Monterrey, Mexico ........................................ Jorge Triana

NECA ACOEO (Guadalajara, Mexico)
Guadalajara, Mexico ..................................... Oscar A. Torres

The following domestic chapters were not represented:
Central Massachusetts
East Central California
Georgia
Missouri Valley Line Constructors Chapter
Northeast Louisiana
Orange County
San Joaquin Valley
South Louisiana
Southwest Washington
Western Massachusetts

The following international chapters were not represented:
NECA (Australia) - New South Wales
Electrical Contractors Association Queensland
Electrical Contractors Association of Western Australia
ACEN NECA MONTERREY (Mexico)
NECA ACOEO (Guadalajara, Mexico)
Welcome from Host City: Terry W. Davis, Governor of the Central Florida Chapter welcomed the governors and guests to Orlando, FL.

Recognition of Fellows of the Academy of Electrical Contracting: Mr. Cook requested that all Fellows stand and be recognized.

Action on Minutes of Previous Meeting:
Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting held in Chicago, IL on October 4 - 5, 2002, were approved.

It was also noted that a special mail ballot was taken in February 2003 to adopt an agreement to authorize NECA to enter into a Voice-Data-Video Agreement with the IBEW. The final vote was 3,033 votes cast for adoption, and 1,969 votes cast against. Therefore, the proposal was passed and the agreement was signed.

Report of the President: Mr. Ben Cook, President presented a report on the state of the association.

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer: Mr. J. Michael Thompson, Secretary-Treasurer, presented a report with financial and membership data as of August 31, 2003.

Report and Recommendations of the Chief Executive Officer: Mr. John M. Grau, Chief Executive Officer, presented the recommendations of the Executive Committee regarding their position on the Ordinary Proposals that will be before the body. Mr. Grau also presented a current update on all matters of substantial concern to the Association.

Remarks: Mr. Mel W. Horton, International Vice President of the IBEW, Fifth District addressed the Board on items of common interest between the two organizations.

Remarks: Mr. Michael Cullinane, Vice President of the MCAA, updated the Board on activities of his association.


Report on NECA Political Leadership Council: Mr. David Firestone, Chairman of the Government Affairs Committee reported on the new initiative to establish a $1 million Political Action Committee. Members of the Political Leadership Council were introduced, as well as contributors.

Action to Reaffirm Standing Policy Statements:
 Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to reaffirm all Standing Policies.

Special Report on NECA Finances: Mr. Grau outlined some financial challenges facing NECA. These challenges primarily result from low convention attendance and other projected revenue shortfalls. Because the full impact of these shortfalls was not known in time to submit a timely proposal (60 days prior to the meeting), the NECA Executive Committee has requested a mail ballot of Governors following the meeting. This mail ballot would authorize the Executive Committee to waive the requirement of Article VII, Section 9 requiring that 3% of dues and service charges revenue be transferred to the Reserve Fund and to use up to $1 million dollars from the Reserve Fund to offset these anticipated revenue shortfalls.

Action on Ordinary Proposal #1:
Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to ADOPT this proposal by a voice vote.

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Ordinary Proposal #1

Re: Employee Benefit Agreement and Declaration of Trust  (Submitted by the District Two Council, NECA)

WHEREAS, The IBEW and NECA sponsor and maintain the Employees Benefit Agreement and Declaration of Trust by which the National Electrical Benefit Fund (NEBF) provides retirement and related benefits to employees in the electrical industry;

WHEREAS, The NEBF has for many years provided such benefits to plan participants;

WHEREAS, The NEBF continues to be fully-funded;

WHEREAS, Contributing employers sometimes reward employees via pay for time not actually worked for the Employer such as holidays and vacations;

WHEREAS, Such Employers should not be unnecessarily burdened with additional costs as a result of paying for such time,
now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That NECA be directed to facilitate, with the IBEW, a modification to the NEBF Agreement and Declaration of Trust, which would act to exclude from the definition of gross labor payroll earnings which stem from time not worked.

Action on Ordinary Proposal #2:
Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to ADOPT this proposal by a voice vote.

Ordinary Proposal #2

Re: Changes to the Category I Inside Apprenticeship Language to Expand Apprentice to Journeyman Ratios (Submitted by the NECA President)

WHEREAS, NECA’s Standing Policy Statement (Labor Relations) endorses the continued development of programs to ensure an adequate supply of qualified craftsmen and this includes the continued development and expansion of apprenticeship;

WHEREAS, This policy states that NECA will continue to develop harmonious relationships with the International Union and its constituent locals to promote labor stability and improve the economic and financial interests of the industry;

WHEREAS, Under the authority of this policy and in furtherance of its goals, NECA and the IBRW have, from time to time, negotiated changes in the Category I apprenticeship training language;

WHEREAS, The changing nature of the industry has created a need to provide local areas with the ability to meet the economic challenges of the market while still providing new entrants to the industry with adequate, continuing and diverse training;

WHEREAS, To meet these needs, NECA and the IBEW have developed new Category I Inside Apprenticeship language that allows the local parties to expand both the indenture ratio and the job site ratio of apprentices to journeymen to more effectively meet local manpower needs, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That NECA, through its Board of Governors, shall reaffirm its support and recommendation of the new Category I Inside Apprenticeship language.

Election of Member Officers:
There being no opposition, upon motion duly made and seconded, the following candidates were elected to two-year terms commencing January 1, 2004:

President, Ben Cook, Brownwood, TX
Vice President, District 1 Richard L. Burns, Syracuse, NY
Vice President, District 3 E. Milner Irvin, Miami, FL
Vice President, District 5 Howard Hughes, Fort Smith, AR
Vice President, District 7 David Firestone, Lincoln, NE
Vice President, District 9 Robert Daoust, Hayward, CA

Special thanks were offered to retiring Vice President Edward T. “Ted” McPhee, Jr.

Announcement of Executive Committee Selection for Vice President At Large:
President Cook announced that the Executive Committee had appointed Robert Egizii of Springfield, Illinois as the Vice President at Large for the two-year term commencing January 1, 2004. Mr. Egizii represents Egizii Electric, Inc.

Other Business:
There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Chairman thanked the members for their presence and cooperation and officially adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

J. Michael Thompson
Secretary