

State of Iowa Electrical Examining Board Meeting Minutes  
March 19, 2026  
Approved

Board Members Present

Amanda Cooling, Chairperson  
Mark Safranski, Vice Chair  
Luiza Fritz  
Joe Porepp  
Jesse Brewer  
Bob Shaw (Virtual)

Staff Members Present

Brian Young, Bureau Chief  
John Lundquist, Assistant Attorney General, Iowa Attorney General's Office  
Valorie Nissen, Administrative Assistant I

Public Present

Chris Wilson  
Chris Ojeda (Virtual)  
Jamie Ojeda (Virtual)  
Brent Angell (Virtual)  
Arie Kraayenbrink (Virtual)  
Jacob Hoftyzer (Virtual)

- I. "Call to order". CP Cooling called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.
- II. "Introduction of Board members". CP Cooling asked for an introduction of Board members attending.
- III. "Acknowledgment of persons (public) participating virtually & in-person". CP Cooling asked guests in attendance virtually and in-person to introduce themselves.
- IV. "Approval of the meeting minutes from January 15, 2026". CP Cooling asked for a motion. VC Safranski made a **motion to accept the open minutes as written**. Shaw **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously. VC Safranski made a **motion to accept the closed session minutes as written**. Porepp **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.
- V. The next item on the agenda was "Electrical Bureau Report", and CP Cooling turned the meeting over to Bureau Chief (BC) Young.
  - A. "Vote on civil penalty letters for electricians working without licenses". Those individuals receiving civil penalty letters were: Gavin Richter, Vaughn Nabholz, Benjamin Schelker, Lance Van Nevel, Noah Bateman, Garret Geerdes, Brandon Roberts, Grant Schmidt, Ruben Ferrell, Conner Kouri, Kason Ingamells, Mason Burright, Justin Allaway, Brenden Cleppe, Kobie Davis, Preston Shill, Aaron Coon, Tristan Gilster, Joshua Allen, Alex McAuliffe, Trenton Ditch, Kaleb Dydell, Brent Angell, Josiah Rowland, Chase Woods, and Ajdin Babic. CP Cooling asked for a motion. Shaw made a **motion to approve the letters**. Brewer **seconded** the motion. 5 Aye, 1 Nay (Safranski). Motion carried. Safranski stated he did not have time to review.
  - B. "Waiver request for Christopher Wilson— seeking approval Master Class A license by reciprocation". BC Young stated the board did review his request at the last meeting and it was denied. BC Young asked Mr. Wilson to explain his work history and background. Mr. Wilson stated he currently lives in North Carolina, holds twenty plus licenses, and has been in the electrical industry for twenty-five plus years. Mr. Wilson stated he started off in the Marine Corps as a helper and, progressed to a foreman and supervisor. Mr. Wilson stated he has worked in substations, data centers, and eventually utility scale solar. Mr. Wilson stated he is an electrical project executive, and oversees all processes and procedures

follow code compliance. Mr. Wilson asked the board if they had any questions. VC Safranski asked why Mr. Wilson wants to work in Iowa. Mr. Wilson stated he is prospecting renewable work. CP Cooling asked what continuing education Mr. Wilson has done. Mr. Wilson stated he typically does every two or three years, depending on that states requirements. Mr. Wilson stated he has previously used Mike Holt, Jade Learning, and Appalachian State. Mr. Wilson stated he tries to consolidate the requirements by getting courses that overlap states. CP Cooling asked Mr. Wilson what code book he typically works out of. Mr. Wilson stated it depends on the state because some are on 2023, and others are on 2020. Porepp asked Mr. Wilson if he was going to have his employees come to Iowa and do the work themselves. Mr. Wilson stated he will need his employees will need to get licensed in Iowa, or he will hire licensed electricians from Iowa. Porepp asked Mr. Wilson why he is opting to not subcontract to an electrical contractor. Mr. Wilson stated the quality would go down because he would not be familiar with the company and their work. CP Cooling asked Mr. Wilson if the board could anticipate more requests like his own, from his employees. Mr. Wilson stated his employees would need to get licensed in Iowa, or he will hire individuals that are already licensed in Iowa. Shaw asked the board why Mr. Wilson was denied in the last meeting. BC Young stated there was some ambiguity in Mr. Wilson's work history. BC Young stated Mr. Wilson provided more description, and Mr. Wilson has held is Master license in North Carolina since 2006. VC Safranski stated a reciprocated license cannot reciprocate. BC Young stated Mr. Wilson does not have sixteen thousand hours of work experience in South Dakota, which is needed per Iowa Code 13.21 and Admin Rule 401.2(15). BC Young stated Mr. Wilson has licenses that Iowa reciprocates with, but does not meet the hour requirement. Shaw asked Mr. Wilson what the difference between a limited and an unlimited license was. Mr. Wilson stated a limited license has a \$25,000 cap on cost, and an unlimited in anything above. Mr. Wilson stated he received his unlimited license in 2008. VC Safranski asked Mr. Wilson if he had heard back from Representative Lundgren. Mr. Wilson stated no, he would like to follow this path. Fritz asked if there was a subcommittee that could review this request. BC Young stated yes, Reciprocal subcommittee. Shaw asked if request has come been presented to the board previously. BC Young stated no, but there is a possibility of more requests like this coming forward with the amount of available work in Iowa. Fritz made a **motion to send to the reciprocal subcommittee to review**. Shaw **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- C. "Waiver request for Christopher Ojeda— false information on license application". BC Young stated Mr. Ojeda is moving to Iowa from Colorado. BC Young asked Mr. Ojeda to explain his electrical background, and what transpired when he submitted his application. Mr. Ojeda stated he has been in the electrical field for twenty plus years, doing residential, commercial, and industrial work. Mr. Ojeda stated he used to live in Iowa, and has an opportunity to come back to work at a data center. Mr. Ojeda stated when he worked in Colorado he was issued a fine, and that has been paid. Mr. Ojeda stated he misread the application, and that information should have been added to the application. BC Young stated the application asked if there has been any disciplinary action against your license, and Mr. Ojeda answered no. BC Young stated Mr. Ojeda represented himself as an Electrical Contractor without the correct licensure. Mr. Ojeda stated he later received his Master license in Colorado. Mr. Ojeda stated he only wants an Iowa Journeyman license, not a Master. Porepp asked if Mr. Ojeda would have answered the question correctly on the application, if it would have been approved. BC Young stated yes. BC Young asked Mr. Ojeda if he was currently working in Iowa at the data center. Mr. Ojeda stated yes, for about two weeks. VC Safranski made a **motion to approve the waiver request**. Fritz **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously. AAG Ludquist stated the motion should be to approve the license application. VC Safranski amended his motion. VC Safranski made a **motion to approve the reciprocal Journeyman license application**. Shaw **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.
- D. "Waiver request for Brent Angell— seeking approval to sit for Journeyman exam, exceeded time frame per IC 103.15". BC Young asked Mr. Angell to explain the circumstances for a delayed exam request. Mr. Angell stated life was busy, and he was nervous to take the exam. Mr. Angell stated his employer encouraged him to take the exam, and realized he would need to submit the waiver after taking a Journeyman test prep course. BC Young asked how long the course was. Mr. Angell stated eighteen hours. BC Young stated Mr. Angell completed the Department of Labor program in 2016. VC Safranski asked how long an individual has to take the exam after completing the DOL program. BC Young stated six years. Porepp asked if Mr. Angell had any licensing issues. BC Young stated Mr. Angell's Civil Penalty

was approved in the current meeting. CP Cooling asked Mr. Angell if he had been with his current employer since 2019. Mr. Angell stated yes. Shaw made a **motion to sit for the Journeyman exam**. VC Safranski **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- E. “Waiver request for Jacob Hoftzyer– PSEP monthly OJT training sheets signed by JW (Policy 12. E-2)”. BC Young asked Mr. Hoftzyer to explain his circumstances for the waiver request. Mr. Hoftzyer stated he had been working for an Electrical Contractor from April of 2020 through the end of 2025. Mr. Hoftzyer stated the EC developed health issues in November of 2024, and eventually passed away. Mr. Hoftzyer stated he had not completed any of his monthly OJT tracking sheets, and that was his own fault. Mr. Hoftzyer stated the Master’s brother, who is a Journeyman, took over for the company and is working towards passing the Master exam. Mr. Hoftzyer asked the board for consideration of his current hours, to be eligible. BC Young stated Mr. Hoftzyer completed his PSEP in 2021, and the policy states the OJT sheets need to be completed every month. BC Young stated Mr. Hoftzyer was unable to get his OJT sheets signed because the Master electrician passed away. BC Young stated Mr. Hoftzyer is requesting a variance for the Journeyman to sign off on his hours, instead of a Master. BC Young stated Mr. Hoftzyer is still short some OJT hours. BC Young asked Mr. Hoftzyer if he was employed with an electrical contractor. Mr. Hoftzyer stated no, he is currently farming. BC Young asked Mr. Hoftzyer how long it would take to complete the remaining hours. Mr. Hoftzyer stated he intends to find work with an electrical contractor, after getting the current matter settled. VC Safranski asked if the affidavit was falsified because it was signed by a Journeyman instead of a Master. AAG Lundquist stated no, the affidavit is only verifying the hours worked. Porepp asked if there were timecards that supported Mr. Hoftzyer OJT hours. BC Young stated yes, and there are no licensure issues. Fritz asked if the waiver was to approve the hours, or to sit for the exam. BC Young stated the request is to allow the Journeyman to sign off on Mr. Hoftzyer’s hours. Shaw made a **motion to allow previous hours signed by JB**. Fritz **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.
- F. “Waiver request for Arie Kraayenbrink– Red Seal training Canada”. BC Young asked Mr. Kaayenbrink to explain his situation. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated he completed his apprentice program in Ontario, Canada, in 2012 and understood the program to be similar to that of the DOL program in the United States. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated he moved to a different company and received his Master license in 2015. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated when he received his Journeyman license, he also received a Red Seal license, which allows him to work anywhere in Canada. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated a Journeyman license would have only allowed him to work in Ontario. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated he had reached out about reciprocating his license, but was told he could not with a license from another country. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated he reached out to Nebraska, and was approved to reciprocate his Red Seal license. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated he reached out to BC Young after he was approved in Nebraska, and was told to submit a waiver to the board. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated he is currently enrolled at Iowa State University, and would like to sit for the Master exam. BC Young asked how long Mr. Kaayenbrink’s apprentice program was. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated five years. BC Young stated Iowa currently does not have a method on how to handle out of country licenses, and is looking for guidance from the board. BC Young stated other states do accept the Red Seal, but this is the first request for Iowa. AAG Lundquist stated Iowa chapter 103 references that to qualify as a master electrician, there is a reciprocity requirement, which Iowa does not have with Canada or any foreign country. AAG Lundquist stated another requirement would be to have one year of Journeyman experience, which Mr. Kaayenbrink does not have in Iowa. AAG Lundquist stated to qualify for the Journeyman would be for the person would need to complete a Department of Labor apprentice program, or have received training or experience for a period of time and under conditions as established by the board by rule. AAG Lundquist stated the board has authority to determine if Mr. Kaayenbrink’s experience would allow him to sit for the Journeyman exam. AAG Lundquist stated under Iowa Code section 272C 12, that a person who is licensed in another jurisdiction can be issued a license without examination if the conditions are met. AAG Lundquist stated the code defines the issuing jurisdiction as another state. AAG Lundquist stated the board could allow a waiver that Mr. Kaayenbrink has received training or experience, for a period of time and under conditions established by the board by rule. VC Safranski asked how the code affected reciprocity. BC Young stated one of the provisions under 272C, states that you must reside in Iowa, and you do not have to meet those for reciprocity. AAG Lundquist stated Mr. Kaayenbrink resides in Iowa, but does not have a license in another state as defined by the code. CP Cooling asked if the DOL has a reciprocal agreement with Canada. BC Young stated no, not that he is aware of. Brewer asked if Mr. Kaayenbrink could sit for

the Journeyman exam, and be eligible to test for the Master after one year. AAG Lundquist stated he believed that to be true if the board accepted Mr. Kaayenbrink's schooling experience. Porepp asked if the code referenced countries as other jurisdictions. AAG Lundquist stated that under 272C, the board could waive the rule because Mr. Kaayenbrink's education is substantially similar to the DOL. Brewer asked if Mr. Kaayenbrink's Red Seal was currently active. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated yes. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated there has been effort to align the Canadian Electrical Code with the National Electrical Code, and he believed them to be similar. BC Young asked Mr. Kaayenbrink what percentage of his work was installed per the NEC. Mr. Kaayenbrink stated around seventy-five percent. CP Cooling stated the Red Seal and DOL do seem comparable. VC Safranski asked about the experience to qualify to take the Master exam. AAG Lundquist stated to hold the Journeyman license for one year. Fritz made a **motion to sit for the Journeyman exam**. Brewer **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

- G. "Adoption of the 2026 NEC". BC Young stated the potential effective date of January 1, 2027. BC Young stated he will keep the board and public updated through the process. Brewer asked if there was an update on the legislation rewriting of the code. BC Young stated in went through the local government committee today, and the bill is dead.
- H. "Virtual desktop for board members". BC Young stated documents have now been added to the desktop.
- I. "2026-2028 license renewals – ALL licenses expired December 31, 2025". BC Young stated there are about 22,000 active licenses currently.
- J. "Texas final master reciprocity agreement executed on January 28, 2026".
- K. "NFPA 2026 NEC – Table Technical Changes and board meeting". BC Young stated a meeting has been set for May 14, 2026, and there is a possibility to merge both board meetings for the month of May.

VI. "Public Comment Period". CP Cooling asked for public comments. Mr. Wilson stated he appreciated the opportunity.

VII. "Review Settlement Agreement Case #25-029 & Final Order Case #25-012".

VIII. "Review Disciplinary Case #25-008, 25-012, 25-080, & 25-029". AAG Lundquist stated the purpose of going into closed session is to discuss whether to initiate licensing disciplinary proceedings and other materials required by law to be maintained as confidential, pursuant to Iowa Code sections 21.5(1)(a), 21.5(1)(d), and 21.5(1)(f) and the Iowa Code sections 103.17(1) and/or 272C.4(6). AAG Lundquist suggested taking a roll call vote to go into closed session. VC Safranski made a motion to **go in to closed session to review the disciplinary actions**. Porepp seconded the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

Motion carried, with roll call vote as follows:

Brewer – Aye  
Cooling – Aye  
Fritz – Aye  
Porepp – Aye  
Safranski – Aye  
Shaw – Aye

Board left Open session at 11:35 a.m.

Closed session here (corresponding Minutes are omitted and not public).

OPEN MINUTES RESUME

Board returned to Open Session at 11:51a.m.

IX. "Other Board business". BC Young stated he has been in contact with the Post Secondary Electrical Programs to set up visits. BC Young stated he goes once a year to all the colleges to explain the requirements and answer any questions. CP Cooling stated the next board meeting is May 21, 2026 unless combined with the May 14, 2026 meeting.

X. "Adjourn". CP Cooling called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. VC Safranski made a **motion to adjourn**. Porepp **seconded** the motion. 6 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Valorie Nissen, Administrative Assistant I