

State of Iowa Electrical Examining Board Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2026
Approved

Board Members Present

Amanda Cooling, Chairperson
Mark Safranski, Vice Chair
Luiza Fritz
Joe Porepp
Jesse Brewer
Bob Shaw
Michelle Payne

Staff Members Present

Brian Young, Bureau Chief
John Lundquist, Assistant Attorney General, Iowa Attorney General's Office
Valorie Nissen, Administrative Assistant I
Bob Devens
Amy Atkin
Sherry Howard
Patrick Hansen
Tim Shaw
Jeff Bryant
Dan Besch
Steve Nisser
Dan Morphew
Joe Keul
Eric Maher
Randall Tuttle
Jay Kress
Ed Henke
Chuck Carpenter
Nick Forney
Chris Neuenkirk
John Arp
Dustin Hager
Kyle Wedeking
Eric Rowley
Brad Hearn
Martin Porrez

Public Present

Diane Lynch
Joe Bryant
Jim Obradovich
Jefferson Finch
Jay Iverson

I. "Call to order". CP Cooling called the meeting to order at 9:07 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. “NFPA presentation 2026 NEC (9:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

Meeting resumed 12:32 p.m.

V. “Approval of the meeting minutes from March 19, 2026”. CP Cooling asked for a motion. VC Safranski made a **motion to accept the open minutes as written**. Payne **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously. VC Safranski made a **motion to accept the closed session minutes as written**. Payne **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

VI. “Vote on chair & vice chair positions”. CP Cooling asked Board members for nominations for Chairperson. Payne nominated CP Cooling for Chair and VC Safranski for Vice Chair. Nominations ceased. CP Cooling accepted the chairperson position. VC Safranski accepted the Vice Chair position. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; **motion** carried unanimously.

VII. 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: Nash Norton, Klayton Wilkerson, Jacob Henninger, Levi Starling, Joseph Salas Martinez, Keegon Brown, Christopher Rubie, Brandon Elliott-Guillen, Austin Callahan, Colton Hughes, Dallas Wicks, William Snyder, Todd Luckow, Hunter Harapat, Henry Hollander, Scott Hampton, Zach Maharry, Jarrett Swan, Reuben Wenzel, Kyle Gustafson, Josh Olney, Justin Neumann, Luke Schroder, Kamryn Williams, Ross Clayton, and Ruben Quiroga. CP Cooling asked for a motion. Fritz made a **motion to approve the letters**. VC Safranski **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.
- B. “Waiver request for Josh Hanson– Washington State license seeking Residential Electrician license”. BC Young stated Mr. Hanson was licensed in the state of Washington as a residential electrician. BC Young stated Iowa does not have any rules or laws for residential reciprocity. BC Young asked Mr. Hanson to explain his history. Mr. Hanson stated he has been doing electrical work since he was younger with his father. Mr. Hanson stated he would like the waiver approved so he would be able to take the exam. BC Young stated the subcommittee reviewed all of Mr. Hanson’s past history. BC Young stated Mr. Hanson meets the OJT hour requirement with hours from Washington state. Payne asked if there was a reciprocity agreement. BC Young stated no. Payne made a **motion to allow Josh to sit for the Residential Electrician exam**. Shaw **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.
- C. “Waiver request for Justin Ludwick– seeking approval to sit for the Master exam”. BC Young stated Mr. Ludwick had been licensed in Iowa as a Journeyman Class B, and that expired in 2019. BC Young asked Mr. Ludwick if he has been working in Iowa. Mr. Ludwick stated no. Mr. Ludwick stated he has taken some exam prep courses. BC Young asked if Mr. Ludwick has taken the required Continuing Education hours. Mr. Ludwick stated yes. BC Young stated that PSI had made an error in allowing Mr. Ludwick a seventh attempt. BC Young stated if the board approves Mr. Ludwick’s waiver, it would be for an eighth and ninth attempt. Shaw asked how Mr. Ludwick qualifies for the Master exam. BC Young stated Mr. Ludwick previously held the Journeyman Class B license for over one year. VC Safranski stated Mr. Ludwick could ask PSI about special accommodations. Mr. Ludwick stated he would look into it. VC Safranski made a **motion to approve the waiver request**. Brewer **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.
- D. “Waiver request for Jason Zimmerline– seeking approval to sit for Journeyman exam”. BC Young stated Mr. Zimmerline is wanting additional attempts for the Journeyman exam, and currently holds the UP license in Iowa. Brewer asked if Mr. Zimmerline has completed all of his continuing education. BC Young stated not all of them, and staff will verify that when that is completed. Brewer made a **motion to sit for the Journeyman exam**. Payne **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

VIII. "Public Comment Period". CP Cooling asked for public comments. Jim Obradovich with the Iowa Association of Building Officials, encouraged the 2026 Code to be approved as rapidly as possible. Mr. Obradovich stated legislation passed House File 2800 and in Division 3 which deals with the electrical code and ties into that adoption of the 2026 code. Mr. Obradovich stated the Governor hasn't signed the bill yet, but expressed urgency with moving forward.

IX. "Review Settlement Agreement Case #25-029 & Final Order Case #25-012". AAG Lundquist stated in case #25-029, the board found probable cause to bring charges against that individual and negotiate a settlement. AAG Lundquist stated that is in process, and have not heard back. AAG Lundquist recommends the board refers the matter to an ALJ, and that a hearing be scheduled. AAG Lundquist stated the ALJ will issue a proposed decision that will come back to the board at a future time, unless a negotiated settlement can be met. Porepp made a **motion to move the process forward**. Brewer **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

X. "Review Disciplinary Case #25-008, 25-012, 25-080, & 25-029". AAG Lundquist stated the second case, #25-012, the individual did not complete the required Continuing Education and did not seek renewal of their license. AAG Lundquist stated as of April 1st, 2026, the individuals electrical license lapsed, and would need to test to gain their license back. AAG Lundquist asked that the board send probable cause and close this file as a moot. Shaw made a **motion to close this file as a moot**. Porepp **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

XI. "NFPA presentation 2026 NEC" resumes (1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.)

XII. "Discussion on 2026 NEC Adoption & draft administrative rules". BC Young stated the code adoption subcommittee reviewed the material and discussed potential changes, if any. VC Safranski stated most of the public that contacted BC Young, wanted the code to be adopted without any amendments. VC Safranski stated generally those that opposed, is due to cost and not safety. VC Safranski stated technologies caught up with the GFCIs and suppliers will be able to have the proper ones available if not now in the near future and the subcommittee is advising to accept 2026 as is and no amendments. BC Young stated major manufacturers should have new GFCI HF breakers available to help the issue of nuisance tripping. Shaw agreed with VC Safranski and should focus on safety. Fritz also agreed. Brewer stated he agreed with a public comment of a possible amendment of replacement of service equipment not being required to have to put a disconnect outside when replacing a main breaker. Shaw stated in Davenport, its required whenever there was a new service have to put into a new house, that house had to be brought up to code. Brewer stated that if a breaker needs repaired you should be able to buy a new one and replace it, but the 2026 code goes against a repair. Brewer stated if you replace a piece of a service equipment, then you have to put a meter main outside and if your main breaker goes bad, you have to do a whole new service. BC Young stated by definition of service equipment includes overcurrent protection. Brewer stated it changed in 2023 and it changed it a little bit again in 2026 because it moved. Porepp stated that as a previous firefighter, it is important that the switch be on the outside of that house in case you have to go in and try to save somebody's life before the utility company can get there to shut it off. Porepp stated he understands the cost, but it is much more safe. Payne agreed with an exception for just replacing the main breaker inside of the existing panel, but once it gets to the panel that would change. Brewer stated the definition of service equipment is the issue. BC Young stated Iowa will let someone replace the breaker under Iowa Code 103, and not to look at it as replacement of the service equipment, it is a component of the service equipment. Ms. Lynch stated she was on the code panel when this came through, and the intent was when you're replacing the service equipment as a whole, you would required to replace the service. Ms. Lynch stated it's unfortunate that it was written when replacing service equipment, but that it was meant when you replace the service, the owner should just be expected to meet current requirements. BC Young stated the intent should be to not cause people extra expense. Ms. Lynch stated if they do it by choice the whole intent of code constantly changing is to make the occupants safe based on the technology and the exposures based on today. Ms. Lynch stated it is not the intent to cause extraneous cost to an occupant when things out of their control. Ms. Lynch stated they're replacing a piece of surface equipment by definition, but that certainly wasn't the intent of the panel at the time this was created. BC Young stated the current law states cities that are their own AHJ, can be more restrictive. VC Safranski stated if the board recommends accepting 2026 without amendments, it doesn't make it final and there is still public review and comment that will be coming back. BC Young stated there will be more public feedback coming in, and the board can always add amendments later if needed. BC Young stated he had spoke with a liaison for the Iowa Association of Building Officials, and they expressed urgency with moving forward with the 2026 code approval. Sherry stated to have the regulatory analysis published on August 19th, they

would have to have it filed by July 30th, and so then people have until September 8th to give comments for the hearing to be ran. VC Safranski made a **motion to approve the 2026 code without amendments**. Porepp **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.

XIII. "Other Board business". VC Safranski asked if there were still open board seats. BC Young stated yes. Shaw asked about the House File 2800. BC Young stated it will affect the electrical inspectors. CP Cooling stated bills have to come in by a certain deadline and if they're not active in either House or Senate, they're called dead. CP Cooling stated it did not pass the second funnel, and it should have been dead, which is we covered in the meeting before. CP Cooling stated it came in an addendum in the bill, and it got put in, and they didn't have enough votes to take it back out. CP Cooling stated most of it should be corrected with the 2026 code. Ms. Lynch stated legislature came to roll back of the 2008 because that was 2011 and past is really when AFCl went all throughout the house. Ms. Lynch stated on the National Home Builders website, they have a cost analysis of a 2500 square foot home then versus now, and the dollar difference on that 2500 square foot home based on today's buildout for electrical is \$380 and the house costs \$600,000. BC Young stated the cost analysis between the 2023 and the 2026, the numbers are going to be very minimal. Ms. Lynch stated it will change slightly just to natural inflation of products and material, and then cost of labor is obviously going to be changed. Ms. Lynch stated the NEC has some things in there that now that is alleviating some requirements, not safety features, but making it easier to actually comply. BC Young stated the next board meeting will be held on July 16, 2026.

XIV. "Adjourn". CP Cooling called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. VC Safranski made a **motion to adjourn**. Payne **seconded** the motion. 7 Aye, 0 Nay. All in favor; motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Valorie Nissen, Administrative Assistant I