

Codes & Standards Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

Bellevue City Hall

Education - Len Whalen, NEC Chapter 3

State of Washington – Effective July 2019: WAC 296-00650 National Elevator Codes and Supplements

The state has increased the penalties for unlicensed electricians in an attempt to deter violations.

The state has removed the ability for an apprentice to pay a fee and put their license into an inactive status. The journeyman electricians and administrators still have an inactive status that can be brought back to active status with the correct number of CEUs.

Electronic plan review is up and running with the number of pages submitted increasing significantly from second quarter to third quarter. Number of electronic plan reviews has gone from 0 to 400 to 800 in the past three fiscal quarters.

In addition, the state has removed the option for an apprentice or trainee to pay a fee to renew training certificate without evidence of CEUs. No inactive status for apprentice/trainee. There will still be inactive status available for journeymen and administrators. This is to encourage apprentice/trainees to stay current on CEUs.

In order to qualify to take the journey level exam, journeyman must complete 4-year approved apprenticeship program starting in 2023. Need not be a union sponsored program but is must be approved and meet federal guidelines.

City of Bellevue – C of B went paperless on all applications on March 1, 2019. The City does have a requirement for paper plans on the job site for the inspectors to review. City will help with navigation and training on site. Bruce Reynolds retired (plan review during past few years) and is being replaced by Chuck Murray (plan review and some inspections).

With Amazon and Facebook coming to Bellevue, there will eventually be two people doing Plan Review fulltime. There are lots of companies moving to Bellevue. Light rail is halfway done...should be ready for testing before 2023. Discussion of Sound Transit tunnel under Bellevue. There are marks placed on city buildings to monitor potential movement/sinking of buildings over tunnel. Discussion about who inspects rail over Lake Washington...DOT has an electrical inspection department.

City of Kirkland – James Tumelson is the sole electrical plan examiner for the City of Kirkland. Engineered projects submitted are done very well. Google Campus, Totem Lake, high school rebuilds, are typical projects. City is mostly paperless, but not completely. Review process is much easier for projects that are submitted electronically.

Plan review thresholds: 100 amps, 50% lighting projects, hazardous classified locations, smoke control. ELPN will distribute Kirkland's list. Single family except triggers such as photovoltaic, gated property, or outdoor mechanical equipment. WA Cities is trying to get to same thresholds but the process isn't perfect. Some jurisdictions have slightly different rules.

Snohomish PUD – Huge bumps in rebates are being offered for higher efficiency units. Go to website for details – there's a workbook with tabs for further info. snopud.com/rebates/for your business.

Energy Code – Residential TAG Meeting on April 19 at Smart Building Center at 9AM

IAEI – Next meeting/training is July 13 at Local 46 in Kent. Topic will be WAC Update by Tim Hingtgen. Meeting will provide 4-hours CEU through L&I. A fee with be charged for this event.

IEEE – Microgrid presentation on April 16. No speaker lined up yet for May.

ELPN – Upcoming activities are the Mariners baseball game on June 20th and the golf tournament on August 29th.

The Electrical League is in need of Industry mentors for a program designed to try and introduce young people to the electrical industry. The mentor will be matched with an interested person for a mentoring and potential job shadow.

Education (May) Cameron Clark and Jimmy Matuszak

May 15 Code Meeting – Puget Sound Energy Forum Room

Adjourn