

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
DIVISION OF APPRENTICESHIP
STANDARDS

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**ET Task Force Meeting
Hyatt Regency Hotel - Burlingame, CA**

Minutes

May 2, 2007

Members Present:

Anne Quick	Chairperson
Dave Rowan	DAS Chief
Al Tweltridge	Dept of Education
Luisa Martinez	DAS
Barry Noonan	Community College Chancellor's Office
Terry Seabury	
Kathleen Barber	
Bill Campbell	

Guest Present:

Oscar Meier	Terry Eyraud	Chris Shawbell
Diana Limon	Chuck Stanton	Kim Fulcher
Dan Whooley	Steve Powers	Clay Thompson
Leo Garcia	Kate Leyden	Tom Lauchenauer
Carolyn Nutter	Mary Sorokolit	Leticia Miramontes
Eddie Bernacchi	Alan Darney	Darell Lawrence
Bruce Cervone	Jon Cronan	Kate Leyden
Clarine Lizana	Scott Kronland	Duncan Mcfetridge

Introductory Comment:

The Task Force is an Advisory Task to the Chief, it is strictly advisory. We do not make any decisions or any policies. The purpose is to try to get consensus on any issues that are outstanding regarding certification, and it is a good forum for discussion. We have no authority to tell the chief what to do, and the minutes are posted on the web site.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Anne Quick

Roll call and all members present.

Continuing Education

Continuing education can be taught by approved schools. Electrical related courses from an approved school can be counted for continuing education.

Website Update

DAS has now posted the two information guides for Electrician Trainees. You can find it on the main DAS web page under How to become an electrician trainee/guide link.

Distance Learning

Discussion on concerns and issues regarding taking online courses: An issue raised was how would one know if the student is actually the one taking the courses? Other concerns raised were test taking validity, local control mechanisms and trust issue. There needs to be some accountability and evaluation process. A statement was made that there needs to be some hands on activities with an orientation.

Distance learning statewide can be beneficial for remote locations such as Eureka, Chico, and out of state such as Oregon, Washington and Nevada. Online education distance learning is essential and the program providers are not active in these areas.

Community College

Barry Noonan stated that the authority for developing and approving courses is 99% which are decided at the college campus level. The committee has a strict process, and each campus has its own committee. The community colleges feel that when it comes to distance learning that students can only learn in classroom. They take a conservative approach and would take action only under the appropriate tight controls and conditions.

The community colleges have a rigorous testing standards programs and the concern regarding the private and post secondary groups are worthwhile to the students. A national entity has standards for distance learning and become part of their registry to meet those standards.

Electrician Certification Consultants

The Electrician Certification Consultants, private post secondary school explained that they have 2,000 students of which 1,000 students who took the certification exam passed. They provide online-lecture only courses for continuing education. It is a three year program. They further added that to get into their system, students need an online security password to get in. Their exam consists of 35 minute multiple choice test questions and need a 70% score to pass the test. The test is open book and students are able to retest. The test is taken in a supervised environment.

Education Providers

Discussion made to broaden continuing education for companies and develop internally. This is a real issue and we have to be careful that we do not overly create too many rules.

Rule Making – Carol Belcher

Discussion on California Code of Regulations “Draft” passed out for review and input. Carol stated that once there is a final draft, we submit it to the Office of Administrative Law for public notice which would inform the public that these changes to the regulations are being proposed, then the Division Chair will set up a public hearing and there would be a period where the public can make written comments and at the public hearing they can make oral comments. There is a 45 day notice before the hearings.

The Chief will consider any proposed changes and comments if there are further changes for public comment. Depending on how extensive the changes are and once Task Force Meeting there is a final document, that final package is submit to the Office of Administrative Law to make the final rule making and that process cannot take longer than a year from the time of notice. If it takes more than a year then the process has to start over.

The document is not meant to be controversial but tends to be the consensus. We need to come up with a final draft and set up an advisory meeting and this has been on the agenda for more than a year.

Task Force - to meet on June 6, 2007 in Sacramento.

Meet adjourned.

There is no task force meeting scheduled in the future.

Submitted,

Luisa Martinez
Electrician Certification Unit – Track 1028