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## ELECTRICAL BOARD MEETING

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### TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

October 24, 2024

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES  
STATE OF WASHINGTON

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ELECTRICAL BOARD MEETING  
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
October 24, 2024  
Tumwater, Washington

Pages 1 - 92

**CERTIFIED  
TRANSCRIPT**

Reported By:  
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1                   BE IT REMEMBERED that an Electrical Board  
2 meeting was held on Tuesday, October 24, 2024, at 7273  
3 Linderson Way SW, Tumwater, Washington at 9:00 a.m.,  
4 before CHAIRPERSON JASON JENKINS, BOARD MEMBERS KEVIN  
5 DAVIS, JACK KNOTTINGHAM, BYRON ALLEN, STEPHEN ENTREKIN,  
6 ERICK LEE, IVAN ISAACSON, MIKE NORD, GREGORY JOHNSON, DON  
7 BAKER, BOBBY GRAY, and SECRETARY/CHIEF ELECTRICAL  
8 INSPECTOR WAYNE MOLESWORTH. Also present was ASSISTANT  
9 ATTORNEY GENERAL BEN BLOHOWIAK, representing the Board;

10                   WHEREUPON, the following proceedings were had,  
11 to wit,

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17                   CHAIR JENKINS: Well, good morning.  
18 Welcome, Electrical Board here, to the Washington State  
19 Electrical Board October 24th, 2024 meeting. And it is  
20 approximately 9:10 in the morning.

21                   So first item on our list here today is a safety  
22 message. And I was going to check with you earlier. But  
23 did you get my request for a safety topic today?

24                   MR. MOLESWORTH: Our technical specialist is  
25 volunteering, Mr. Chairman, to give the safety topic.



1 Mr. Lorin Lathrop.

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Safety Message

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MR. LATHROP: Good morning, Board. My name is Lorin Lathrop. I'm a technical specialist for the Department.

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And I wanted to share a story with you about something that happened in my home in the last two weeks. As an electrician and as someone who was working in construction most of my life, I'm always in the middle of something. Well, I'm currently creating an apartment for my father, who's 80 years old, to live with my family. My dad is an electrician. He was an electrical inspector and he was -- we were working on this project. We were raising the floor in my garage 26 inches and we're putting flooring down and we're getting ready to seal in the garage doors.

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Well, my dad, being who he is, went through and he had a piece of OSB out on these rafters we've got. He stepped on the edge. The whole sheet shifted and it dropped him 26 inches to the ground. And we think about it. 26 inches, no big deal. He landed on his feet. Nothing at all.

25

What ended up happening was is that he pinned his



1 leg, his left leg, between that rafter and that piece of  
2 OSB and so it created this pivot point and it came up,  
3 hit my dad in the left wrist. It swoll his knee to the  
4 point where he couldn't walk. He was bruised from his  
5 groin to his toes and he fractured his wrist in a 26-inch  
6 fall. He's never broken a bone in his life until he was  
7 80 years old.

8 So my message for you is that today we've always  
9 gotta be aware of our surroundings and our situations.  
10 It's really easy for us to think I've done this before.  
11 It's not that far. It's easy. But being aware of our  
12 surroundings and the consequences of just that little bit  
13 of lack of judgment or that tiny mistake is the  
14 difference between no big deal and a cast and possibly  
15 surgery to fix a wrist.

16 So that's my message. Please be aware of your  
17 surroundings no matter what you're doing, whether you're  
18 at home or at work. Thank you.

19 CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you very much. So  
20 before we get onto our actual transcripts, I want to  
21 recognize we have two new board members here today. So  
22 what I'd like to do is go around the room and do an  
23 introduction of all the board members.

24 Bobby Gray, start off.

25 BOARD MEMBER GRAY: My name's Bobby Gray.



1 I'm the contractor representative. And I work for a  
2 company called Hoydar Buck, formerly from Sela,  
3 Washington; now up in Chelan.

4 CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you very much.

5 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Don Baker. I hold a  
6 contractor seat.

7 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Greg Johnson,  
8 electrical engineer, RCED. Work for Avista.

9 BOARD MEMBER NORD: I'm Mike Nord. I'm the  
10 Telecom worker representative.

11 MR. BLOHOWIAK: I'm Ben Blohowiak. I'm the  
12 Assistant Attorney General, represent the Electrical  
13 Board.

14 CHAIR JENKINS: Jason Jenkins, Electrical  
15 seat and Chair.

16 BOARD MEMBER ISAACSON: Good morning. I'm  
17 Ivan Isaacson. I hold the Manufacturer seat for the  
18 board.

19 BOARD MEMBER LEE: Good morning. Erick Lee,  
20 representing the Electricians.

21 BOARD MEMBER ENTREKIN: Steve Entrekin. I'm  
22 representing Telecom, and my company is Lumen.

23 BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Byron Allen, IBEW Local  
24 43. High Voltage representative.

25 BOARD MEMBER KNOTTINGHAM: Jack Knottingham,



1           Electrician seat.

2                       BOARD MEMBER DAVIS: Kevin Davis, Utility  
3           representative.

4                       SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Wayne Molesworth.  
5           I'm the Chief Electrical Inspector, Secretary for the  
6           board.

7

8                               Approve Transcript from  
9                       July 25th Electrical Board Meeting

10

11                       CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you very much. And  
12           for the record, we do have a quorum, so we'll move  
13           forward with the approval of transcripts from last  
14           meeting. Chair would recognize a motion to approve last  
15           meeting's minutes.

16                       BOARD MEMBER NORD: Board Member Nord,  
17           motion.

18                       CHAIR JENKINS: We have a motion. Do we  
19           have a second?

20                       BOARD MEMBER GRAY: Second.

21                       CHAIR JENKINS: Bobby Gray is a second.  
22           Any discussion?

23           Hearing none, all in favor signify by saying aye.

24                       BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

25                       CHAIR JENKINS: Any opposed?





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Hearing none, motion passes.

Appeals

Mark Leon: Appeal of License Revocation

CHAIR JENKINS: All right. So we are on to our next item here is appeals. And I'm looking at our agenda. Looks like our letter A for Mark Leon, if I'm saying it correctly, has been continued to the January meeting.

Joseph L. Ray; ESICO01401, ESICO01402, ESICO01403, ESICO01404 and ESICO01405

CHAIR JENKINS: So the next one we're looking at is part B for Joseph L. Ray, ESICO01401, ESICO01402, ESICO01 -- sorry -- ESICO01403, ESICO01404, and ESICO01405 has been continued to January meeting.

Eco Electric & Cory Hesseltine: ENEKE00322, ENEKE00323 and ENEKE00324

CHAIR JENKINS: So we're moving on to our part C or our letter C, Eco Electric and Cory Hesseltine. Do we have someone here from both the Department and Eco



1 Electric.

2 MS. JOURAVLEVA: Maria Jouravleva on behalf  
3 of the Department.

4 CHAIR JENKINS: Do we have anybody here from  
5 the Eco Electric?

6 So Department, could you please state and spell your  
7 name for the court reporter please.

8 MS. JOURAVLEVA: Yes, of course. Maria,  
9 M-A-R-I-A, Last name Jouravleva, J as in Jack O-U-R-A-V  
10 as in Victor L as in Larry E-V as in Victor A.

11 CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you very much.

12 MS. JOURAVLEVA: And would you prefer me  
13 standing or seated?

14 CHAIR JENKINS: Either way works for us.

15 MS. JOURAVLEVA: I don't want to be the odd  
16 one out.

17 CHAIR JENKINS: All right. So the matter  
18 before us today is an appeal for a matter of Eco  
19 Electric, Docket Number -- Numbers 12-2023-LI-0320. This  
20 hearing is being held pursuant to due and proper notice  
21 to all interested parties in Tumwater, Washington on  
22 October 24, 2024 at approximately 9:16 a.m.

23 And one last call, is there anybody here in Eco  
24 Electric or Cory Hesseltine?

25 All right. This is an appeal from the initial order



1 issued by the Office of Administrative Hearings on  
2 May 13, 2024. It is my understanding the decision  
3 affirmed citation notices ENEKE00322, ENEKE00323,  
4 ENEKE00324 but set aside the associated penalties and  
5 fines, all issued by the Department of Labor and  
6 Industries on May 25th, 2023.

7 It is further my understanding that the Department  
8 has timely appealed a decision to the Electrical Board.  
9 The Electrical Board is a legal body authorized by the  
10 Legislature to not only to advise the Department  
11 regarding the Electrical Program but to hear appeals from  
12 the Department-issued citations where it takes some  
13 adverse actions regarding electrical license  
14 certification compliance. Electrical Board is a complete  
15 separate entity from the Department and as such will  
16 independently review the actions taken by the Department.

17 When the Department issues penalties, the hearing is  
18 assigned to the Office of Administrative Hearings to  
19 conduct the hearing pursuant to the Administrative  
20 Procedures Act. The ALJ who conducts the hearing then  
21 issues a proposed decision and order. If either party  
22 appeals, that decision is subject to review by the  
23 Electrical Board.

24 Please keep in mind, while our review is de novo,  
25 for example we sit in the same position as an



1 Administrative Law Judge and will review all the entire  
2 record regardless of whether a certain piece of evidence  
3 is referenced by the ALJ. We are bound by the evidence  
4 in the record and no new evidence can be submitted at  
5 this hearing.

6 Each party will be given approximately 15 minutes  
7 today to discuss their merits of the case. Any board  
8 member may ask questions. And the time may be extended  
9 at the discretion of the board. At the conclusion of the  
10 hearing, the board will determine if the findings and  
11 conclusions reached by the ALJ are supported by the facts  
12 and the rules pertaining to the electrical installations.

13 Are there any questions before we begin?

14 MS. JOURAVLEVA: None.

15 CHAIR JENKINS: Since the Department is  
16 present and given that due and proper notice has been  
17 given to all parties, the Electrical Board will hear the  
18 Department's arguments and make its decision based upon  
19 the record and arguments before it.

20 Counsel may proceed.

21 MS. JOURAVLEVA: Thank you so much. And I  
22 really appreciate you hearing this matter today. There's  
23 no contention that Eco Electric and Mr. Hesselstine  
24 committed the violating infractions as supported by what  
25 you read in the order. The only issue is concerning the



1 citation amounts.

2 In this case, the judge set aside the citation  
3 amounts saying that was incorrect for a couple of  
4 different reasons. The first one is that the judge  
5 doesn't have authority to set aside the citation amounts.  
6 First, it's not clear what that really means. But  
7 second, setting aside the citation amounts also makes it  
8 more difficult for the Department to determine in the  
9 future if the same citations occurred, are they factoring  
10 that in or are they not. So if that was a first time  
11 citation and then the infraction is committed again, does  
12 the citation amount get determined as a second level  
13 offense or is it a first level offense? It's not clear.

14 The second is that the judge did not actually  
15 indicate that he reviewed the evidence that was before  
16 him that was properly submitted at the hearing. I'm sure  
17 you all reviewed the packet very carefully. But one of  
18 the pieces of the 170 some pages was a one or two-page  
19 license history for both Cory Hesselstine and Eco  
20 Electric. That license history is included because it  
21 lists the citations that have been issued in the past.  
22 And judges use that information to determine whether the  
23 Department has appropriately issued a penalty if it's  
24 above a first offense amount.

25 Third, the judge ignored the penalty schedule.



1           There's nothing in the order that indicates that he  
2           reviewed it. But also had he reviewed it, it would have  
3           been clear to him that based off of his findings that the  
4           violations had been committed, that at the very least, he  
5           could have issued or granted the first level citation  
6           amounts for the infractions. He didn't do that. So  
7           doesn't seem that he followed what was already written in  
8           the statute.

9           Based on the transcript, Mr. Hesselstine did not  
10          provide any evidence to suggest that the citation amounts  
11          were inappropriate. So for all of those reasons, I ask  
12          the E Board Affirm the citations both in terms of  
13          substance and for the associated penalties issued by the  
14          Department.

15          Are there any questions?

16                   CHAIR JENKINS: Board members, any questions  
17          for the Department?

18          Given my -- speaking while it's still out there, I  
19          think it is really simple as far as we just need to apply  
20          the appropriate penalties for given citations.

21          Anybody have any alternative thoughts? Gregory  
22          Johnson.

23                   BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah. Gregory  
24          Johnson, board member. In your brief, you asked for a  
25          statement -- a finding of fact 4.20 to be stricken and



1           then conclusion of law 5.12 to be overturned. I would  
2           suggest that maybe those are appropriate actions.

3                       CHAIR JENKINS: Okay. Any other discussion  
4           from the board? If not, the Chair would entertain a  
5           motion.

6                       BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: I guess I'll make a  
7           motion to strike the finding of fact 4.2 and then reverse  
8           the conclusion of law 5.12 to show that the penalties  
9           were accurate as the Department assessed initially.

10                      CHAIR JENKINS: So to apply the appropriate  
11           penalties based upon the set aside penalties.

12                      Do we have a second?

13                      BOARD MEMBER NORD: Board Member Nord,  
14           second.

15                      CHAIR JENKINS: We have a motion to second.  
16           Any discussion?

17                      Hearing none, all in favor of the motion all signify  
18           by saying aye.

19                      BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

20                      CHAIR JENKINS: Any opposed?

21                      Motion passes. Thank you very much.

22                      Now the board's made its decision. Have you  
23           prepared a proposed order?

24                      MS. JOURAVLEVA: I do not have one with me  
25           here today, but I am happy to send it electronically for



1 your convenience.

2 CHAIR JENKINS: Okay. And if we don't  
3 receive it by the next meeting, you'll be expected to  
4 appear to explain what your proposal is.

5 MS. JOURAVLEVA: Gotcha.

6 CHAIR JENKINS: Other than that, yes, please  
7 send it to the secretary and we'll get it signed and  
8 returned.

9 MS. JOURAVLEVA: Thank you so much.

10 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Point of order. I  
11 believe we may need to address conclusion of law 5.12.

12 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: That was part of my  
13 motion.

14 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: So your motion included  
15 removing 5.12? I'm sorry. Maybe I'm not clear on the  
16 motion.

17 CHAIR JENKINS: Okay. Court, could you read  
18 that back to us.

19 COURT REPORTER: The motion.

20 CHAIR JENKINS: Yes.

21 (Motion read by the Reporter.)

22 CHAIR JENKINS: Board Member Don Baker, does  
23 that suffice what you're asking for?

24 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: I agree with that. But  
25 I'm not sure what that means, reverse 5.12. Are we





1           rewriting it? What are we doing?

2                           BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: So I can expound.  
3           My intent was 5.12 says that he did not submit any  
4           evidence while Exhibits 10 and -- go back to my notes --  
5           Exhibits 10 and 11 did include the citation history and  
6           then also the WAC that -- the WAC which was -- it was in  
7           WAC 296-46B-915, which -- so those two items should have  
8           been considered by -- so those are the incorrect things  
9           in the conclusion of law. So that's why I'm striking  
10          that conclusion of law and saying as assessed by the  
11          Department was accurate.

12                          BOARD MEMBER BAKER: So to be clear, we're  
13          removing all the language in 5.12?

14                          BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

15                          BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Okay. We're not  
16          rewriting it? We're removing it in its entirety?

17                          BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: We probably need to  
18          add in. I mean because when you remove it, you've gotta  
19          add something replacing it and stating the fines  
20          initially placed in were accurate.

21                          BOARD MEMBER BAKER: I agree. Feels like  
22          what you're saying is we need to change it. Instead of  
23          it "did not," change it to "did." Right? Potentially.

24                          MR. BLOHOWIAK: So just as far as procedure  
25          goes, Board Member Baker if you want to make a motion to



1 amend the motion to change the word, have to call a vote  
2 on redrafting 5.12 and say the Department did present  
3 evidence. I think, if I'm understanding, that's where  
4 you're going. But that's the procedure you'd need.  
5 You'd need to make a motion to amend because we've  
6 already voted.

7 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: I understand. I'll  
8 just leave it at that. I'll just leave it be the way it  
9 is.

10 CHAIR JENKINS: Does that make sense to  
11 counsel?

12 MS. JOURAVLEVA: Yes, it does.

13 CHAIR JENKINS: Okay. Awesome. Thank you  
14 very much. Appreciate it.

15  
16 Sunbelt Rentals Inc; ESICO00860, ESICO00861,  
17 ESICO00862 and ESOCI00363

18  
19 CHAIR JENKINS: Moving right along I  
20 suppose, letter D Sunbelt Rentals Incorporated. So this  
21 matter before us today is the appeal in the matter of the  
22 Sunbelt Rentals Incorporated, Docket Numbers  
23 11-2023-LI-01983.

24 This hearing is being held pursuant to due and  
25 proper notice to all interested parties in Tumwater,



1 Washington on October 24th, 2024 at approximately  
2 9:28 a.m.

3 Is there a representative from the Sunbelt Rentals  
4 Incorporated present this morning?

5 MR. VANCE: Yes, sir. Travis Vance with  
6 Fisher and Phillips; and my colleague Eric Cunningham.  
7 We're here for Sunbelt Rentals this morning. Good  
8 morning.

9 CHAIR JENKINS: Can I have you spell and  
10 speak your name for the court reporter please.

11 MR. VANCE: Yes, sir. Travis Vance, T-R-A-V  
12 as in Victor I S; last name Vance, V as in Victor  
13 A-N-C-E.

14 MR. CUNNINGHAM: And Eric Cunningham,  
15 E-R-I-C; Cunningham C-U-N-N-I-N-G-H-A-M. Thank you.

16 CHAIR JENKINS: I'm assuming there's a  
17 representative for the Department here this morning.

18 MR. BARNES: Good morning. John Barnes for  
19 the Department of Labor and Industries.

20 CHAIR JENKINS: Just same courtesy, speak  
21 and spell your name for the court reporter please.

22 MR. BARNES: Barnes, B-A-R-N-E-S; John,  
23 J-O-H-N.

24 CHAIR JENKINS: Okay. This is an appeal of  
25 the proposed decision and order issued by the Office of



1 Administrative Hearings on May 28, 2024. It's my  
2 understanding the decision affirms citations and notices  
3 ESICO00860, ESICO0 -- one more time -- ESICO00861,  
4 ESICO00862, and ESICO00863 issued by the Department of  
5 Labor and Industries on September 28, 2022. It is  
6 further my understanding at that Sunbelt Rentals has  
7 timely appealed a decision to the Electrical Board.

8 Did the parties hear my last description of the  
9 cases? Do you need that repeated as far as procedure?

10 MR. BARNES: No, Your Honor.

11 MR. VANCE: No, sir. No, Your Honor.

12 CHAIR JENKINS: So any questions before we  
13 begin?

14 MR. VANCE: No, Your Honor.

15 CHAIR JENKINS: Sunbelt Rentals is the  
16 appealing party. You do have the burden of proof to  
17 establish the initial order is incorrect. Therefore,  
18 we'll hear from you first.

19 MR. VANCE: Thank you, Your Honor. Good  
20 morning, gentlemen. My name is Travis Vance with Fisher  
21 and Phillips. We represent Sunbelt Rentals. Appreciate  
22 your time and courtesy this morning.

23 We're here today on the four citations that were  
24 affirmed by the lower court. We are asking that those be  
25 reversed for a lot of reasons that the Department just



1 articulated in the prior appeal.

2 What we're looking for in this case is that the  
3 decision be based on what was in front of the court and  
4 not things that were not admitted into evidence. Our  
5 primary concern in this case is that Exhibit O, which was  
6 an invoice that related to the work that was being done  
7 by Sunbelt Rentals, was, in fact, never admitted into the  
8 record.

9 At approximately 21 to 23 minutes into the trial  
10 audio, you can hear specifically the parties are going  
11 over the exhibits that are to be admitted. And  
12 Exhibit O, which was the invoice that the judge relied  
13 upon in order to say that an exception did not apply, was  
14 specifically withdrawn by Sunbelt. Our brief in this  
15 case says that the judge acknowledges it as reversed.  
16 But I reviewed it again last evening. It actually said  
17 -- the judge said it was reserved for admission later on.

18 So that exhibit that the judge relied upon  
19 essentially for the first two citations, which would be  
20 the licensing and the permit requirements, was never  
21 admitted into evidence. And what we would like for this  
22 board to do is simply reverse those two citation items  
23 because the judge did not rely upon what was before him  
24 in the record.

25 It's very important for any party to be able to --



1 to be afforded the opportunity of due process that when  
2 they're presenting a defense to any claim, whether it's  
3 an electrical citation, an OSHA citation, or any other  
4 type of claim you can imagine, whether it's ourselves or  
5 our loved ones or our families or our clients, that the  
6 actual evidence and the burden of proof be presented by  
7 the claimant, by the plaintiff. And here that was not  
8 the case with respect to Exhibit O.

9 Why that's important is because it's an invoice that  
10 notes the voltage of the unit that was involved. Without  
11 that, there was no evidence that specifically was  
12 presented that the judge relied upon that shows that the  
13 exception to the -- that would exclude the requirements  
14 in the first two citations from being the case.

15 The other thing that's an issue primarily here is  
16 that there was a lot of testimony in the record about the  
17 thermostat installation. But after reviewing it several  
18 times, it's very clear that the thermostat was not  
19 actually installed into the building. It was simply  
20 something that was attached to the generator and they ran  
21 it into the building, just simply took the cord, put it  
22 in the building. There was no hookup, no installation,  
23 no modification to the building. And, therefore, we  
24 believe that on the evidence that was actually presented,  
25 there was no Class B work that was ever conducted by



1 Sunbelt.

2 Why is that important? It's because first of all,  
3 the Department would not be able to do a random  
4 inspection as they did here unless there was Class B  
5 work. And the Department failed to show in the evidence  
6 before the trial judge that it was, in fact, Class B  
7 work; therefore, a random inspection would be  
8 appropriate.

9 With respect to the first citation, going through  
10 them, the one ending with 860 -- that's the advertising,  
11 submitting a bid for, offering to perform -- there's no  
12 evidence whatsoever in the record, including the  
13 testimony of the inspector, that Sunbelt ever advertised  
14 or solicited any work that would be required -- that  
15 would be included under that section.

16 The cord and the plug exception would apply because  
17 the judge only relied upon a document that was never  
18 admitted into evidence to show that it did not apply.  
19 And in fact, the inspector noted that he had reviewed  
20 invoices in this case and saw no violations based on his  
21 review of the invoice -- invoices. And more importantly,  
22 he noted that he never saw an invoice that related to  
23 this work at the Kennewick US Bank location. So not only  
24 was the invoice at issue never admitted into the record  
25 and the judge relied upon it, but also the inspector



1           noted that he had never even seen that invoice.

2                       With respect to the second citation entered, 861,  
3           with respect to the licensing requirement, again the cord  
4           and plug exception would apply because the judge relied  
5           upon evidence that was actually not before him in the  
6           record. And also he had noted in his decision that there  
7           was an installation of a thermostat. But there is no  
8           evidence in the record that Sunbelt actually installed  
9           the thermostat other than taking -- simply picking up a  
10          cord, putting it into the building that was attached on  
11          the other end to the generator before it was even taken  
12          to the location.

13                      With respect to 862 -- that is the work permit  
14          requirement -- again we noted there was no installation  
15          of a thermostat. There was no evidence that actual  
16          Class B work was being required. And, therefore, there  
17          was no permit requirement.

18                      The final one, 863, the interesting thing here is  
19          that the invoice was never admitted, which we discussed.  
20          There is also no evidence or no testimony in the record  
21          as to when the work was actually performed. The  
22          inspector, who, respectfully, had be on the job -- he had  
23          worked for the Department in that capacity for 15 days,  
24          admitted -- at the time of this inspection, admitted he  
25          was still in training, admitted this was the first





1 citations he would issue, never established when the  
2 installation actually occurred. Our position is that  
3 that would be a required determination that the  
4 Department would have the burden to show to say that  
5 inspections were not completed within three business days  
6 of any installation.

7 So here there's no evidence in the record as to  
8 actually when it was done. The inspector obviously was  
9 not there when the work was done. He did not speak to  
10 Sunbelt about the specific installation.

11 In the closing brief from the Department in this  
12 case, it says that the inspector called Sunbelt and they  
13 confirmed that the thermostat was installed. If you  
14 review the record, the inspector admits that he never  
15 spoke or even asked Sunbelt about who installed the  
16 thermostat. So with respect to that citation, it should  
17 also be vacated.

18 Our position generally, Your Honors, is that  
19 Sunbelt, just like any other litigant on either side,  
20 should be afforded a fair opportunity with due process to  
21 where determinations made against them should only be  
22 made on what's before a court in the record. And that  
23 did not occur here. And we would respectfully request  
24 that all four of the citations be vacated.

25 And we certainly have additional time, and I would



1 be glad to answer any questions that Your Honors may  
2 have.

3 CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you very much.  
4 Department?

5 MR. BARNES: Thank you. You might ask  
6 yourself why we are here. We are here because Sunbelt, a  
7 general contractor, sent a technician out to hook up a  
8 portable generator to a HVAC unit using camlock  
9 connections. This was a 3-phase 480 generator  
10 connection.

11 Now when -- the reason why this is important is  
12 because this is standard operating procedure for Sunbelt.  
13 Whenever they have an HVAC unit and a portable generator  
14 delivered, they hook it up themselves. And in fact,  
15 their own -- Joshua Bond, who is the regional manager for  
16 the climate control unit which supplied the HVAC unit, he  
17 said -- I asked him, "Mr. Bond, is Sunbelt -- is it their  
18 policy that a Sunbelt employee can connect a generator to  
19 an HVAC unit without being an electrician?"

20 His answer was, "Yes, they can, if it is not  
21 energized. It can connect a unit to a generator that is  
22 not powered up if it's in the off position with the  
23 breaker and they can hook up the cables."

24 So essentially what they're saying is as long as  
25 it's not -- the generator is not turned on or working,



1           they can go ahead and connect it with camlock  
2           connections.

3           However, that's not what they did. Not only did  
4           they hook it up, they turned it on, only to find out that  
5           they had screwed up and they had not connected it  
6           properly. So they had to shut it down because it was out  
7           of phase and reconnect the wires in order to get it to  
8           work properly.

9           How do we know this? Not from the electrical  
10          inspector because the electrical inspector, when he came  
11          upon this bank site, he saw the HVAC unit generator  
12          outside so -- and he was with -- he was being trained at  
13          the time and he was with an experienced electrical  
14          inspector, Jeff Robertson. So first thing they did was  
15          they looked to see if a permit had been pulled for this  
16          installation. It had not been.

17          So then they inquired as to the bank manager. And  
18          he referred them to a facilities manager, Mr. Sean  
19          McLaughlin (phonetic), who works for M-Core (phonetic).  
20          He was a witness to everything. He was present when  
21          Sunbelt delivered the HVAC unit. He was present when  
22          they delivered the portable generator. He witnessed them  
23          hook up the generator to the HVAC unit. He was there  
24          because in order to run the ductwork into the bank, they  
25          needed to remove a window or a glass panel in order to



1 run that through. That was why Mr. McLaughlin was there,  
2 as the facilities manager to make sure that it was  
3 boarded up afterwards and there wasn't a hole and you  
4 could go into the bank.

5 So it was his testimony that Sunbelt employees  
6 hooked up the generator to the HVAC unit, that they  
7 turned it on, discovered it was not properly hooked up,  
8 and had to reconnect it. So it's his testimony and not  
9 really the Department's that places everything here.

10 Now, there was some comment about, "Well, we don't  
11 know when exactly it was hooked up." Well, we know it  
12 was in September of 2022 when Mr. Simshauser first  
13 noticed it. And but because there was no permit pulled,  
14 there was never going to be an inspection within three  
15 days because, you know, at least from when he got there,  
16 there hadn't been any inspection done.

17 Now it appears that Sunbelt -- at first they weren't  
18 willing to tell the Department who actually did the  
19 hookup. In fact, Simshauser, when he first called  
20 Sunbelt in Kennewick -- they were the ones that delivered  
21 the portable generator and not HVAC unit. That came from  
22 a Spokane office. But Mr. Simshauser called the  
23 Kennewick office after he, you know, came upon this  
24 scene. And they told him yes, that they had hooked it  
25 up, but they didn't give a name.



1           In fact, when Mr. Simshauser then called Mr. Bond,  
2           who's the one who testified at the hearing, he was  
3           reluctant and wouldn't give them the name of the person  
4           that installed it. It wasn't until the actual hearing  
5           when I asked specifically who did it that they came up  
6           with, "Well, it was some guy named Bradley. He's a  
7           technician. He no longer works here." And that was  
8           pretty much the extent of it.

9           That's when we learned that this was standard  
10          operating procedure and that they always hooked up the  
11          generator to the HVAC unit. But they do not consider it  
12          electrical work solely because the power was turned off.  
13          Give them credit for that, that they're not trying to  
14          hook something up, electrical cables, with the power on.  
15          But that does not make it any less electrical work just  
16          because the power is turned off. And they seem to be  
17          relying on -- on that because that's how they do --  
18          that's their standard operating procedure. And it would  
19          require an electrician to hook up the generator to the  
20          HVAC under this scenario. And if this was repeated  
21          throughout the state, it would require an electrician to  
22          do that connection.

23          The Department never relied on this invoice. This  
24          invoice was a proposed exhibit by Sunbelt. We had not  
25          even seen it. They did not offer it. I think it was



1 reserved -- was -- correct, they were waiting and I don't  
2 know if it ever did. But that was not something that the  
3 Department relied on to assess them or cite them for the  
4 violations they did.

5 Like I said, there are two permit violations, you  
6 know, for not having a permit. Inspector Simshauser  
7 described that this type of work would require not only  
8 an electrical contractor, but a certified electrician to  
9 perform it, and would require a permit and inspection.

10 None of that was done and that's the reason they  
11 were cited. Thank you.

12 CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you very much.

13 Questions from the board? Yes.

14 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: So diving into  
15 Exhibit O, I have not seen it because it wasn't included  
16 in the packet. I wanted to ascertain exactly what info  
17 you're wanting to be stricken. So you mentioned the  
18 voltage. I see on page 63 of the evidentiary hearing,  
19 which is page 529 of the board packet, during Mr. Vance's  
20 questioning of the inspector, there is a question there  
21 saying -- let's see, the question was, "They basically  
22 used cam locks as you would use them, 3-prong with  
23 electrical cord to plug in an appliance, correct, that  
24 acts the same?"

25 The answer was, "They're individual connections. If



1           you look at the connections on the generator, it's a  
2           3-phase 40 volt generation connection. So you would have  
3           three phases of wire there and then you'd have ground.  
4           That's what the fourth wire is."

5                        So based on that, would you be withdrawing your  
6           objection to the 40-volt reference in the order?

7                        MR. VANCE: Yeah. So the concern is -- good  
8           question. So the concern is if you look at the trial  
9           court's decision, when he -- when he makes -- when he  
10          talks about the exception to the cord and plug exception,  
11          he specifically references Exhibit O. He does not -- he  
12          does not reference any other part of the record. And if  
13          you look at Exhibit O, which was never part of the  
14          record, then that's where the voltage comes.

15                      And so it's not that we would want to -- our  
16          position is, you know, just from the Notice of Appeal for  
17          this hearing, if you look at the record of the trial, you  
18          know, he can only rely upon what is in the record. So  
19          our position is it is an error for him to rely on  
20          Exhibit O because for purposes of his decision, Exhibit O  
21          doesn't exist. So it's our position that it was an error  
22          for him to say that exception does not apply. Because if  
23          you look at the actual decision, he specifically says  
24          Exhibit O. And my recollection is that he doesn't rely  
25          on any other testimony, any other document that was --



1           that was in or without -- inside or outside of the  
2           record. So that's why Exhibit O cannot be relied upon,  
3           because it did not exist for purposes of his ruling.

4                         BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Would it be  
5           appropriate to update the references and strike Exhibit O  
6           and then reference the evidentiary hearing transcript in  
7           relation to the 40 volts?

8                         MR. VANCE: Certainly. That's not something  
9           we have requested. But we're just looking at what -- the  
10          decision that the Court made and what he relied upon.  
11          And our position is it's very clear he relied on  
12          Exhibit O as the sole -- the sole basis for that finding.  
13          And that was an error because I think even counsel would  
14          note that that exhibit was never in the record.

15                        And so we're not asking for it to be replaced. It's  
16          just that what we're asking for is due process; when we  
17          try cases, when we have a hearing, that only the evidence  
18          that's actually admitted into the record be used against  
19          either one of the parties.

20                        BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: So is there anything  
21          beyond the 40 volt in that Exhibit O that you want  
22          stricken besides that? I did see there was a date listed  
23          where it was invoiced in the statement of facts.

24                        MR. VANCE: Yeah. We -- just to be clear,  
25          we want the entire exhibit to not be included because it





1 was never admitted into evidence. So anything in  
2 Exhibit O should not have been used to form the basis of  
3 any part of the decision.

4 CHAIR JENKINS: Any other questions? Yes.

5 SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: So question for the  
6 AAG that represents the board. Do we not make decisions  
7 in this body determined upon the entire evidence package,  
8 including testimony?

9 MR. BLOHOWIAK: You do.

10 SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Thank you.

11 CHAIR JENKINS: Any other board members?

12 Yes.

13 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: I have additional  
14 questions. Sorry. I have a whole long list of  
15 questions.

16 So Exhibit 10, which was page 2 of 6 electrical  
17 packet 234. That's the pictures where they show the  
18 camlock connections. Just based on that, when I look  
19 there, I see four wires. I see the neutral position is  
20 not connected. So when I look at this in isolation,  
21 ignoring any other exhibits, what I see is it's a 3-phase  
22 no new neutral plus ground so it's a connection.

23 Wondering is that something that -- so that would  
24 tell me this is either a 208 volt 3-phase or a 40 volt  
25 3-phase for a likely possibly a 240 volt delta



1 connection. Would that be anything that you guys would  
2 argue against, that assessment?

3 MR. VANCE: Yes. I think that's a good  
4 question too, Your Honor. And I think the way that I  
5 would review that is that you're obviously an expert in  
6 this field. That's why you're on this board. And the  
7 Department has the burden of proof to prove its  
8 citations. And if they want to prove the citations, they  
9 could have an expert like yourself testify as to what  
10 that photograph means. But in this case and the way the  
11 case was tried, the Department did not do that.

12 And so we're asking for this board to consider not  
13 additional evidence, which I don't think that the board  
14 can -- and I propose that your expert testimony on that  
15 would be additional evidence -- but just simply what was  
16 before the court at the time the decision was made.

17 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Then another question  
18 for you. Going on, I'd like to quote the WAC. So on --  
19 specifically what we're defining on -- as electrical  
20 work, so WAC 296-46B-925, in there we're talking about  
21 exemptions of what -- so where you do not need electrical  
22 license, which is what you referenced in your brief. You  
23 claim the listed cord and plug connected utilization  
24 equipment are not included in the requirements for  
25 licensing in Chapter 19.28 RCW. The plug and cord must



1 be a single listed unit consisting of molded plug cord,  
2 250 volt 60 amp single phase. So molded plug and cord,  
3 that's all -- all conductors, all connections in the one  
4 unit molded as opposed to separate wires is what --  
5 reading that.

6 And then I see those wires on that prior exhibit,  
7 those look a lot bigger than number 6, which is roughly  
8 what you used for 60 amp. So I'm just seeing what I read  
9 when I look through the packet, wondering -- I mean you  
10 might go back to being expert -- but saying would any of  
11 that assessment be incorrect, in your opinion, on --

12 MR. VANCE: Yeah. I'm not an expert so I  
13 can't -- I wouldn't -- I'm not going to sit here and say  
14 that you don't know what you're talking about because I  
15 do think you know what you're talking about.

16 But again, the issue that we have, just as a  
17 counselor for my client, is that the Department has  
18 access to resources. It has the burden of proof. And if  
19 it wants that testimony before a trial court judge as to  
20 what that exception means, the Department has the burden  
21 to do that. And in this case, the Department did not do  
22 that. And additional evidence such as your testimony  
23 would not be able to be used against them respectfully.

24 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: So question for -- is  
25 -- are we allowed to use -- when we look at evidence



1           that's in the record, are we allowed to use our expert  
2           knowledge to interpret photos and such?

3                       MR. BLOHOWIAK: If you know what it is, yes.  
4           I think if you have questions, you can't identify it and  
5           you don't know what it is, then the additional testimony  
6           would have been helpful. But if there's a photograph  
7           that's been properly admitted into evidence, you've gotta  
8           use your expertise in understanding what is being  
9           photographed. But if you have any question about what it  
10          may or may not be, you can't speculate or, you know, try  
11          and figure it out. There should be testimony about what  
12          it is. But if it's clear to you what it is and what's  
13          going on, then yes, I believe that's appropriate.

14                      CHAIR JENKINS: So any questions from board  
15          members? I want to put it out there I think you're on  
16          the right track. My opinion is that this is not a single  
17          plug cord connection. It's a 3-phase connection with a  
18          system. Therefore, it doesn't apply to any type of  
19          exception that would be allowed by installations.

20                      So my bigger comment -- and I think Department hit  
21          this pretty hard -- and that is it is our standard  
22          operating procedure that this is an okay installation.  
23          Just as long as they shut it down, they can actually make  
24          these connections. And that's a big misunderstanding of  
25          electrical law. So I just -- I don't know if I need to



1 go any further, but I want to make sure I put that on  
2 record. This is a true -- in my opinion, a true  
3 violation of their company policy. And if they're  
4 continuing doing this throughout the state, that's a  
5 pretty big deal. And I hope that this gets modified,  
6 change of behavior going forth to get this corrected in  
7 that respect.

8 And I'd like to hear from any board member that has  
9 any opposing comments.

10 BOARD MEMBER KNOTTINGHAM: Board Member  
11 Knottingham. Most of the work that electricians do is  
12 when the circuit is de-energized. It's actually required  
13 to. You wire a house; you wire a building; there's no  
14 power applied. It's only afterwards. And a permit  
15 inspection and certain things are required. There  
16 certainly are exceptions. But this doesn't meet any of  
17 the exceptions.

18 CHAIR JENKINS: Yes, board Member Baker.

19 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Board Member Baker. I  
20 believe there's plenty of evidence in the documents to  
21 uphold the law judge's decision. I would encourage  
22 Sunbelt to go back and maybe read the Currents on --  
23 there's plenty of information on load bank installations  
24 and what's required for those.

25 This is, in my opinion, exactly the same as a load



1 bank installation even though you've got an HVAC unit.  
2 There's a generator. You're running cables. Those  
3 cables need to be inspected to make sure they're the  
4 right size, that they're installed properly. UL listings  
5 on equipment need to be checked. All that gets looked at  
6 when an inspector comes out to look at this installation.  
7 Whether it's energized or not doesn't matter. You still  
8 performed an installation, according to state law.

9 And there's plenty of run time and plenty of history  
10 with load banks with this body over the last few years.  
11 And this is, in my opinion, identical to a load bank  
12 installation, which would require a permit, electrical  
13 contractor license and an electrician to install those  
14 cables, and inspection prior to energizing them.

15 So I don't see enough evidence here to overturn the  
16 decision of the law judge.

17 CHAIR JENKINS: Board Member Bobby Gray.

18 BOARD MEMBER GRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
19 Board Member Gray. I just want to clarify something I  
20 thought I heard you say, Mr. Vance, regarding connecting  
21 the thermostat conductor to the generator itself. You --  
22 I think I heard you say that's not an installation, that  
23 they didn't actually install it; they put it in the  
24 building after it was connected. Did I hear you  
25 correctly?



1                   MR. VANCE: Yeah. My understanding,  
2                   Mr. Gray, is that the thermostat was actually part of the  
3                   generator for the HVAC unit. And then all they did was  
4                   simply lay the wiring inside of the building. But they  
5                   didn't actually install it or modify the building. And  
6                   that would be done by someone else. So it would just be  
7                   taking a cord and setting it inside the building.

8                   And I reviewed again the trial audio yesterday. And  
9                   that is my understanding. And even Mr. McLaughlin from  
10                  the host rep confirmed that there was no electrical  
11                  connection with respect to the thermostat. And I've  
12                  looked into this very much in detail to make sure I had  
13                  it correct. But my understanding was there's no  
14                  connection that was made by Sunbelt concerning the  
15                  thermostat.

16                 BOARD MEMBER GRAY: To follow up on that, I  
17                 think we've established multiple times in here that when  
18                 something is connected, whether that's done at the site  
19                 or done prior to coming to the site, it would be part of  
20                 the installation unless it's part of the listing of an  
21                 assembly that would be covered by product standard, which  
22                 this wouldn't be. We never -- I won't say never, but we  
23                 would rarely see an air conditioning unit that already  
24                 has the thermostat wire already hooked up when it arrives  
25                 on site.



1           So whether that was done at the Sunbelt location or  
2           whether it was done on site, it still I think would be  
3           what we have considered in the past an electrical  
4           installation that would require permitting and  
5           inspection.

6           Thank you, Mr. Chair.

7           CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you. Yes, Secretary.

8           SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Wayne Molesworth. I  
9           just wanted to elaborate a little bit on that -- Bobby's.  
10          If I run that cable from here to that desk, that's an  
11          installation. Right? That's part of an installation.  
12          Connecting the thermostat to that cable is another part  
13          of the installation.

14          So it's clear that Sunbelt doesn't quite understand  
15          what electrical installation actually encompasses when we  
16          talk about that type of thing. It's -- that cable is  
17          part of it. The thermostat itself is part of it and so  
18          -- in that instance.

19          CHAIR JENKINS: Yes. Board Member Baker.

20          BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Board Member Baker.  
21          Just to tag on, yeah. Those are installations that  
22          require different levels of permitting. But they all  
23          require permitting and potential inspections as well.

24          CHAIR JENKINS: Any other proposed thoughts  
25          on this?





1 Board Member Johnson.

2 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Board Member Greg  
3 Johnson. I feel like we need to rewrite the issues. I  
4 don't believe that the issues stated in the ALJ's were  
5 asking the right questions per se.

6 So what I would propose to show as issue one is  
7 "Should the findings of facts and conclusions of law be  
8 based on inadmissible evidence stricken from the record?"  
9 That should be the first one. We should trust the valid  
10 concern about Exhibit O.

11 The next issue I would propose is "Does connecting  
12 the 3-phase generator via camlock to a portable HVAC  
13 equipment that is ducted through a window require an  
14 electrical license or permit?"

15 Issue number three would be "Does connecting a  
16 thermostat and wiring to portable HVAC equipment and  
17 running it through a duct connected to a window for  
18 indoor control require an electrical license and/or  
19 permit?"

20 Issue number four, "Did Sunbelt Rentals perform the  
21 alleged generator HVAC power connections?"

22 Issue number five, "Did Sunbelt Rentals perform the  
23 alleged HVAC thermostat connections?"

24 And then issue number six is "Should the citation  
25 and penalty be levied against Sunbelt be upheld?"



1                   So that's what I propose for conversations, adding  
2 those as issues that we address.

3                   CHAIR JENKINS: Is that a motion?

4                   BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: I'll make it as a  
5 motion to write those as the issues. And then the second  
6 motion which will follow later would be our decision on  
7 each of the positions.

8                   CHAIR JENKINS: Let's start with the first  
9 one. Are you making a motion to make those changes?

10                  BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: I'm making a motion  
11 to make those changes, amending the issues. So we'll  
12 keep the same issues that the ALJ had for his four  
13 citations, but we'll put these six issues in advance of  
14 that to answer.

15                  CHAIR JENKINS: One second.

16                                 (Discussion off the record.)

17                  CHAIR JENKINS: Before you finish with the  
18 motion, is your intent to uphold the law judge's finding  
19 of facts and uphold what the law judge has put in place?

20                  BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Yes.

21                  CHAIR JENKINS: Your intention is? Okay.  
22 So if I could take a little step here, let's take a  
23 10-minute recess. I want to confer with the counsel to  
24 make sure that we're on the right path. Okay? We'll  
25 take 10 minutes and restart about 15 after.



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(Recess was taken.)

CHAIR JENKINS: Okay. It is approximately 10:17 a.m. I'd like to bring the Washington State Electrical Board meeting back to offer. All right. So where we were at was Board Member Gregory Johnson was making a motion.

BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: And after conferring with our counsel, I was going to modify our motion. Basically I'll keep the ALJ's thing written as is with -- and we'll affirm his decision with the following changes: We strike any reference to Exhibit O. And any location that references Exhibit O we'll change those references to include the other evidence in the record, which a lot of it we've already discussed today.

And I would suggest that the two counsels will work together to give us a proposed order as far as review to make sure that you've actually updated those references. And if there's anything that you feel that we have missed on the evidence, work together to propose that to us.

CHAIR JENKINS: Let's roll back a little bit.

BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR JENKINS: So your proposed order -- or motion is to uphold the law judge's decisions and modify anything that references O to reflect the opinion of the



1 board.

2 Strike that last little bit.

3 Modify 0 to remove reference to 0.

4 BOARD MEMBER JOHNSON: I'm good with that.  
5 That's what my motion is.

6 BOARD MEMBER ENTREKIN: Would you restate  
7 that please?

8 CHAIR JENKINS: So the motion is to uphold  
9 the ALJ's order and to remove any references to  
10 Exhibit 0 and point to additional evidence that would  
11 support the finding of 0 that's no longer there that the  
12 board discussed this morning.

13 BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: This is Board Member  
14 Allen. I would second that.

15 CHAIR JENKINS: Motion. So we have a  
16 second.

17 Do we have a discussion?

18 Hearing none, all in favor of the motion signify by  
19 saying aye.

20 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

21 CHAIR JENKINS: Any opposed?

22 Motion passes.

23 So I'd like to have the two parties work together to  
24 come together with a proposed order that would meet the  
25 electrical body's decision today. Please be advised if



1           you do not reach an agreement, this matter will be  
2           automatically set for presentment at the next regular  
3           scheduled board meeting. If you do come to an agreed  
4           decision -- agreed proposal, please forward that to the  
5           secretary and we'll get it signed and returned.

6                     Do you have any questions?

7                     MR. BARNES: I'm only showing Exhibit O  
8           mentioned in paragraph 4.8. Do you know of any other one  
9           where it's mentioned?

10                    CHAIR JENKINS: Counsel, if you'd like, you  
11           can step away, go through that. And you're welcome to  
12           come back and have any questions to the rest of the  
13           meeting. Otherwise at your discretion.

14                    MR. VANCE: Thank you very much.

15                    MR. BARNES: Thank you.

16  
17                             Certification/CEU Quarterly Report

18  
19                    CHAIR JENKINS: All right. So moving on, we  
20           are now up to certification and CEU quarterly report by  
21           Technical Specialist Larry Vance. Are you available?

22                    MR. VANCE: Hello, Chairperson Jenkins,  
23           members of the board. My name is Larry Vance. I'm a  
24           Technical Specialist for the Department of Labor and  
25           Industries in the Electrical Program. I work with Wayne



1           Molesworth, the Chief Electrical Inspector.

2           I sent the board several reports this month for this  
3 meeting. I've recently been involved in some work having  
4 to do with some public information requests that we've  
5 received, which has caused me to dive into other report  
6 areas that have been available to us from PSI. And I  
7 would like to share a little bit of that today.

8           The two reports that the board have in their  
9 possession is a report that shows testing activity on a  
10 national level, shows that PSI is delivering exams in  
11 cities all across the United States. There's  
12 approximately 41 different exams that the PSI delivers  
13 just for the electrical program. You have all iterations  
14 of specialty electricians. Every -- every electrical  
15 specialty has a master certificate as well, so that  
16 doubles the number of citation -- or excuse me -- of exam  
17 types. And then each one has an administrator exam. So  
18 when you add that all up, it's a substantial number of --  
19 as far as variety of exams.

20           And in past board meetings, there's been discussion  
21 about some experiences that people have had with the exam  
22 provider. There was some computer issues where the  
23 handshake between PSI, who is our testing vendor, and  
24 their partner cite, which may be at an airport or some  
25 brick and mortar facility of which there's about 12 in



1 the state of Washington, and then all of those nationally  
2 that you see on those reports.

3 So we had -- we've worked through that. But one of  
4 the things I encountered when I was working on this  
5 public information request is they have -- PSI's been  
6 administering a survey to their candidates. And I  
7 happened to run and provide the board an exam survey by  
8 test. And this is all 4000-hour specialties.

9 This does not include -- this does not include Ols,  
10 although I did run one for Ols later because, again, I've  
11 been working on this, because I was thinking to myself,  
12 "I wonder if it's different." Because O1 general  
13 electricians are the most populous group of candidates,  
14 so they're the majority of electricians that take the  
15 majority of exams. So are they having something  
16 different than the specialties?

17 We seem to hear more communication from specialty  
18 candidates as far as things like, "The material on the  
19 exam doesn't apply to what I do." It doesn't -- you  
20 know, we just have those kinds of challenges because  
21 specialties can operate in a pretty narrow lane as far as  
22 the type of work they're doing, in comparison to a  
23 general electrician, who knows that their exam is going  
24 to encompass all work they can do.

25 Specialties, they sometimes have blinders on and



1           they will look at their particular installation scope.

2           "I don't run conduit. I run open cable."

3                     "Yes. But the specialty allows you to run conduit.

4           That's why there's conduit questions on the exam."

5                     "Well, I don't do that."

6                     Well, long story short, what was provided was a  
7           little bit of insight as to what the candidates think.  
8           Now, this is all 4000-hour specialties, so we're talking  
9           about residential, sign, pump, 07 nonresidential  
10          maintenance. And I know I'm missing one. 06A HVAC  
11          specialty and I think I just named all the 4000-hour  
12          specialties.

13                    So, of course, this isn't a mandatory exam that's  
14          administered -- I mean a mandatory survey. It's just a  
15          survey that's there if you want to provide input at the  
16          end of your exam.

17                    So "How would you rate the location of the test  
18          center?" There was 4071 responses. 39 said it was poor  
19          out of 4071. 286 said it was average. 1697 said it was  
20          good. And 2249 said that it was excellent. So it would  
21          appear by this data that the issue of the testing center  
22          is favorable. People like the PSI testing centers and  
23          PSI partner locations.

24                    Now a question comes along -- and this is  
25          interesting because how computer-literate are people and





1           how literate are candidates? I took a paper/pencil test  
2           when I became an electrician. When I passed my  
3           administrator exam in 2003, it was PSI's predecessor  
4           LaserGrade and it was done on a computer. But I remember  
5           hearing about that time that people were a little  
6           apprehensive about using a computer to take an exam; that  
7           they don't use computers; they don't know anything about  
8           computers.

9                        But question two here, "How would you rate the  
10           computer system -- testing system overall?" Again about  
11           4208 responses. 82 said it was poor out of that number,  
12           average 490, good 1919, and excellent 1717. So it seems  
13           like we're probably beyond that point now where people  
14           preferred paper/pencil. And the fear of technology, so  
15           to speak, is maybe no longer as prevalent.

16                      Now we get into the scheduling. "How would you rate  
17           the registration and scheduling procedures?" There's a  
18           couple ways people can apply for an exam, and there's a  
19           lot of moving parts. One of the things that happens with  
20           electrical administrators exams is that there's no  
21           prerequisite to take those exams. They contact the  
22           testing firm independently. When they pass the exam,  
23           their passing score sheets are used as their application  
24           for certification. That's the way that works. That's  
25           the easy part.



1           Everyone else applies for the exam -- applies to be  
2 approved for the exam to Labor and Industries. Labor and  
3 Industries reviews their hours of experience, reviews  
4 their education. And based on that overview of that  
5 person, we will approve them for the exam. When we  
6 approve them for the exam, we mail them a letter. The  
7 letter has a unique identifier that they can use when  
8 they apply with PSI, the testing vendor, to apply for  
9 their exam. So we have sent PSI the approval. We've  
10 sent them the candidate information, who they are, what  
11 their unique number is, and what exam they're approved  
12 for.

13           And then we want them to meet up. And that's  
14 sometimes where things get a little sideways because  
15 people can call. And I recommend that that be their last  
16 resort. The easiest thing they can do is schedule  
17 online. And the online -- the way these people in these  
18 -- in the report -- if I'm in Texas, for instance, I want  
19 to apply for the electricians exam and contact PSI. I've  
20 already been approved from Labor and Industries. And now  
21 I'm contacting PSI. When I go online, when I build my  
22 profile, I give them my location. I am now going to be  
23 advertised testing locations near me. I don't have to  
24 come to Washington to take the exam.

25           When I took my journey level exam back in the 80s,



1           you had to travel to Washington to take the exam and it  
2           was available on each side of the state twice a year.  
3           That was it. So this online -- this availability of the  
4           exam nationwide has really been a big -- a big thing.

5                        So how do they rate this? Well, we've got 4202  
6           responses. 284 said it's poor; they had a bad  
7           experience. That could have been a bad experience maybe  
8           online. It may have been a bad experience as well as  
9           going through customer service. PSI's customer service  
10          is offshore. PSI is a huge testing company. They  
11          administer many kinds of examinations worldwide. They  
12          were recently purchased by another large testing  
13          conglomerate that may be the biggest one -- biggest  
14          testing conglomerate in the world. But it's no small  
15          machine I guess is what I'm trying to elaborate there.

16                       548 out of the 4202 found that it was average. 1745  
17          found that it was good. And 1625 found that it was  
18          excellent. They had an excellent experience scheduling  
19          their exam. So again, poor is just a -- is a small  
20          fraction -- very small fraction of the overall  
21          experience.

22                       Sometimes we hear some things about test centers.  
23          Several of them are at airports. We had one -- it was  
24          some years ago -- but there was evidentiary somebody  
25          practicing helicopter takeoff and landing adjacent to



1 where they were taking their exam. They complained,  
2 rightfully so. And they were rescheduled for an exam at  
3 another location. It was an out of the ordinary event  
4 there at that testing location. And things happen at  
5 testing locations. Cars hit poles. Power goes out.  
6 There's just things that happen.

7 So now you rate the conditions of the test centers,  
8 4089 candidates responded. Over half of them said it's  
9 excellent. Close to half said that it was good; average  
10 338. And out of 4089 candidates, 62 reported that they  
11 felt that it was a poor experience. So there was some  
12 poor experience, very small -- very small percentage  
13 again.

14 The most interesting -- what I find -- I mean over  
15 the years, I've been working in this position since 2007  
16 and I've heard some things out of exams good and bad.  
17 When things are bad, what we have to do is figure it out  
18 and figure out how to recover, you know. This is an  
19 important event in somebody's life. It was an important  
20 event when it was in my life, when I took the exam. I  
21 want everybody to have a good exam experience.

22 So "how would you rate the convenience of the  
23 examination date and time?" This gets into supply.  
24 Right? When can I schedule my exam? Do I have to wait  
25 six months? When do I have to -- you know, how available



1 is this exam to me? Over half said it was excellent.  
2 Close to half said it was good. 316 said it was average.  
3 And 54 -- 54 candidates out of that 4178 reported that  
4 they had a poor -- they thought it was poor.

5 Now, the test center staff, so these exams are  
6 live-proctored. That's one of the things that we've  
7 enjoyed with this particular vendor is that their exams  
8 are live-proctored. It gives them -- everybody has to  
9 present their -- it's an open book exam so you have to  
10 present your documents that you bring into the exam; WAC,  
11 RCW, that's the laws and rules, National Electric Code,  
12 American Electricians Handbook. You can bring in a hand  
13 truck full of reference material. It's not an exam about  
14 what you know. It is in a way. But it's also -- it's an  
15 examination that demonstrates that you can access the  
16 information required to make safe electrical  
17 installations. So it's how versed are you in it, not  
18 what you've memorized necessarily.

19 So the testing centers -- sometimes it gets a little  
20 contentious with testing center staff and maybe materials  
21 that are brought in, maybe if materials have notes in  
22 them. These are all -- these guidelines are all  
23 published in the exam bulletin as to what you can bring  
24 into an exam, what you can't bring into an exam. You  
25 can't bring in a programmable calculator. There are just



1           some things.

2                   And it's a very tense situation when somebody is  
3 saying, "You can't use your calculator. We're going to  
4 give you this calculator."

5                   Well, that person's -- evidently sometimes they  
6 don't like that but --

7                   So what are the results? How do the candidates rate  
8 the test center staff? Out of 4172, 19 candidates  
9 reported that the staff was poor. Only 137 said they  
10 were average. Good was 1109. So out of the 4172,  
11 2007 candidates said that the staff was excellent. So  
12 two-thirds say that it's excellent, which is good. It's  
13 good to hear this.

14                   Now we get into the meat. "How would you rate the  
15 content of the examination, relevance and importance of  
16 test items?" This data again is the 4000-hour  
17 specialties. Out of 4169 candidates that responded, 241  
18 said that it was poor. I would have personally expected  
19 that number to maybe be higher because what I hear -- I  
20 don't hear -- people don't call us saying, "Hey, the exam  
21 was great. Really loved the content." They just don't  
22 -- they don't call us and say that.

23                   However, 241, which is a little over five percent,  
24 six percent, said that the content was poor. Average --  
25 and I don't know what they mean by average; I mean do



1           they take a lot of exams? I mean I'm not sure how they  
2           arrive at average -- but 797. Good 1775, excellent 1356  
3           people said it was excellent. So almost 3000 of the  
4           candidates responded that it was good or excellent as far  
5           as the content of the exam, which was for the 4000-hour  
6           specialties, I found that not surprising it just kind of  
7           -- it wasn't what I expected. We'll put that way. I  
8           thought it might be a little different.

9           Then we get into the style of the questions. And we  
10          hear about this too, you know. "Well, the test -- the  
11          questions, you know, it's confusing the way the  
12          question's written."

13          Most of our exam questions are multiple choice. A  
14          high percentage of them are multiple choice. The  
15          questions are designed, as good examinations are, with --  
16          there is a quality distracter there in amongst the  
17          answers. In other words, there are times when you have  
18          to -- when things can only be loaded to 80 percent or  
19          that you have to put in 125 percent factor. There are  
20          just some just very basic things that happen. Well,  
21          there will be an answer there that looks right but it may  
22          not be right.

23          And we hear this all the time from people. "I  
24          calculated it and I found the right answer."

25          "Well, you didn't quite calculate it to the level



1           that you needed to calculate it at."

2           So as far as the relevance and importance of the  
3 test items, we're again, you know, more than 3000 of the  
4 respondents said that it was good or excellent. And  
5 again, these are 4000-hour specialties. This isn't the  
6 O1 group. And the O1 group is right down this lane.  
7 Average 797. And again poor was only 241 out of the 4169  
8 respondents.

9           So the style -- I kind of skipped over this -- but  
10 the style is the same thing. We're about 3000 that are  
11 good or excellent. 240 say that it was poor and that's  
12 240 out of 4155 respondents. So it's a small percentage  
13 again. Average -- and I -- this again goes back to  
14 average is 880 so it was one of the highest groups as far  
15 as what they thought that the questions were -- the style  
16 of the questions was average, whatever that means.

17           But then we get into, "How would you rate the  
18 information in the candidate information brochure?" And  
19 that's the -- it's an effort between L & I and PSI. We  
20 partner in this campaign -- or in this candidate  
21 information bulletin. When you open this bulletin,  
22 you'll see by exam type what the exam is based on, what  
23 areas of the National Electric Code, electrical theory,  
24 and major calculations. Long story short, it's kind of a  
25 guide to how you approach PSI. And if you read it, it





1 has a lot of great information. We answer a lot of  
2 questions that are -- that we'll send somebody the guide  
3 and then they'll ask us -- they don't read the guide.  
4 And then we respond and we help them through the process.

5 But as far as the 4129 respondents, 1400 of them  
6 said it was excellent. Over 2000 of them said it was  
7 good. So again, you're two-thirds saying that it was  
8 good. Average you're at 590. And only 81 found it was  
9 poor out of those 4129 respondents.

10 And so this is -- this -- I just found this  
11 interesting and I thought I'd share it with the board.  
12 There's -- the last question on this survey is, "How  
13 would you rate the clarity of the computer tutorial?"  
14 And that is when you start the exam, you're kind of given  
15 a computer tutorial that tells you, you know, "This is  
16 how you select your answer and this is how you click  
17 next," kind of runs you through a little simulation of  
18 the exam. And.

19 This one overwhelmingly people thought it was  
20 excellent. Almost 4000 of the 4146 said that it was good  
21 or excellent. So they evidently get something out of the  
22 tutorial. 346 said average. And only 37 out of that  
23 over 4000 found that it was poor.

24 That's -- that's kind of the rundown of the survey.  
25 I also have some other information to share with the



1 board about questions that the board had at their last  
2 meeting

3 CHAIR JENKINS: Before you jump there --

4 MR. VANCE: Before I go there.

5 CHAIR JENKINS: Yeah. Real quick talk about  
6 this. First of all, when you compiled these numbers, did  
7 you actually take individual specialties and add them up?  
8 Or did they automatically put these specialties into one.

9 MR. VANCE: No. There's an overall survey  
10 report, and then there's a survey report by exam type.

11 CHAIR JENKINS: So my question really is:  
12 Did you see any significant percentage differences  
13 between any one specialty or were they all about the same  
14 percentage on this?

15 MR. VANCE: Interestingly, the public  
16 information request that kind of drove me going into this  
17 area of the reports was based on the O6A exam. And the  
18 O6A exam isn't that far away from these numbers as far as  
19 percentages about people thinking whether or not the  
20 questions applied to them or not.

21 I can do it by -- by each specialty type. But I  
22 think if there was one that has probably been most vocal  
23 about applicability of exam questions over my years is  
24 probably the O6A HVAC specialty. And they've been the  
25 one that I've spoke to about content the most over my



1           tenure here. The Ols, you know, you've got O1  
2           electricians, journey level electricians, taking this  
3           exam all over the United States. They're not -- you  
4           know, they don't seem to express anything very far from  
5           this.

6                     I mean it's just, everybody understands. I think  
7           most people -- I can't say everybody -- most people  
8           understand that it's an open book examination. If  
9           they're prepared and know the material and become  
10          familiar with the material used in the electrical  
11          industry, the codes, the standards, the laws, the rules  
12          and electrical theory, they're not challenged by the  
13          examination.

14                    There's -- you know, there's a lot of first time  
15          people that pass the exam first time. It's not as --  
16          passing the first time is not prevalent unfortunately.  
17          You get into the exam pass rates of the 4000-hour  
18          specialties and for the most part, they're somewhere  
19          between 22 to 26 percent, depending on the specialty.  
20          And the reason is I believe -- and this isn't a fact -- I  
21          believe that they are not -- they have not received  
22          formal training of any kind on the National Electric  
23          Code, on basic electrical theory, basic electrical  
24          calculations, Ohm's law and just fundamentals. And what  
25          you see them do you is see them take the exam the first



1 attempt. The second attempt then you'll see a pretty  
2 good pass rate. I mean it's still not anything blazing.  
3 But for the most part, the people that apply themselves,  
4 they kind of learn what they need to know based on --

5 It's unfortunate. We do the same thing with  
6 electrical corrections to contractors who have workers  
7 that aren't familiar with the code, so we train them by  
8 pointing them to different areas of the code where  
9 there's some deficiencies in their installations.

10 We do the same thing with exam candidates. They  
11 come in. They take an exam. They come back and they'll  
12 take -- reattempt the exam. When they reattempt the  
13 exam, they get a brand new exam. That's one of the  
14 benefits of this exam platform is they get -- it's a  
15 large question database and they get a unique exam each  
16 time.

17 Their identity, of course, is verified each time.  
18 Once you take an exam, there's a photograph of you so the  
19 proctor knows who you are. I mean there's some great  
20 security features that are offered by this vendor.

21 So, you know, having said all that, it was just kind  
22 of -- I found it just very interesting, the survey  
23 information. And the differences in the survey  
24 information I'm not -- I haven't found anything that's  
25 profound yet between the O6As, the O1s, all 4000-hour



1 specialties.

2 I don't know what I'd find if I went down into the  
3 2000-hour specialties. That may be a little different  
4 because you can take the exam in a 2000-hour specialty  
5 with as little as 721 hours of experience. That's what the  
6 law allows. So those are the fast-track 2000-hour  
7 specialties. That exam is not a certification exam.  
8 What it is is it's an exam that allows you to get an  
9 unsupervised training certificate that'll allow you to  
10 work the balance of the 2000 hours unsupervised because  
11 you've passed this exam, this open book exam. Once you  
12 have worked your 2000 hours, you actually submit an  
13 affidavit saying, "I've worked by 2000 hours." And now  
14 what we're going to give you is a no test certification  
15 card, meaning that you have now completed the process to  
16 become a certified electrician.

17 So that's -- that would be an area that may be a  
18 little different as far as these results. Those folks I  
19 would say are typically, by the exam results, are not  
20 very well prepared for the examination based on their 720  
21 hours of experience and possibly no formal electrical  
22 education whatsoever.

23 CHAIR JENKINS: I do appreciate you doing  
24 this because this is kind of our privy. This is what we  
25 do as far as examining our -- part of the board's



1           responsibilities. I do appreciate you doing this because  
2           this really kind of drives some of those questions I've  
3           had in the past home.

4           My original question is more or less do we have any  
5           type of discrepancy -- do we have one specialty that  
6           drove the 81 people in the poor, one that like they're  
7           really upset about their exam? But it sounds like  
8           they're all the same across the board within reason.

9           MR. VANCE: Yeah. It's within reason. I  
10          haven't found a smoking gun in that regard.

11          CHAIR JENKINS: And last thing, you know,  
12          going through this, I think you've said it but I want to  
13          make sure. Was there any bigger picture of why -- you  
14          said that you did some research because of some requested  
15          information. Was there something else that was really  
16          driving this report?

17          MR. VANCE: No. It was just a walk in the  
18          woods so to speak. You know, hey, I wonder what this  
19          report says.

20          CHAIR JENKINS: Fair enough.

21          MR. VANCE: So we get into that.

22          CHAIR JENKINS: Okay.

23          MR. VANCE: The board had a question -- in  
24          fact Board Member Cox is not here during this meeting.  
25          But PSI is looking at the statistic summary by attempts



1 report. For this public information request, I ran -- we  
2 started -- we transitioned from LaserGrade to PSI, and  
3 this is when LaserGrade was purchased by PSI in 2010. So  
4 from January 1, 2010 up to January 1, 2023, I ran exam  
5 statistic by attempt reports for every one of those  
6 years. And I've been reporting on this to the board for  
7 -- since 2011. And there was nothing surprising in those  
8 14 years of reports.

9 However, I'm not able to run a current report  
10 because there is a data anomaly that kicks me out of the  
11 report query because there's something wrong in data land  
12 on the present data. And PSI is looking into this.

13 They're also looking into Board Member Cox's  
14 question about the zero attempt. We had a lot of  
15 discussion about zero attempt last board meeting. And  
16 we're all confused as to what zero attempt means. And I  
17 expect by the next board meeting that we'll have some  
18 information about that and possibly some fresher data.

19 But again, over those 14 years, the pass rate  
20 percentages are not changing. The needle's not going in  
21 any particular direction. The only direction that I can  
22 see potentially going forward is in the O1 exams because  
23 of the prevalence of formal electrical training that'll  
24 come with the apprenticeship requirements that really  
25 fully implement in 2026. We're still in that



1 transitional period where when the law came into effect  
2 on July 1, 2023, if you're a person that has worked 3000  
3 hours in the industry at that time, you are not required  
4 to register and complete an apprenticeship until -- to  
5 qualify for the exam until July 1, 2026. So we still  
6 have OJT pathway people in the system. It will only be  
7 after July 1, 2026 that we'll have a more -- purer stream  
8 of applicants that have completed some -- they've  
9 completed an apprenticeship. By apprenticeship, I mean a  
10 registered apprenticeship in a Washington approved  
11 registered electrical apprenticeship program.

12 CHAIR JENKINS: On that note, are we keeping  
13 a longer year record? Because I'm really curious to see  
14 what we're doing four years ago, you know, comparable to  
15 2026 when we get there. I'd like to be able to compare  
16 that. I don't know how far back we can go.

17 MR. VANCE: We maintain files of what's  
18 provided to the board. So every report the board gets,  
19 it goes in a file somewhere I mean electronically.

20 While we have a relationship with this testing  
21 vendor, of course, we've got access to all of these  
22 reports.

23 CHAIR JENKINS: Okay. I'll hold my question  
24 until if I'm here in 2026.

25 MR. VANCE: Right. I mean and, you know,





1 looking back at the history of transitioning vendors,  
2 we've always -- Labor and Industries hasn't always owned  
3 our own question database. There's a period of time when  
4 we transitioned from pencil and paper exams. Bubble  
5 sheets was the latest iteration of those paper/pencil  
6 exams.

7 But there was a time when we had a provider that  
8 owned their own question database, and we didn't like  
9 that. We didn't like the quality of the questions. We  
10 didn't think that the questions -- you know, we just had  
11 opinions about the questions. That's when we went about  
12 transitioning -- with the board's advice, transitioning  
13 to another testing platform. And we furiously began  
14 soliciting questions.

15 When we did that, we're writing questions. We're  
16 accepting questions. We may accept questions and modify  
17 those questions slightly. We were just trying to cover  
18 the gamut of each specialty. The thing was is what we  
19 ended up with is just a huge bank of questions. And for  
20 a calculation question, for instance, you can change  
21 this, which changes that, which changes this. So you can  
22 have a huge variety of questions just built on one  
23 particular concept.

24 Having said all that, then we get to all of the  
25 specialties. Now how -- which specialty gets which



1 question? Does -- does an 07 nonresidential maintenance  
2 exam, is it appropriate to have a question about how to  
3 calculate the service size of a 20-unit apartment  
4 building? Is it appropriate to have them perform a load  
5 calculation as part of their exam? The answer to that  
6 would be no. But how did we -- how did we do that?

7 And at the time, what the board did was is the board  
8 put together a subject matter expert group. There was  
9 board participants. There was industry participants.  
10 And they essentially sat in a room for days, several  
11 days. And each question came up. And again, you've got  
12 that question and then you've got all the flavors of the  
13 question. So does this question apply? And people --  
14 subject matter experts from each area said, "Yes. That  
15 one applies. No. That does not apply."

16 You know, so essentially what they did is they  
17 sifted all of the questions into their relevant areas.  
18 In other words, this is their 02 residential question.  
19 It's also an 01 question. It's also an 03 pump and  
20 irrigation question because an 03 can do an entire pump  
21 house. It could be as big as this room or bigger. Some  
22 on the Columbia River certainly are.

23 Long story short, there was a lot of vetting that  
24 went into these questions. I think that the exam survey  
25 data supports that, and meaning that people that



1           responded to the exam say, "Hey, these questions do  
2           apply." And that's good to see. But when people wonder  
3           how or why somebody -- a question ends up on an exam,  
4           that's how it got there.

5                       Now, there may be a question that is a voltage drop  
6           calculation or some other question that may be at a way  
7           higher voltage than you work at. So if I'm an O6 limited  
8           energy electrician, I'm typically never going to -- I'm  
9           really never probably going to work over 100 volts. But  
10          my question is based on 480 volts. Well, the math is no  
11          different. The math in Ohm's law is the same. Doesn't  
12          matter. You just have to know the values. You have to  
13          know, you know --

14                      So should we tailor the exams down to that extent?  
15          Should someone that's an O6 limited energy electrician --  
16          let's say it's a wire fill question and it has to do with  
17          four-inch conduit. And the fire alarm technician says,  
18          "I run open cable or half or three-quarter-inch conduit.  
19          Why would I be asked a question about four-inch conduit?"  
20          Because the math again is the same. This is the -- this  
21          is the circumference. This is the area. This is the --  
22          it's the same. It's the same.

23                      So again, it's not an exam about what you have  
24          memorized. It's an exam about the information that you  
25          can access. And over time, that exam does not change.



1           It changes very, very incrementally, just like the  
2           National Electric Code does. So the board's had  
3           questions about when the exam will be updated. We don't  
4           have really any information to share about that at this  
5           point. We do have some capacity issues. And we may be  
6           -- Secretary Molesworth will be sharing some things later  
7           in his secretary report that may shine a little bit of  
8           light on why we are -- or how we're approaching updating  
9           the exam for various reasons. But yeah.

10                   CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you. I think Board  
11           Member Bobby Gray had something.

12                   BOARD MEMBER GRAY: Yeah. Thank you,  
13           Mr. Chair. Board Member Gray. Larry, I had three  
14           questions. The first one: Did I hear you correctly that  
15           your statistics here are consistent with an O1 survey as  
16           well?

17                   MR. VANCE: Yes.

18                   BOARD MEMBER GRAY: So they're consistent.  
19           Okay. And secondly then, it looks like the negatives,  
20           extreme negatives, against the PSI run around two percent  
21           to four percent, which probably would be in the weeds  
22           somewhere and you could chalk it up to the people that  
23           just walk around with a negative attitude all the time.  
24           So it would not -- I don't see them seeing that as a need  
25           to go change much in their process.



1           For the test itself, it looks like the percentages  
2           go somewhere from five to seven percent negative. And if  
3           you assume that the folks that were negative about  
4           everything would also be included in that population, you  
5           take that out, it would still run probably, what, three  
6           to seven percent perhaps. Is that enough to cause you --  
7           maybe you answered it. Maybe we'll see what you're  
8           driving as far as change. But would that be enough to  
9           cause you to make any changes in the exam itself? That  
10          seems like a pretty low percentage to me, even though  
11          we're having a failure rate first time in the 50 percent  
12          -- percentile I think place. So it's not going to be  
13          just the fix that failed the test that are being grouchy  
14          about the exam itself. I guess that's what I'm asking.  
15          Is that enough to cause you to change at pretty much to  
16          the exam at all?

17                   SPEAKER: In my personal opinion, I don't  
18                   see that. I see that as a very -- such a minor  
19                   percentage. And everybody's experience is important. If  
20                   I go to -- into an exam testing center and I'm in my  
21                   little cubicle, some of them have kind of a cubicle, a  
22                   divider. And then there's maybe somebody six feet away  
23                   from you in their little cubicle divider. And let's say  
24                   that person is sick. They're sneezing. They're  
25                   coughing. They're -- I don't even want to be there.



1 Right? Because I don't -- you know, I can't even  
2 concentrate because keep feeling the -- you know, the air  
3 moving on my face. I can't -- with that small  
4 percentage, I can't sift out why you're having a bad exam  
5 experience. Is there a ballast in the room that's  
6 buzzing? Is there -- what is it that's causing you . . .

7 And the other thing that we have is that we have a  
8 lot of people -- and it's just become more prevalent  
9 because society is more aware of it, but there's -- we  
10 add into this whole thing then the Americans with  
11 Disabilities Act. So you have people that have  
12 everything from eyesight issues to dyslexia to anxiety.  
13 There's a lot of people that have test anxiety. I  
14 remember -- I mean just coming up through the school  
15 system, there was people that would almost be violently  
16 ill if they had to take an exam or a quiz or anything  
17 like that.

18 So add all that into those small numbers. I'm not  
19 sure what that all means. I mean I -- especially when  
20 you're being asked questions about things that you may  
21 not have memorized. Right? You now have to dissect the  
22 question as to, "What are they asking me? I'm under  
23 stress." I think the board has set an expectation of  
24 about two and a half minutes per question. I have to go  
25 back in the board minutes. So you're given two and a



1 half minutes per question. It is a timed exam. People  
2 with -- people can request a special accommodation, get  
3 up to half of the -- get up to double time -- excuse me  
4 -- double time. So if it's a two-hour exam segment, they  
5 can have four hours to take that. That's something that  
6 they work through us for. They request it from us. We  
7 verify from somebody that we get -- all they have to do  
8 is communicate from it -- from someone that can attest to  
9 the fact that they have a learning disability; they have  
10 anxiety; they have -- whatever their condition is. We --  
11 we work with the testing agency, the test provider, and  
12 say, "This candidate -- this candidate number identifier  
13 may have double time."

14 And then it's up to the -- that's something that's  
15 not automated. And that's an area that -- of the  
16 scheduling that we could probably be getting some bad  
17 results on just because you're trying to get somebody  
18 who's obviously got -- they've got some obstacle right  
19 now, but you're trying to get them through a process that  
20 they may only go through one time. And there's not a lot  
21 of information out there on how to do it.

22 So there are areas that we can improve and there are  
23 also areas that we can work with our test provider to  
24 approve. And it would probably be -- the ADA area would  
25 be something that would be something that we could smooth



1 out. Because I mean if you've got test anxiety, you've  
2 got test anxiety all the way, whether you're -- I mean  
3 you've got it while you're trying to schedule it, while  
4 you're trying to think about it, whatever. You've got  
5 test anxiety.

6 And then people that have issues with perception and  
7 reading, dyslexia for instance, that's really a -- that's  
8 really something to work through. I have some personal  
9 experiences on that. I imagine everyone does. And it's  
10 just the fact that what they see on the page is not what  
11 goes through their mind.

12 And my wife says this electrical stuff is really dry  
13 and really boring and everything. But I disagree. But  
14 if you're a person with those challenges, you're not a  
15 bad electrician. You're not a bad person. And we just  
16 need to work -- we need to work together to get people  
17 through the process.

18 CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you very much.

19 Is there any other questions for Technical  
20 Specialist Larry Vance?

21 Well, thank you very much.

22 MR. VANCE: Thank you very much.

23 CHAIR JENKINS: Let's take a short break,  
24 about 10 minutes, get started about 20 after-ish.

25 (Recess was taken.)





1                   CHAIR JENKINS: All right. Like to call the  
2 Washington Electrical Board meeting back to order.

3                   Our next item back on our list here is Secretary's  
4 Report with Secretary Wayne Molesworth.

5  
6                   Secretary's Report, Wayne Molesworth  
7

8                   SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Thank you,  
9 Mr. Chairman, board members, I'm going to read the  
10 secretary's report into the record. The language may  
11 change a little bit if you picked up the printed copy. I  
12 just made a couple of edits, so it'll be in the record.

13                  Okay. As far as the budget is concerned, due to a  
14 situation outside of our control, we do not have a budget  
15 report for this board meeting. Budget is a little late  
16 in getting their numbers. As soon as we get that, we'll  
17 report it to the board so that you guys are have accurate  
18 numbers.

19                  What we do want you to know is that the revenue and  
20 expenses for the fund, the expenses are exceeding the  
21 revenue at this point. For the last couple of years,  
22 it's been exceeding. And we also have a little bit of  
23 problem with permit sales are down over the past three  
24 years and continues to decline.

25                  We currently have 4.5 months of operating capital in



1 the electrical fund and predicted to go down to 3.5  
2 months of operating capital by June 2025. Because of  
3 this, one of the things we're looking at is a fee  
4 increase that's over and above the economic growth  
5 factor. The last fee increase we did last year was 6.4  
6 percent. What we need to always consider is that is a  
7 good amount to take care of the inflation factors; except  
8 for when we do that, that's looking at the last two years  
9 of data as far as permit sales. And so if permit sales  
10 go down, that 6.2 doesn't give us -- or 6.4 doesn't give  
11 us what we expect to cover our expenses.

12 That's why now we're going back and we're looking at  
13 okay, if this continues to be a problem, what percentage  
14 of fee increase would that take in order to bring the  
15 fund flush or rise a little? Remember my objective is to  
16 get it to rise a little and fall a little, depending on  
17 the time of year, not to have a consistent incline, not  
18 to have a consistent decline in that fund.

19 Okay. Customer service, we had 45,869 permits were  
20 sold last quarter. 97.6 percent or 44,756 were processed  
21 online, which is a decrease of 0.8 percent from last  
22 quarter. 99.7 percent of contractor permits were sold  
23 online, which is the same for the previous quarter.  
24 Homeowner's online sales for this quarter is 81.6  
25 percent, which is a 2.1 percent decrease from last



1 quarter. During this quarter, customers made 88.3  
2 percent of all electrical license renewals were online,  
3 which is a 2.0 percent decrease from last quarter.

4 We're going to talk a little about key performance  
5 measures. Percent inspections performed within 24 hours  
6 of request: In 2024 -- or fiscal year 2024 -- we're in  
7 fiscal year 2025 right now -- we did 78 percent. And  
8 this fiscal year we did 79 percent.

9 Percent of inspections performed within 48 hours of  
10 request, the goal is 94 percent. In '24 we did  
11 90 percent. And so far in '25, we've done 91 percent.

12 Total inspections performed, last year it was  
13 69,146. This year it's 69,014. Virtual electrical  
14 inspections, VEI, performed 8,000 in 2024 and 13,995 in  
15 2025 so far.

16 Number of focused citations and warnings --  
17 contractor licensing, work certification, no permit,  
18 failing to supervise trainees:J the field did 895 last  
19 year, ECOPE did 1,683, for a total of 2,578. This  
20 particular year so far, Field did 285. Audit and ECOPE  
21 did 1,698 for a total of 1,983.

22 Inspections done per inspector per day: Last year  
23 the average was 11.6. This year it's 12.

24 Serious electrical corrections that would result in  
25 disconnection: Last year it was 10,354. This year it's



1           9,126.

2                   Turnaround time for average plan set reviewed for  
3 plan review: The goal is 1.6 weeks. Last year it was  
4 2 days. Right? Because we've gone to electronic plan  
5 review. And this year so far 1.5 days has been the  
6 average. So doing an excellent job with plan review.

7                   Plan pages reviewed (all electronically): Last year  
8 1,052, this year 1,246.

9                   Percentage of warnings by focus violation:  
10 Licensing was 3 percent. Certification was 27 percent.  
11 No permit 67 percent. Trainee supervision 3 percent.  
12 All other focused 3.5 percent.

13                   Okay. Electrical Licensing/Citations/Amusement  
14 Rides and Appeals: This is the part of our central  
15 office group that covers all of these different topics.  
16 As of 10/21/24, there are approximately 190 items waiting  
17 to be processed by the licensing team. The oldest item  
18 is dated 10/10/24. About 150 of these are affidavits  
19 needing to be processed. Our previous backlog  
20 significantly improved as we now have a full team of  
21 customer service specialists, seven in total, processing  
22 the daily work.

23                   I don't know if you guys remember but that team had  
24 a backlog of almost 2,000 not too long ago. So they've  
25 done an excellent job of processing those, working some



1 overtime, fully staffed, training new staff. I'm really  
2 proud of this group.

3 In addition to processing documents, licensing staff  
4 are responsible for answering all incoming electrical  
5 licensing phone calls. For all the time frame between  
6 7/1/24 and 9/30/24, they received 5,747 calls through the  
7 Licensing phone line. This does not include inbound  
8 calls to their direct lines or outbound calls made to the  
9 customer.

10 Amber Bac accepted the Licensing Supervisor position  
11 and is also still handling the Appeals position as well.  
12 Amber is back here.

13 Raise your hand, Amber.

14 That's Amber. She took that as a temporary position  
15 for the time being because of our hiring processes and  
16 what we're going through with that. And, therefore,  
17 we're having to keep that other position for the board  
18 vacant.

19 The Citations and Amusement Rides team currently  
20 consists of one person who is handling all  
21 Citation/Amusement Ride work. We are still unable to  
22 hire for the vacant Appeals and Citations/Amusement Ride  
23 position at this time.

24 Okay. So there was a couple other updates. I don't  
25 think we have any new testing labs. Legislation is not



1 -- is coming up, and we have some things that we may be  
2 doing for agency legislation but nothing for sure yet.  
3 So I'll keep that for next time.

4 Other program updates: I wanted to let you know  
5 that I attended a workforce enhancement meeting with  
6 Microsoft and the IBEW and several contractors in  
7 Wenatchee this last week. It appears that we received  
8 almost \$300,000 worth of permits from contractors that  
9 are going to be engaged with Microsoft in another  
10 development in that area. They're expecting somewhere  
11 around 2,600 electricians at the peak. And so they're  
12 looking at different ways to enhance electricians to come  
13 into the state, also what amenities and things in  
14 Wenatchee area can actually draw people to Wenatchee.

15 The problem with that for us is they're going to  
16 want to be looking for temporary licenses for  
17 out-of-state electricians or something on that order. I  
18 voiced my opinions at the meeting, that I was not a big  
19 proponent of doing what we did before, which was giving  
20 people a \$3,000 -- three-month pass -- sorry; no money  
21 involved in this -- three-month pass on licensing. But  
22 they had to take the test within three months. What we  
23 showed is that very few of those people, if any, actually  
24 took the test. They worked three months and then they  
25 were gone for the most part.



1           They recognize that. The IBEW recognized that. A  
2 lot of the same contractors recognize that. And so we're  
3 going to be working on other avenues to bring people into  
4 the state and get them tested.

5           One of the big concerns was also how do we audit and  
6 accept their hours, because that was one of the hurdles  
7 they heard from a lot of the different people that came  
8 in was it took a lot to get their hours accepted because  
9 in some cases, they didn't have the ability to prove some  
10 of those hours. And so that's something we'll be working  
11 on going forward.

12           Talked a little bit about the fee increase. We're  
13 looking at -- right now the proposal was 6.2 percent  
14 economic growth factor. We're looking at anywhere  
15 between 10 and 15 percent for an actual fee increase.  
16 And I'm sure you can imagine where that comes from. We  
17 got a pretty large increase in wages over the last couple  
18 of years. Our next class and comp package actually  
19 reflects that going permanent instead of a two-year  
20 package. And also we've done some restructuring to the  
21 classification series of the electrical inspector  
22 classification, which will also cause a little bit of  
23 spending in wages as well.

24           So we're considering the future, making sure that  
25 the fee increase that we do we don't have to do another



1 one and that we can survive on this then along with our  
2 economic growth factor every year to cover the increased  
3 expenses. Right? Having trouble with the word. So that  
4 covers that.

5 I appreciate Larry's review of the exam and talking  
6 about a little bit about PSI, what the customers think of  
7 that. What I want you guys to know is that there is a  
8 contract. Their contract was up. There is a contract  
9 being put forward for a -- to be sent out for bid for  
10 other testing agencies as well. I think Larry, Megan and  
11 some others are actually working on the criteria for that  
12 contract. It doesn't mean that it won't be PSI, but it  
13 means that others will get that opportunity.

14 We have had some difficulty in the administrative  
15 part of PSI, getting them to respond to us for those  
16 people that were having problems. And so that instigated  
17 another part of the agency, contractor compliance  
18 plumbing, to look into that a little bit deeper as well.  
19 And so we're not the only ones that use that testing  
20 group. So just a little update on where that might go in  
21 the future.

22 Other than that, I think that's it for the  
23 Secretary's report. Does the board have any questions?

24 CHAIR JENKINS: Yes. Board Member Don  
25 Baker.





1                   BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Fee increase 10 to 15  
2 percent, did you say implemented by June next year? Is  
3 that what you're talking?

4                   SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: It wouldn't take  
5 effect until July 1 this next year.

6                   BOARD MEMBER BAKER: July.

7                   SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Right. What our 6.2  
8 economic growth factor increase did this last year in  
9 July was it brought in only about 2.5 million  
10 approximately. Our expenses grew to about 3.5 or a  
11 little bit better than that per year because of the  
12 raises and some other expenses. So that growth factor  
13 increase of fees didn't cover the additional expenses.  
14 And that's why we're looking now to say, "Okay, what are  
15 we going to do in the future? How much do we have to  
16 have so that we're not going back constantly and worrying  
17 about the fund?"

18                   BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Inspections per day.  
19 It seems like a few years ago the number was 10. Now  
20 it's 11 and now it's up to 12. What do you attribute  
21 that to? I mean I want to ask if that includes virtual  
22 inspections.

23                   SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: So yeah. You know,  
24 that particular number shouldn't include VEI. I can't  
25 tell you for sure if they calculated that in there or



1 not. I know VEI is doing approximately 4,000 a month.  
2 Right? And they're not a requested inspection. They're  
3 an inspection that they field request when a contractor  
4 calls in for a VEI inspection. So it shouldn't be.

5 What I'm attributing a lot of that to when I was  
6 looking at it was that the type of work that we're  
7 actually doing now has diminished a little bit. If you  
8 look at the permit sales and the number of permits and  
9 you look into our upload reports, our upload reports are  
10 showing a lot of -- a little bit less complex inspection.  
11 A lot of HVAC, lot of small solar, you know, that type of  
12 thing. So that's -- that's what's happening with our  
13 fees as well because that's the type of work that we're  
14 doing. We're seeing that come down.

15 A lot of the regions are actually doing more  
16 inspections per day than what's actually coming in. So  
17 that's good because there was some backlog there and they  
18 were able to catch up on some of that backlog as well.  
19 Most of the back log is low risk HVAC installations as  
20 well.

21 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Last, this is a little  
22 bit self-serving, but did Microsoft say how quickly they  
23 would want to put something in place?

24 SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Told me not to tell  
25 Don Baker anything about it. No, they didn't. These are



1 going to be ongoing meetings it sounds like at least for  
2 the next few months. And I didn't hear them mention any  
3 particular date as of yet. People asked for a schedule.  
4 They wouldn't. They wouldn't say anything.

5 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: I hundred percent agree  
6 that some type of a temporary licensing arrangement  
7 probably needs to be put in place because there's so much  
8 activity on the east side it's incomprehensible.

9 SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Yeah. I have very  
10 mixed feelings about that. As a matter of fact, one of  
11 the things that I voiced with them because I'm a little  
12 upset that we gave that option and they didn't take  
13 advantage of it, that if we did do that, it would be a  
14 shorter period of time that they would have to take that  
15 test and that not only the contractor but Microsoft would  
16 be responsible for tracking those individuals. And if  
17 you haven't taken it, you're gone. Right? We'll also  
18 look at some kind of compliance schedule to deal with it  
19 as well if we actually entertain that any further.

20 But, you know, what I told them, that my  
21 responsibility is first and foremost to the electricians  
22 in this state and the contractors that are in this state.  
23 And if we can do something that doesn't affect them, then  
24 I'm all for it. But I was a little dissatisfied hearing  
25 the fact that people didn't take the test when they were



1 here, for the most part.

2 BOARD MEMBER BAKER: Thank you.

3 CHAIR JENKINS: Board Member Byron Allen.

4 BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Board Member Allen.

5 Thank you, Mr. Secretary, for your report. I'm wondering  
6 where you're at now with your inspector staffing and if  
7 your proposed increase of fee increases takes into  
8 account potential additional staffing that may be  
9 necessary with all of the eastside work that's happening  
10 and going to happen and all of the EV charging station  
11 work that is coming down the pipe as well.

12 SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: So our last budget  
13 package actually was based on future work for  
14 electrification. And so we got 10 FTEs this last year  
15 for that work. The budget is based on available FTEs to  
16 the program and so that's part of the mix when you start  
17 looking at the fee increases, that "We have this many  
18 inspectors. If it's been fully funded, what will it do?"

19 We can get that through looking at what our  
20 expenditures were, taking a look at how many vacancies we  
21 had. "Okay. We need to pay this many FTEs." So we take  
22 that off the top. We don't take it off the top. We  
23 actually add it to it, make sure it's there so that if we  
24 do fill those positions, we've got enough to cover it, if  
25 that makes sense.



1                   BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Do you consider  
2 yourself fully staffed now?

3                   SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: So it depends on the  
4 region. There are areas that are doing two more  
5 inspections every day than what's coming in. And for  
6 those areas, except for maybe one or two specific areas  
7 inside of that region, I say they are. But I can't say  
8 that the state is fully -- fully staffed just yet.

9                   I know that our most recent avenue for hiring, I  
10 suggested a couple more in Wenatchee because of the  
11 future work. And I'm asking for a few in VEI to cover  
12 those inspections because VEI covers the entire state,  
13 you know, if it's utilized.

14                  So yeah. Are we fully staffed? I'm not too sure we  
15 can answer that really clearly. I think we've got --  
16 we're good with staff right now. My caution to hiring is  
17 that we always have to consider the fund right now. And  
18 every time we add an inspector to the field or to VEI, it  
19 takes a minimum of \$180,000 a year to cover the expenses  
20 for that inspector. So you start adding five inspectors  
21 to that you're close to another million. In the last  
22 year, we lost \$2 million. If I add that many more staff  
23 right now, now we're down 3.

24                  And in the report, as you can see, when we say that  
25 we're at 4.5 months of operating expenses, the -- because



1           it's more like 10 million for that right now. Used to be  
2           like 6. Now it's almost 10 million. It costs that,  
3           three months of operating expenses. We're only a month  
4           and a half away from that right now. That's not where we  
5           want to be. All right? That's dangerous territory. We  
6           don't want to ever get back into the layoffs.

7                     So I'm very cautious with when they come to me and  
8           ask, "What can we do here?"

9                     You know. "Maybe we need to have a little bit more  
10          -- suffer through it a little bit more and wait until we  
11          get that fee increase so that we can see that fund taking  
12          care of itself." Because if we hire now and wind up  
13          laying off in the summer -- I don't know if anybody was  
14          here in 2008, '09, '10, but we took a huge hit  
15          reputationally when we had to lay off staff and because  
16          of the budget. And we're just recovering from that now  
17          15 years later. So it's tough. We don't want to get in  
18          that situation.

19                    CHAIR JENKINS: Yes. Bobby Gray.

20                    BOARD MEMBER GRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
21          Board Member Gray. The other side of that -- tack on to  
22          what Byron was saying -- I continually see that we're  
23          doing more and more inspections per day. We're up to 12  
24          now. But what we are not doing is finding serious  
25          violations. So that's being reduced. So we're



1 increasing the amount of inspections, decreasing the  
2 number of serious violations that we're seeing.

3 So it could be that we're being really efficient  
4 with our inspections and the installers are doing a much  
5 better job of installing it, or it could be they're  
6 stretched so thin that maybe they're not looking as deep  
7 as they possibly could. And that would be my concern.  
8 It's the serious violations that is concerning to me.

9 SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Yeah. To address the  
10 serious violations, you have to look at the type of work  
11 we're doing right now. And so you're going to have a lot  
12 less serious violations when you're inspecting an air  
13 conditioner disconnect, when you're inspecting  
14 thermostats, when you're inspecting a remodel. Right?  
15 Or a solar voltaic. And that's the majority of our work  
16 right now is inspections like that.

17 When I go in, and I go in rather frequently, and I  
18 look at the upload reports for all the regions and all  
19 the offices and see what's the type of work that we're  
20 doing, that's what I'm seeing. Of course, there's the  
21 occasional hospital is putting on an addition, you know,  
22 a lot of those one-offs. But for the most part, they're  
23 fairly -- it's fairly small work. And I think that's  
24 where you're seeing the decrease in the serious  
25 corrections. Personally that's kind of what I look at



1           when I weigh that out a little bit.

2                     They can be stretched a little thin. Problem is  
3 they'll be stretched even thinner if we exceed our  
4 budget, right, if we exceed our fund because now we've  
5 gotta lay off, unless you guys want to decrease that  
6 amount to maybe two months of operating expenses. I'm  
7 joking with that, by the way. We have to make sure that  
8 we're --

9                     CHAIR JENKINS: No. I think I speak for the  
10 board and I'll say that we all support the idea. No one  
11 wants to pay extra on any type of job. But we all need  
12 to support our electrical industry and I think we all  
13 support the idea if it's a fee increase that puts us into  
14 the level area, it is what it is. And we want to make  
15 sure we stay supported and have good quality inspectors  
16 and our jobs stay safe. I don't think anybody wants to  
17 pay more money, but that's not going to gain.

18                    SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Exactly. And you  
19 said something that reminded me of one other thing. We  
20 started giving the pre-hire assessment again. Some of  
21 you may have been here when inspectors had to take an  
22 assessment test and score in the top five before you  
23 could actually even get an interview. We're not going  
24 that far yet. But we're giving an open book assessment  
25 to make sure that our inspector candidates can actually





1 use the reference materials.

2 You know, it's one thing to have a journeyman  
3 certificate in your pocket. But that might have been  
4 from 20 years ago. Right? And so this assessment  
5 actually lets us know that they're able to use the  
6 materials. Because it's virtually a journeyman's -- a  
7 condensed journeyman's test with some schematics, with  
8 some theory in it, you know, to ensure that they've got  
9 an understanding, you know, of the theory of the  
10 electrical industry as well.

11 CHAIR JENKINS: Okay. Any more questions  
12 for -- from the board?

13 Thank you.

14 SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: You're very welcome.

15 CHAIR JENKINS: Anything else you had to  
16 present?

17 SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: So I did want to  
18 mention one other thing, if that is okay with the board.  
19 We went through agency legislation last year to change  
20 the requirements in the RCW for electrical inspector  
21 qualifications. If you remember, we removed the  
22 engineering qualification that had attached to it some  
23 experience in the field.

24 The reason we removed it was because it was being  
25 misapplied in a lot of cases. They were calling it



1       apprenticeships and school of engineering. That didn't  
2       fly. And also you could actually -- if you followed  
3       those qualifications, you could actually have an  
4       apprentice who couldn't do work on their own actually  
5       inspecting because it only required two years of  
6       experience and it didn't say what type of experience. It  
7       said experience in the electrical industry. So you could  
8       be -- nothing against sign electricians but you could be  
9       a sign electrician and qualify to be an electrical  
10      inspector. Well that's not what we want as an industry  
11      out there inspecting installations.

12               So we removed that language. And when we removed  
13      that language, the Legislature asked us to get together  
14      with the Association of Washington Cities and talk about  
15      what qualifications or what other pathways we may have  
16      for people to become electrical inspectors. There wasn't  
17      a whole bunch. We looked at some, accepting out-of-state  
18      experience, what does that look like. It was brought up  
19      in Apprenticeship but, you know, that's probably --  
20      because Apprenticeship has very specific timelines for  
21      apprentices to actually be supervised and work with  
22      another inspector. And if cities can't afford to give  
23      their inspectors raises, I don't think they can afford to  
24      have two guys in the same car. So that kind of fell  
25      through the net.



1           But we're giving a report back to the Legislature  
2           letting them know that we had these discussions and that  
3           we've got a couple of suggestions but we're not really  
4           supporting much except for the experience of the  
5           journeyman electrician for four years, a Washington  
6           journeyman. And the rest of it we'd have to really flesh  
7           out in order to be able to implement it. Almost  
8           everything we had weakened that point of view or those  
9           qualifications. So we don't want to do that if we don't  
10          have to.

11           That was all to that. When that comes out, we're  
12          more than happy to share that report in whole with the  
13          board.

14                   CHAIR JENKINS: Thank you very much.

15           Okay. Any other questions?

16           Well, thank you very much. Appreciate your report  
17          on that.

18                   SECRETARY MOLESWORTH: Yeah. Absolutely.  
19          Thank Lorin for reminding me. Where is he? There he is.

20  
21                   Public Comment Regarding Items Not on Agenda  
22

23                   CHAIR JENKINS: All right. We're on to our  
24          last item here is public comment regarding items not on  
25          the agenda. Did we have anybody sign in?



1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

2 CHAIR JENKINS: It looks like not. So I  
3 think we are good.

4 I do want to pass on that Dylan -- I always mess up  
5 the last name -- Cunningham, he did want to pass on to  
6 the board thank you very much for the time and experience  
7 he got on the board prior to this. He was changed out  
8 obviously since last meeting. And he wanted to express  
9 his thanks and he really appreciated being here. So  
10 wanted to make sure I put that on the record.

11 So with that the chair would entertain a motion to  
12 end the meeting.

13 BOARD MEMBER ALLEN: Board Member Allen,  
14 motion to adjourn.

15 CHAIR JENKINS: Motion to adjourn. Do we  
16 have a second?

17 BOARD MEMBER NORD: Board Member Nord,  
18 second.

19 CHAIR JENKINS: We have a second. Any  
20 discussion?

21 All in favor signify by saying aye.

22 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

23 CHAIR JENKINS: Opposed?

24 Motion passed.

25 (Meeting concluded at 11:58 a.m.)



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, CONNIE CHURCH, a Certified Stenographic Court Reporter in and for the State of Washington, residing at Montesano, do hereby certify:


That the foregoing proceedings were reported by me and thereafter reduced to a typed format under my direction; that the transcript, consisting of pages 1 - 92, is a full, true and complete transcript of said proceedings;

That as a CCR in this state, I am bound by the Rules of Conduct as Codified in WAC 308-14-130; that court reporting arrangements and fees in this case are offered to all parties on equal terms;

That I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel of any party to this action, or relative or employee of any such attorney or counsel, and I am not financially interested in the said action or the outcome thereof;

That upon completion, the original transcript will be securely sealed and served upon the appropriate party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of November, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Connie Church, CCR No. 2555  
Certified Stenographic Reporter



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