

Northland Community & Technical College

Electrical Advisory Committee Meeting

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Called to Order 10:00 AM by Chris Eken

Roll Call: Present: Chris Eken, Aaron Pearson, Rick Simon, Mitch Tupa, Curt Kasper, Todd Knaack, Don Fischer, Reannon Hoverson, Todd Grabanski, Jesse Sorum, Matt Fjelstad, Randy Olson, Eric Dennison

Absent: Dan Lamberson

Old Business: Reviewed the meeting minutes from April 18th, 2024. Motion to approve Jesse Sorum, Second Rick Simon.

Instructor report: Mitch Tupa 1<sup>st</sup> year class, semester 1. 16 students. One student has had prior experience, and the rest are very green. A few of the students Mitch said are picking up on things quickly. Good group. Attendance is very good, thinks that one student may not make it through the year. Mitch feels that some of his students are reluctant to look for work as electricians currently.

Instructor report: Rick Simon 2<sup>nd</sup> year class, semester 1. 15 students, 8-10 are currently working in the field. Great group, very smart students. Rick believes that they will be just fine transitioning into the field full time. Believe as the year goes on more will be going to work.

Classroom Cap is 23 students.

New business: Course outline will be brought to the next meeting and will be voted on and approved/denied for the next meeting in the spring. This information needs to be emailed to all members by Mitch and Rick before the next meeting for review.

The vote for Chair and Secretary took place at the meeting along with the two-year terms

The floor was opened for suggestions for nominations for chair, Chris Eken recused himself for any position due to holding the position for a long period of time.

Randy Olson nominated Kurt Casper as Chair, Matt Fjelstad seconded the motion, Kurt spoke up to let the group know that he will be retiring in August and that he could not fill the position.

The floor was opened again for nominations

Matt Fjelstad nominated Eric Dennison, before a second was taken Chris Eken verified if Eric would want to do that being that it was his first meeting. He said he was busy and that he would not have the time to fill the position.

The floor was opened again for nominations

Jesse Sorum nominated himself, second by Reannon Hoverson, passed unanimously. This position will go into effect after this meeting for a two-year term.

The floor was opened for Secretary nominations

Reannon Hoverson nominated herself, Second by Rick Simon, passed unanimously. This position will go into effect after this meeting for a two-year term.

Chris Eken will pass along all the documents that he has from the advisory board to Jesse and Reannon and that he will do the minutes for this meeting and the agenda for the next meeting.

Chris Eken made a motion to approve the two-year term, second by Kurt Casper, passed unanimously.

It was noted that Russ and Mike Lee have been removed from the board due to inactivity.

Chris Eken introduced Eric Dennison as a new supply member from DSG.

Don Fischer is taking the place of a retiring Monty Johnson. Don is in this position interim and will let us know more at the next meeting if he will still be in the position.

Don mentioned that the school went through a big slump through covid and that there has been a lot of rebuilding taking place. The President is very aggressive in taking a new approach with leadership and making changes. Don mentioned that there has been a huge communication lapse in the past and it has been improving greatly with this new leadership. Don touted amazing changes coming to the campus and the positive outlook for the campus. Happy to see smiles on faces.

A form was given to all members just for information for course approval from the State of Minnesota.

There is now a mandatory tool list that was supplied by Eric Dennison from DSG. A couple of things will have to be added to the list that was missed initially. Rick said that 20 were ordered and plans on ordering another 20 for next year. Rick said that the bookstore buys them, and the students can use their financial aid to purchase their tools. The tools are all Klien. Jesse said this list needs to be brought to the next meeting for review/approval.

Reannon would like to see the tool list to see if she could put something together. It was mentioned that the tool list should be supplied to any vendor that would like to bid on tool kit.

Mitch mentioned that they were getting prices for VFD's from Border States. Chris mentioned that when they are looking for material an email should be sent to both Supply members to get the best pricing for the schools and to equally support the supply houses.

Don said there is grant money available and that he wants Rick to keep it touch with him to look for and apply for grants that could help the program. Jesse said that teaching aids are easy to get grant money for and that consumables usually are not approved by most grants.

Rick said that there are needs for the lab and it was said that they should get a list together and send it out to suppliers. Don said that it is possible to get a match from the state in funds for what is donated to the program. Don is going to investigate this for the program.

Don said that the house project is a bit of a mess. The same house from last year is still sitting outside and it has kind of come to a halt. The eventual plan is to have two houses going at one time, with one being framed and rough work (1<sup>st</sup> semester) being done while the other is in the finish stage (2<sup>nd</sup> semester) ready to be sold and moved. Don is trying to get all of this ironed out.

It was mentioned again that the classroom and lab can be toured by members at anytime just make sure you schedule with Mitch or Rick first.

Next Board Meeting is set for April 24th, 2025, at 10:00 AM, at NCTC, East Grand Forks campus room 290. Matt Fjelstad moved to adjourn the meeting second by Todd Grabanski. Adjourned at 10:53 AM.