

Minnesota West CTC Advisory Committee

Members: Al Aaneneson, Nathan Brekke, Jose Cantu, Trevor Humphrey, Doug Lutterman, Kory Rawstern, Chris Svoboda, Andy Toft, Bob Walsh, Bob Wolf, Joe Yeske, along with faculty.

November 12, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Present: Judy Drown, Instructor-MN West; Jerry Deuschle, Instructor-MN West; Rob Arp, Instructor-MN West; Jose Cantu- Student; Joe Yeske, ECHO Electric Supply; Doug Lutterman, Electrical Instructor; Trevor Humphrey, Muth Electric; Kory Rawstern-IBEW Business Rep

Next meeting: Spring or Fall 2010

Welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming and serving on our advisory board for MN West electrical programs.

- A. **Objectives and Role of the Advisory Committee** – The advisory committee should be made of people in the electrical industry and the committee shall be run by the committee with input from faculty. A member should hold the Chairperson position. The Chairperson should call the meeting and make the agenda. It was agreed to keep the secretary position in house with faculty of MN West.
- B. **Election of Chairperson and Secretary**- Chairperson for a two-year term is Trevor Humphrey. Secretary is Jim Brewers.

Chair Trevor Humphrey took over and conducted the meeting.

- C. **Review of Courses for program** – It was brought up that MN West should possibly consider an 8 credit certificate of instrumentation training to go along with the electrical degree.

Discussed the Wind Program request the ELEC 1225 Electric Motors 4 credit class to reduce it to a 2 credit class. This would make it more program specific for the wind needs.

- D. **Canby Electrical Move** – The move is 75% complete into the main building. The labs look very nice and were planned and designed for the needs of the students.
- E. **Job Market/Projects Outlook** – There are jobs in the electrical field in the rural areas of Minnesota. There seems to be a journeyman shortage at the time. Companies cannot seem to be able to hire enough journeymen's to meet the ratio standard. Big Stone II project was cut. In which there were several jobs that will not be available now. IBEW is slow but they will still bring in new first year apprentices into their program. Brookings area is keeping busy.
- F. **Wind Energy Coring** – Wind energy program on the Canby Campus is full. The electrical program cores part of the program. The main question at the meeting was is with the number of students that are

going through the program is MN West concerned with flooding the market. Not at this time, due to all the work that is out there now and how the government is pushing for the increase by 2025.

- G. **Medium Voltage Training/NFPA 70E Safety** – 600 volts and higher is a specialized field. And in the electrical program it was recommended that we not try to train on such a high risk specialized field. Concerns were that students might feel they know more than what they really do when it comes to all the safety that is involved. Medium voltage should be kept to training of power line workers.
- H. **Safety in the Lab/PPE** – Both campuses take safety in all aspects to the lab setting. Proper LOTO, proper PPE, and safety rules are to be followed at all times in lab.
Arch flash safety was discussed and how the industry is changing drastically to work on all disconnected equipment. We reviewed MNSCU Arc Flash results of the study that was completed this last summer.
- I. **Contact with Journeyman** – It would be great if students would contact instructors or school when they obtain their journeyman status. More and more employers are calling the school looking to pass on the word to graduates who have earned their journeyman license about employment. A suggestion was made that MN West could do a contact letter after 3 years out for electrical students.
- J. **Power line/Electrical Program Field Day** – They are working on putting on a field day in the spring 2010 with vendors, contractors, and utility companies. Jerry and Rob will keep us informed.
- K. **Underground training labs**-This would be part of the Program Field day in the spring 2010.
- L. **Miscellaneous – Questions and concerns of the committee**
 - What are the learning desires of young students?** They do expect to be taught without having to open a book.
 - What are our class sizes?** Canby – 24 with up to 27 with instructor approval. Jackson – 80 for lecture and 24 and more in lab. It was brought up a learning concern about the self directed labs for electrical fundamentals at Jackson. It is not self directed in Canby, instructor with student's entire time during lab time.
 - Is this approved by the state board?** No answer
 - Why the difference?** We could not answer this one.
 - Who determines the class size?** Dennis Hampel**Committee would like to address these items at the next meeting.**

Minutes submitted by Judy Drown