

**Minnesota West Community and Technical College
Electrical Advisory Committee Minutes
November 3, 2011**

Attendees: Instructors: Rob Arp, Jim Brewers, Jerry Deuschle, and Judy Drown

Field Representatives: Trevor Humphrey, Muth Electric, Committee Chairman

Kory Rawstern , IBEW

Chris Swoboda, Willmar Electric

Becky Weber, MN West Canby Campus Manager

Joe Yeske, Echo Electric Supply

Unable to attend: Brian Gray, Volk Electric, Dennis Hampel, MN West Dean, Doug Lutterman, State Electrical Inspector, Andy Toft, IBEW.

AGENDA ITEMS

Call to order: Committee Chairman Trevor Humphry called the meeting to order followed by introductions.

Approved Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented with the addition of Summer Internships.

Memberships: Rob brought forth the topic of length of term for members. The recommendation is a three year term. After discussion and looking at the membership role, it was decided to retire Al Annenson, Doug Lutterman, Andy Toft, and Joe Yeske as they have served the longest. We thank them for their service. The members set a goal to have five members each north and south. Each will solicit new members to fill in the loss.

Job Site Security: Trevor wanted to bring to our attention the problem of break-ins at job sites. The electricians have lost tools in the break-in and generally are not insured, thus the electrician bares the loss. For new electricians there is a hardship to replace tools out of pocket. Older electricians may have accumulated additional tool over time and may find it easier. We are not sure what we can do aid the students except to make them aware of the situation.

Prerequisites: A short discussion about prerequisites for electrical classes, namely the **Electric Motor** class. There have been several inquiries about this class from non-program individuals with an interest only in this class. The discussion centered on the **Electrical Fundamentals** and

the **AC-DC I** and **AC-DC II** classes. These are the only prerequisites for all of the electrical classes.

Electrical Instructor's Summit: Judy informed the group of the intention to host a conference for all State of Minnesota Electrical Instructors at the Canby Campus. There has been a history of many successful conferences and we have had a gap for the last few years. There is value in the presentations as well as the trading of information. The conference would be scheduled for March of 2012. Judy was given verbal support for the project.

Industry Support: There was discussion about how to render more support from the local as well as manufactures support mostly around donations of materials. Chris suggested a letter could be drafted and sent to regional electrical contractors requesting their support in the form of materials either new or gently used surplus materials. Winter is sometimes used to clean the warehouse; this may be a good time. A thought about a tax deduction was mentioned. Chris mentioned the corn plant is working on the budget and what needs Judy would have for next year.

Lab Suggestions: Jerry asked if the advisors had any ideas for lab problems whether in residential or commercial. Chris mentioned "trouble shooting". There is a need for this skill in the work place. Jerry mentioned the upcoming "Sabotage" lab scheduled for the next week where students will make two errors in their lab and another student will trouble-shoot the lab. There is a need to do more of this type of lab.

Instrumentation: There was a continuation of discussion from the last advisory meeting. There is a need for training in instrumentation. Rob inquired about the possibility of a certificate for students completing classes in instrumentation. We do not feel a need to add a full program for this subject. This could be a portion of the Industrial Class.

Heat Tracing: A consensus indicated the need to introduce this to the students.

Motor Control Centers: Neither campus has a full motor control center, perhaps some parts. Motor control centers are a large part of industrial work. Students need to have more than a discussion on this subject. Faculty requested advisor's aid in securing some good used equipment. The advisors will look into the fate of MCCs removed from jobs. There seems to be a number of replacements going on. Should we be teaching from old equipment or new state-of-the-art equipment? There is not enough money for new at this time.

Medium Voltage: Medium voltage training was again discussed. A consensus was that it would be sufficient to demonstrate for the students the proper methods for medium voltage

termination. With Power Line and Wind programs on campuses we may get some assistance in this area.

Course Outlines: Advisors have not gone through the course outlines for some time, so they were presented with a copy of each class outline for their study to be discussed at the next meeting.

Summer internships: Chris asked about the use of summer internships. Rob reported that there are some contractors that hire students for summer employment. There is the fact that the State does not recognize summer on the job training for school settings. The time the student is working for a contractor for the summer would count towards apprenticeship.

Adjourn

Jerry Deuschle