



# *International Association of Electrical Inspectors*

## **Minnesota Chapter**

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*President Cari Williamette*

*Vice President: Scott Novotny*

*Secretary: Marcus "Sam" Sampson*

## **MINUTES MINNESOTA CHAPTER WINTER MEETING JANUARY 9, 2008**

The 2008 Winter Meeting of the Minnesota Chapter was called to order at 5:05 pm on January 9, at the Earle Brown Center at the University of Minnesota by 2007 Chapter President Pat McMullen.

President McMullen opened the meeting to old business, and Secretary Richard Owen read the minutes of the Fall 2007 chapter meeting. The minutes were approved without change.

With no further old business, under new business the first item on the agenda was the Treasurer's report. Treasurer M. "Sam" Sampson reported the chapter's checking account balance remains steady and that we would be looking to "spend down" the certificate of Deposit that the Chapter has been saving for the next time we host the annual Western Section meeting. The report was approved.

President McMullen opened the meeting to committee reports, and the first was from Education & Code Panel. Chair Jamie McNamara was not in attendance, but the committee reminded everyone that there would be a two-hour Electrical Inspectors Code Panel at the next chapter meeting on April 9th. The meeting will be in conjunction with the first day of the NCEL Upper Midwest Electrical EXPO Minneapolis Convention Center. The committee also reminded inspector members that the chapter is seeking at least 20 code proposal ideas to submit to the Western Section for the 2011 NEC. Proposals or proposal ideas can be submitted to the secretary or any of the chapter officers, as well as to the education committee.

Legislative Liaison John Schultz reported that governor finally appointed the members of the new Board of Electricity at the end of October 2007, and that the Board has already met three times. One of the responsibilities of the new Board is to adopt the current edition of the National Electrical Code, but legislation adopted in 2007 requires a 180-day waiting period after the adoption of a new construction code before the code becomes effective. The Board

is pursuing an expedited adoption process in the hope of a July 1, 2008 effective date for the 2008 NEC. John also reminded attendees of the new registration requirements for all unlicensed individuals performing electrical work, a requirement that went into effect on December 1, 2007. He said the Board would be seeking comments on continuing education and exam applicant minimum requirements as part of a coordination of Minnesota Rules with the new language of the Minnesota Electrical Act. The Department of Labor & Industry will be submitting a “clean-up bill” to the legislature correcting some language and organization of some of the items in the bill passed last year.

Membership Chair Tim Miller reported that the chapter membership numbers had decreased slightly due to a loss of Associate Members, and encouraged all members present to actively seek new members. He challenged the membership to “share the benefits” and sign up one new member in the coming year. The membership report was also approved without change.

Sunshine Committee chair Tom Tobias reminded the members to notify him whenever the chapter should send a card or note to a member or spouse. He noted that the chapter had sent cards to Mike Hawk, whose father passed and to Gary Pederson, whose stepmother had passed in the past few months.

Dick Owen spoke for absent summer meeting chair, Jim Gangl, regarding changes for the summer meeting. The Minnesota Electrical Association and the Minnesota Chapter have negotiated with Breezy Point for an optional “American Plan” for guests who wish to only take advantage of the lodging and amenities at the resort. Persons attending will now have the option to skip meals or take their meals elsewhere and to not pay for the “free golf” we didn’t have time to use anyway because we were in meetings.

Under new business, NCEL booth committee chair Cari Williamette reminded folks that the IAEI will have a booth at the EXPO and that volunteers are needed to work shifts on both days. She also mentioned that with the Republican National Convention in St Paul at the time of the Minnesota State Fair, more volunteers will be needed to take the place of the St. Paul inspectors who will be unable to take their usual State Fair shifts. Volunteers should contact Cari by phone or email to sign up for either event.

With no further committee reports, a motion was passed to accept the reports without change.

The 2008 Chapter Officers were sworn in at the end of the meeting by special guest Michael Johnston of the International office, and outgoing President Pat McMullen presented the gavel of office to the 2008 Chapter President Cari Williamette.

Membership chair Tim Miller and immediate past President McMullen then presented a special gift to long-time chapter secretary Richard Owen. After 17 years as Minnesota Chapter secretary, Dick is stepping back – sort of. Tim explained that although Dick is leaving his chapter secretary position, he will be the IAEI International President in 2009 and will continue as the international education chair.

President McMullen adjourned the meeting at 5:45 pm. Following the meeting chapter members and guests gathered at the Chianti Grill in Roseville for social hour and dinner.