

October 7, 2009

Called to Order 11:05 AM

Roll call: Present -Dan Boyce, Wade Selvig, Russ Penn, Ed Krogfoss, Curtis Peters, Dan Edman and Rodney Cote. Absent – Clair Zirnhelt, Willard Nephew, Glenn Erickson, James Fisher, Bob Wolf, Jon Reiger, Bob Kvitne, Russ Lee, Mark Lothspeich, Hank Roehrich, Norma Konschek and Cut Anderson

Old Business – Review Meeting Minutes (none reviewed)

New Business:

East Grand Forks Campus – Curt & Rodney reported the 23 1st year students started this fall semester. But one dropped. Twenty 2nd year students move on from the 1st year programs.

Thief River Falls Campus – Dan and Wade reported nine students enrolled in the second year program and seventeen started the 1<sup>st</sup> year program.

MSCU – has decreed that Northland was to cap at a total of seventy-one students in the electrical program between the two locations.

Thief River Falls Campus classrooms may be moving to the main campus at a later date – this needs to be verified.

Dan and Wade – would like to look for funding for another Volt-Lab set-up – like is in use at the EGF campus – this equipment is not easily moved between campuses – fear of damaging equipment without the proper moving equipment.

No Curriculum changes planned at this time.

Open discussion comments:

Discussion was held regarding the market for students after graduation – placement rate has only running around 40 %. General consensus is partly due to the economy – a lack there of in the building trades, contracts are not hiring new employees at the same rate as a couple of years ago.

Discussion on the trends of the student mix – several older students this year and two female students. Some of this attributed to layoffs with the older student starting in a new career path, some are from other major area employers such as New Flyer, Marvin Windows – which they are supporting the students course work – which would be assumed may open new doors for the student in the future.

Discussion regarding student strengths and weaknesses, common sense and ethics, promoting more hands on, and trouble shoot skills.

Discussion regarding licensure and testing between the border states of MN and ND. Differences between the types of test and their difficulty level.

Discussion was held regarding the current work locations. Contractors must look for more work further away from their home base locations. Make the students more aware of this trend, in the construction trades is a necessary item of discussion in the classroom.

Seession broke for Lunch

Discussion was held regarding the value of the EGF's classroom House project. The instructors all feel that this project is an extremely important part of their program, as a training tool.

Discussion was held regarding wages and the limitations they put on students staying in the area after graduating –is felt that the local economy's wage structure has been a deterrent for graduates to seek employment in their local areas, and they are seeking employment in other markets, with higher starting salaries.

There being no other new business – the meeting was adjourned @ 1:30 PM

Next meeting spring 2010. Date and time will be announced. Around Mid April.

Russ Penn –Chair

“Thanks to Dan Boyce for his assistance in the taking of minutes for this meeting.”