

Ulster County Electrical Licensing Board

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Today's meeting date: May 27, 2026

Location: 1915 Lucas Tpk. Cottekill, NY 12419

Present: Board Members: Tom Nash, John Dispensa, John Hamilton, Jeanne Walsh, Eric Stewart

Excused: Jim Sass, Scott McCarthy, Michael Catalano

Other Attendees: Guilia Ligotino, Administrative Support; Robert Parete, Deputy Commissioner of Capital Projects; Pedro Leyva, Charles Defraia, Anthony Batchety, members of public.

Board Chair Jeanne Walsh called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to approve the minutes of April 22, 2026.

Motion By: Jeanne Walsh

Motion Seconded By: Tom Nash

Nays/Abstentions/Recused: 0

Number in favor: 5

Disposition: Motion carried

Motion to approve 5 applicants to take the May 14, 2026, exam.

Motion By: Jeanne Walsh

Motion Seconded By: Tom Nash

Nays/Abstentions/Recused: None

Number in favor: 5

Disposition: Motion carried

Old Business: Electrical License Certificate for Pedro Jaime Leyva and previously ongoing complaints

New Business: Board requests the county set the Electrical License exams for quarterly sessions instead of monthly.

Owner of 111 Jones Quarry Rd Woodstock NY, Jeremy Harlow, sent a letter of absence and claimed the complaint was incorrect. Mr. Harlow claimed that the electrical work was completed by HWS, the inspector noted some violations and HWS quickly addressed them. The inspector evaluated the update and approved the inspection.

Board asked that the county double check with the building department to confirm the statement Jeremy Harlow has claimed is correct. If any more issues are to arise, Jeremy Harlow should come to the next meeting, May 27, 2026.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss Pedro Jaime Leyva case

Motion By: Tom Nash

Motion Seconded By: John Dispensa

Time: 3:30pm

Motion to come out of executive session

Motion By: Tom Nash

Motion Seconded By: John Dispensa

Time: 3:42pm

Motion to have Pedro Jaime Leyva pay a renewal fee, late fee, and a fine for not paying to receive their electrical license. A letter should be sent to Pedro listing the charges they will need to pay and request they provide documents as proof, including proof of business, workers comp, and proof he took the 6-hour class.

Motion By: Jeanne Walsh

Motion Seconded By: Tom Nash

Nays/Abstentions/Recused: 0

Number in favor: 5

Disposition: All in favor

Charles Defraia and Anthony Batchety told their side of the story in the Gwen Cattell complaint case.

Complaint #1 (from case): Charles was not overseeing their employee who does not have an electrician's license.

Charles and Anthony explained that Charles was overseeing Anthony and their work, including helping with any wiring or things Anthony could not do. Charles also explained that they were in the process of fixing the code violations that were there before Charles and Anthony were hired, when they quit the job because of a hostile environment.

Complaint #2 (from case): Someone was shocked by an open wire.

Charles stated that no one was shocked and that one of the people Gwen hired had sewed through a wire behind drywall. Anthony showed pictures backing their claims.

Motion to go into executive session to discuss Charles Defraia & Anthony Batchety case

Motion By: Tom Nash

Motion Seconded By: John Dispensa

Time: 4:05pm

Motion to come out of executive session

Motion By: Jeanne Walsh

Motion Seconded By: Tom Nash

Time: 4:22

Board came to the consensus, after all parties have been interviewed, that this matter is a civil matter and no action on their part can be taken.

Motion By: Jeanne Walsh

Motion Seconded By: Tom Nash

Nays/Abstentions/Recused: 0

Number in favor: 5

Disposition: All in favor

Board requests the county set the Electrical License exams for quarterly sessions instead of monthly.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion By: Jeanne Walsh

Motion Seconded By: Tom Nash

Time: 4:28 pm