

Board of Professional Engineering
Secretary of State, Office of Professional Regulation
National Life Building, North, Floor 2, Montpelier, VT 05620-3402
Approved Minutes
Meeting of May 14, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M.

Members present: Michael H. Quaid, P.E., Chairman; Robert Kischko, P.E., Vice-Chair; William Atkinson, P.E., Secretary; Katherine Hill, P.E., and Bonnie Giuliani, Public Member.

OPR Personnel present: Carla Preston, Unit Administrator, and Kara Shangraw, Administrative Assistant.

2. The Chair called for approval of the Minutes of the April 2nd meeting. On page 2, the last sentence in the second paragraph was amended to read: Applicants must have passed the Structural II or equivalent examination to be issued that discipline. Ms. Hill made a motion, seconded by Ms. Giuliani, to approve the Minutes of the April 2, 2009 meeting as amended. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Hearings/Stipulations and Consent Orders

4. Reports

Ms. Preston indicated that the OPR bill passed as well as the fee bill which reduced the Board's application fees. The initial application and renewal fees were reduced from \$100 to \$80, effective on July 1, 2009.

5. Complaints/Follow-up cases

Ms. Preston reported on the status of pending cases.

6. National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Correspondence

- a. The Board reviewed and noted the April 6, 2009 letter from the NCEES regarding the annual meeting scheduled for August 12-15 in Louisville, KY. Chairman Quaid is the funded delegate. Mr. Kischko also plans to attend this annual meeting.
- b. The Board reviewed the May 5, 2008 E-Mail from Susan Whitfield with the NCEES regarding the revised NCEES agreement resulting from the dissolution of the limited liability company established for ELSES which will begin after the April examination administration. In the future, ELSES will operate as a division of the NCEES. The Board approved the agreement which will be executed by Christopher Winters, the Director of OPR.
- c. The Board discussed March 24, 2009 E-Mail from the NCEES regarding future changes to the NCEES Structural Examination. The Board must determine how best to manage the new 16-hour Structural Examination and how to identify varying levels of structural experience. The Board may need to define the structural specialties and their limitations. The Board is considering the following:
 - Offer 16-hour Structural Examination and award a Structural II Specialty (or other designation determined by the Board)
 - Candidates applying to sit for the 16-hour Structural examination must demonstrate satisfactory experience in the specialty certification sought

6. NCEES Correspondence - continued

- Endorsement applicants who have passed the new 16-hour Structural examination or the Structural II Examination or other equivalent structural examination may be awarded a Structural II specialty (or other designation determined by the Board)
- Endorsement applicants who passed the Civil examination and who have demonstrated civil and structural experience may be awarded a Structural I specialty
- Licensees who have been awarded a Structural I specialty may retain that designation (This applies to all specialties currently awarded to licensees.)

The Board noted that applicants who are currently licensed in a state which does not license by discipline or specialty could obtain work experience in structures and then apply to Vermont on the basis of endorsement and be awarded a Structural I Specialty. The Board acknowledged that that option would not necessarily be available to a licensee in Vermont who initially passed the Civil examination, and whose experience has progressed toward structures, and wishes to be awarded a Structural I specialty. Persons in that category must qualify to sit for the 16-hour Structural examination. The Board will review that scenario further for other options. It will be more difficult for candidates to demonstrate satisfactory experience in the specialty certification sought when applying to sit for the 16-hour structural examination.

One option discussed was the possibility of allowing candidates who are Vermont residents of at least three years to sit for the civil examination with the structural module, and become licensed in Structural I Engineering. The Board noted however, that the intent of the national change is to separate structural engineering and to standardize the structural requirements. The Board will continue this discussion to determine the best solution.

The Board will invite Robert Howe with the Department of Public Safety, Division of Fire Safety to attend a meeting (June or August) for this discussion. Mr. Howe is a Fire Marshall thus knowledgeable of building codes, structural issues, and fire safety.

- d. The Board reviewed and discussed the March 25, 2009 E-Mail from the NCEES concerning the new 16 hour Structural Engineering examination. Once decisions are made regarding the award of a structural discipline or specialty, the Board and its Counsel, Kevin Leahy, will review the statutes and rules to determine if changes are needed.

The Board will review the draft Notice regarding the changes in the structural examination to be sent to all licensees, Vermont schools, and societies. The Notice will be finalized at the June meeting.

- e. Miscellaneous NCEES Correspondence was reviewed and noted.

7. Miscellaneous Correspondence

- a. The Board reviewed and discussed the April 7, 2009 E-Mail from Pat Jennings regarding his request for a designer specialty in the State of Vermont. Based on the information provided, Mr. Kischko made a motion to approve Mr. Jennings for the Agency of Natural Resources, Designer Licensing endorsement. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Miscellaneous Correspondence - continued
 - b. The Board reviewed the April 22, 2009 E-Mail from Sandy Laflamme regarding the number of times one can take the exam. Currently, there is no limit.
 - c. The Board noted the April 27, 2009 letter from Edward Robinson announcing his candidacy as the Northeast Zone President-Elect for the NCEES.
 - d. The Board reviewed the March 26, 2009 E-Mail from Roger Thompson regarding Board Policy #5 "Clarification re The Agency of Natural Resources' Rule, Section 1-313, Designer Licensing." The Board agreed that the Policy needs to be updated and will ask Board Counsel for assistance in updating the Policy based on the changes made by the Wastewater Division of ANR.
 - e. Wall Certificates for persons approved for licensure at the last meeting were signed.

8. Other Business Introduced by the Board

9. The Board approved the following applicants for licensure on the basis of endorsement from another state and/or their National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying's Record indicating "Model Law Engineer." Changes in the discipline/specialty awarded were based on the applicant's recent reported experience in the discipline sought.

Ahuja, Deepak (Structural I, not Civil)	Bacon, Nathaniel J. (Structural I)
Brown, Michael L. (Electrical)	Craig, Robert K. (Structural I)
Crowell, Sean A. (Environmental)	Daham, Walid S. (Electrical)
Davati, Soheil S. (Electrical)	Donegan, James T. (Mechanical)
Flattery, Jason D. (Environmental)	Ghantous, Nizom S. (Electrical)
Gridley, Steven J. (Mechanical)	Johnston, Andrew (Civil)
Lavallee, Roland A. (Civil)	Leland, Simon W. (Structural I, not Civil)
Letzring, Tracy J. (Civil)	Marrs, Jennifer A. (Mechanical)
Mettemeyer, Alan R. (Structural II)	Mitchell, Thomas C. (Civil)
Modes, Larry R. (Civil)	Osborne, Randy L. (Structural I, not Civil)
Price, William E. (Mechanical)	Pycela, Peter J. (Electrical)
Schneider, Adam J. (Civil)	Stein, Gregory R. (Mechanical)
Sullivan, Jr., Thomas J. (Mechanical)	Talbot, Mark E. (Civil)
Trapani, Philip B. (Civil)	Turley, James C. (Civil)
Tshudy, Gary W. (Structural I, not Structural II)	Wiercinski, Michael J. (Civil)
Wright, Jeffrey L. (Civil)	

10. The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, June 4, 2009** at 8:30 AM.

Additional meetings in 2009 are scheduled as follows: August 6th; September 3rd; October 1st; November 5th; and December 3, 2009

11. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Preston, Unit Administrator
Office of Professional Regulation