

State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Minutes of March 6, 2003

PUBLIC SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors was called to order by President Pravin Patel at 9:15am at 124 Halsey Street, 3rd Floor, Union Conference Room, Newark, New Jersey. All parties were duly notified of the time, date and place, with all pertinent material being provided.

SUNSHINE LAW ANNOUNCEMENT

President Patel read the statement required by Chapter 231, Laws of 1975 known as the Open Public Meetings Act, and announced that notice of this meeting was prepared in the office of the Board and mailed to the Secretary of State, the Star-Ledger, the Courier Post and the Bergen Record.

ROLL CALL

BMs present:

Louis Raimondi Edward Vernick
James Kelly James Valenti
Rishi Raj (9:30am) Robert Bogart
Robert Marshall, Jr. Pravin Patel
Albert Faraldi

BMs absent: Richard Frantz

Others present: Arthur Russo, Executive Director, Deputy Attorney General Michelle Albertson and staff members Joseph Grabowy, Ernest Gonzalez, Yolanda Winston, Martha Richardson, and Robert Welsh.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislation

The Board discussed the following bills:

S1089/A2363 - Allows inactive licensees to complete required continuing education at any time prior to reactivating licenses - This bill was previously reviewed by the Board and was most recently reported out of the Assembly Committee on February 13, 2003.

A706/S1543 - Concerns contracts to privatize state services - Amendments, which were made by the Assembly, passed the Senate Labor Committee on March 3, 2003.

A713/S1682 - Concerns contracts to privatize county services - Amendments, which were made by the Assembly, passed the Senate Labor Committee on March 3, 2003.

S1685 - Revises the "grandfathering" provisions for eligibility to become a licensed home inspector. On February 24, 2003, this bill passed the Assembly with amendments, and was returned to the Senate for concurrence.

S2093/A3208 - Authorizes municipalities to require conformity with traffic performance objectives as a condition of a subdivision or site plan approval. Senate bill 2093 was introduced November 18, 2002, and referred to the Community and Urban Affairs Committee. Assembly bill 3208 was introduced January 23, 2003 and referred to the Housing and Local Government Committee.

A3210 - Permits disqualification of a bidder under the "Local Public Contracts Law" with whom any contracting unit has had prior negative experience. It was introduced on January 23, 2003, and referred to the Assembly Housing and Local Government Committee

S2296 - Requires prequalification by State officials of prospective bidders for local public works contracts in the same manner as prequalification of prospective bidders for State contracts. This bill was introduced on January 27, 2003 and referred to the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee

Administration

No report.

Examinations

No report.

Education

No report.

Regulations

No report.

Finance

No report.

Special Committee Reports

Newsletter

BM Raimondi informed the Board that preparations are under way for the 6th edition of its Newsletter. Revisions have been made to the 5th edition which is currently under review.

Joint Committee

The next scheduled meeting for the Joint Committee is April 1, 2003.

Website

The Board discussed updating the website's examination information so that examination and deadline dates for

applications would be posted for the next two examinations. In addition, the Board discussed the recent Certificate of Authorization statistics and the possibility of placing a question and answer section on the website to address commonly asked questions regarding licensure.

2003 NE Zone Meeting

BM Raimondi mentioned that events are progressing smoothly in preparation for this event in Orlando, Florida to be held on April 3, 4, and 5, 2003.

Applications: Revisions & Design Experience

No report.

Licensure Promotion Committee

Letters were sent to NJIT and Stevens Institute of Technology requesting that a meeting be scheduled with the respective Deans of the engineering schools to discuss licensure promotion and related issues. Responses have not yet been received from either school.

Soil Conservation Committee

BM Bogart informed the Board that the Soil Conservation Committee cancelled its appearance with the Board today and has proposed two alternate dates at a different location. The Board will advise the Committee accordingly.

Disciplinary Action Committee

No report.

Nomination Committee

No report.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

General Report

ED Russo informed the Board that the proposed rules pertaining to the licensure of professional engineers as home inspectors were published in the New Jersey Register on February 3, 2003, with a 60-day comment period to follow. One immediate concern of the Board is the fast approaching deadline date of May 29, 2003 at which time licensure will be required to continue performing home inspections. ED Russo will discuss this matter further with the Deputy Director.

ED Russo reported that a major discussion item at the annual meeting of the Board Presidents and Administrators in Anchorage, Alaska dealt with the licensure mobility issue between states. He indicated that mobility as described would be difficult to adopt in New Jersey since its regulations require two years of original engineering design experience contrary to the majority of other states. Also discussed at this meeting was the electronic signing and sealing of plans and documents. The Board discussed this matter and concluded that it will continue to accept only original engineering documents with manual original signatures and raised seals. Copies of documents may bear a copied signature but must contain a raised seal. Another point of discussion was the issue of increasing the number of credits required for an undergraduate degree in engineering beyond 129. For example, a master's degree in engineering could possibly be the minimum educational threshold considered for licensure. There is a difference of opinion between ABET and NCEES on this issue.

ED Russo indicated that speaker's kits are now available from NCEES to be utilized as licensure promotion aids

in addressing engineering students.

ED Russo stated that upon reviewing the statistical scores of E-I-T examinees, it was noted that those examinees with junior status performed significantly better on a national level than did seniors. The Board discussed the idea of having PCS distribute licensure promotion materials to all examinees that passed the E-I-T examination.

ED Russo informed the Board that representative Professional Engineers from the Malaysia Board of Engineers will be visiting on April 14, 2003 to discuss licensure and the licensing requirements in New Jersey. President Patel, VP Vernick and BM Faraldi indicated interest in attending.

President Patel reminded the Board that April 17, 2003 is a scheduled Board meeting date with the Certificate Award Ceremony following that evening. It was noted that Passover commences on April 17. After a discussion on this matter, the Board, on a motion by BM Bogart, second by BM Faraldi, unanimously voted to cancel its meeting on April 17, 2003, but to continue with the Certificate Award Ceremony that evening.

Incoming Correspondence

Robert C. Kirkpatrick, Jr., PE, PLS, / Keller & Kirkpatrick, Inc.
RE: Subchapter 10: Certificate of Authorization
(February 10, 2003)

In his correspondence Mr. Kirkpatrick requested that the Board clarify a possible discrepancy in the Board's regulations pertaining to Certificate of Authorization requirements and individuals in responsible charge.

The Board will refer this matter to its Regulation Committee for consideration.

John G.S. Bilingsley, Chair, Special Committee on Constitution and Bylaws/ NCEES
RE: Proposed Amendment to Bylaws
(January 17, 2003)

Mr. Billingsley informed all member boards of the proposed amendments to the NCEES's bylaws. The Board noted this correspondence for the record.

Richard E. Stockton, PLS/ Richard E. Stockton & Assoc., Inc.
RE: Jurisdiction Determination Board of Public Utilities
(February 20, 2003)

Mr. Stockton requested the Board's response to two questions. He first asked whether surveyors must call for markouts of each survey and associated corner settings, and if the Board has been denied a waiver from the Board of Public Utilities' requirements concerning "One Call" when surveying and corner setting.

The Board will inform Mr. Stockton that all surveyors should comply with the requirements of BPU. In response to his second question, the Board will indicate that it has no record of requesting a waiver from BPU.

John Q. Adams, III, PE/ NCEES
RE: National Pass Rates
(February 17, 2003)

Mr. Adams distributed the statistical information from the October, 2002 Principles and Practices of Manufacturing examination.

The Board noted this information for the record.

Anthony Russell
RE: PE application process modification

(February 25, 2003)

Mr. Russell suggested a change to the application process regarding the way in which verification of licensure is requested from state to state.

The Board shall thank Mr. Russell for his suggestion and take it under consideration.

MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by VP Vernick, second by BM Marshall, the Board unanimously agreed to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the Executive Session agenda.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

On a motion contained within the Executive Session minutes, the Board entered into Public Session.

APPROVAL/ DENIAL OF APPLICATIONS

The Board, on a motion by BM Marshall, second by BM Kelly, unanimously approved the following applications:

Name	Application #	Approved For		Name	Application #	Approved For
H. Gross	920251	Take P		O. Kynik	920260	Take P
J. Pfluger	918415	Grant		J. Grassman	910456	Grant
W. Grosz	910473	Grant		M. Adams	592151	Grant
M. Noonan	903223	Grant		T. Gassman	917562	Take P
L. Antle	894922	Grant		A. Rahman	863659	Grant
L. Weiss	918263	Grant		S. Devine	922487	Grant
R. Semaan	923995	Grant		J. Lill	918788	Grant
D. Ryan	923563	Grant		R. Thiel	920705	Grant
S. Westra	926975	Grant		R. Desrosiers	920272	Take P
G. Brookman	918086	Grant		L. Oliver	918481	Grant
A. Bedi	918526	Take P		S. Miller	890255	Grant
M. Wright	918398	Grant		E. Jorgenson	910484	Grant
Y. Shah	899227	Grant		M. Wang	909380	Grant
H. Sorokin	927170	Grant		J. Strong	887170	Take P
R. Chankalian	917363	Take P		K. Koederitz	918522	TakeF&P
J. Gandhi	052049	Grant		K. Brakel	891194	Grant
D. Huyser	897559	Grant		J. Stone	909346	Grant
W. Lyons	929044	Grant		J. Lenz	918343	Grant
B. Jankowski	918530	Take		J. Pulucci	918081	Grant

M. Patel	903341	Grant		P. Thurgood	052475	Grant
K. Indira	883849	Take P		J. Wallace	910431	Grant
A. Higgins	894794	Grant		W. Broadhurst	930548	Take P
G. Goldman	881709	Grant		H. Salmasi	918133	Grant
G. Smith	917375	Take P		A. Hajjar	916821	Take P
D. Pumhirun	918838	Grant		D. Smith	918834	TakeFLS/PLS
M. Rehak	918839	Take		FLS/PLS D. Helriegel	929055	Grant
C. Ilse	888759	Grant		H. Yee	920301	Grant
L. Scott	920264	Take P		K. Fisher	924166	Grant
R. Stryker	920709	Grant		E. Bierman	927140	Grant
D. Bove	918884	Grant		F. Grablutz	929041	Grant
D. Eizadkhah	917367	Take P				

APPLICATION REVIEW

John Oliveto - #051143

Mr. Oliveto has a pending application for licensure before the Board. The Board is unable to ascertain whether Mr. Oliveto has the required design experience. Mr. Oliveto believes that there may be a misunderstanding of the term "original engineering design" experience.

After a review of his application, the Board determined that Mr. Oliveto should appear before the Board to discuss his design experience.

Joseph Kemper - #878113

Mr. Kemper has a pending application for licensure. The Board is unable to ascertain whether Mr. Kemper meets all the licensure requirements. Accordingly, the Board determined that Mr. Kemper should appear before the Board for further discussion on his application.

Bienvenido Najera Macaraeg - #917357

Mr. Najera Macaraeg stated that he does not believe that he should be required to take the TOEFL and/or TSE examinations since he was born and raised in the Philippines and submitted documentation to the Board from the Philippine Consulate stating that Filipino and English are both the official language of that country.

ED Russo will further investigate this matter before a final determination is made on this issue.

CONTINUING EDUCATION AUDIT

ED Russo informed the Board that the auditing of continuing education credits of licensed land surveyors has begun.

The Board will also start to audit the records of sponsors of continuing education courses. It will request a record of attendees of courses provided.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by VP Vernick, second by BM Raj, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 2:30 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Pravin H. Patel, PE
President

Arthur Russo
Executive Director

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