

General Session Minutes
State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers
January 23, 2006

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers met at the WVU College of Engineering and Mineral Resource Building, Andrews Conference Room, in Morgantown, WV on January 23, 2006. Those present for the general session were:

Leonard J. Timms, Jr.	President
Edward L. Robinson	Vice-President
Richard E. Plymale	Member
William E. Pierson	Member
Lesley L. Rosier	Executive Director
Don Johnson	Board Investigator
Debra Hamilton	Legal Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

The Board meeting minutes of November 15, 2005 (both executive and general session) were approved as read.

The Board budget summary for November and December 2005 was received and reviewed. A motion to approve the expenditures and purchasing card transactions was made by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Plymale. Motion carried.

The Special Report from the WV Legislative Auditor concerning Board excess funds was reviewed and discussed. Neither option being considered by the legislature should have an effect on this Board's funds. Ms. Rosier will monitor action on this issue during the current legislative session.

Ms. Rosier presented the Executive Director's report and addressed all Board questions and comments.

The declining trend in pass-fail rates for both the FE and PE exams in West Virginia was discussed in detail. West Virginia is now showing some of the lowest pass rates of any of the states. This will be the major item of discussion with the WVU faculty and engineering department heads later in the day. Ms. Rosier and Mr. Pierson will try to get additional information on this for the Board's review.

The proposed Ethics seminar being planned by the WV PE Board and other professional societies WV Engineers and Surveyors will likely be delayed until the fall due to time constraints.

Preparation for the 2006 Northeast Zone Meeting to be held in Charleston is proceeding on schedule. The preliminary meeting schedule and budget were reviewed and Ms. Rosier addressed questions and comments.

Ms. Rosier was re-elected as the NE Zone MBA representative and national spokesperson for the Member Board Administrators Networking Group. She will be attending the February NCEES Board of Directors meeting in California.

The engineering database will be upgraded to a different system in early February. Preparation and training are in progress and will be conducted by staff of the WV State Treasurer's Office.

The Annual PDH Audit was discussed. A total of ten PE licenses were suspended as a result of the audit. Only one was a WV resident.

Mr. Pierson moved to enter into executive session, seconded by Mr. Plymale. Motion carried.

At the conclusion of the executive session, Mr. Plymale moved to enter into general session with a second by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried and the Board took the following actions:

1. The Board directed Ms. Hamilton and Mr. Johnson to take action as necessary on complaint C2004-2 to move it forward taking whatever steps necessary to protect the safety, health and welfare of the public. Actions could include the use of an independent expert, paid for by the Board, to check building designs. No motion needed.
2. The Board directed Ms. Rosier to notify the respondent on complaint C2004-8 that if the outstanding items were not corrected before March 6, 2006 the Board would take additional action against them. No motion needed.
3. Mr. Robinson moved that inquiry I2005-14 be received and filed as complaint (C2006-1). Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
4. Mr. Robinson moved that inquiry I2005-16 be received and filed as complaint (C2006-2). Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
5. Mr. Robinson moved that inquiry I2005-17 be received and filed as complaint (C2006-3). Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
6. Mr. Robinson moved that inquiry I2006-1 be received and filed as complaint (C2006-4). Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
7. Mr. Robinson moved that inquiry I2006-2 be received and filed as complaint (C2006-5). Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
8. The Board took the following actions on Special Cases for Board Action:
 - a) Jerry A. Carter's application for comity will be held in abeyance until January 2007 pending complaint resolution.
 - b) Saktik Pal's request for comity was granted.

Preparation for the 2005 WV Expo on March 22nd and 23rd is in progress. The Board will have a booth and be involved in various seminars. The schedule has not been finalized. In addition to the EXPO seminars, Ms. Rosier and Mr. Johnson will again conduct a session for the WV Young Engineers Forum of the WVDOT on March 21st.

Proposed revisions to the engineering law were discussed. The staff will develop a list of policy issues caused by the revisions. The list will be sent to the Board for review prior to the next meeting.

Several articles for the upcoming newsletter were reviewed and comments solicited.

The July Board meeting was re-scheduled until July 31, 2006 due to Board member schedule conflicts.

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday March 20, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will take place in the office WV State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers, 300 Capitol Street – Suite 910, Charleston, West Virginia.

Upon motion by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Plymale the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. in order to meet with University officials, engineering deans, department chairs and faculty. The Board members will be compensated one day per diem plus travel expenses.

Leonard J. Timms, Jr., P.E.
Board President

Bhajan S. Saluja, P.E.
Board Secretary