

General Session Minutes
State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers
January 21, 2015

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers met in their offices at 300 Capitol Street in Charleston, WV on Wednesday, January 21, 2015. Those present for all or part of the meeting were:

Edward L. Robinson	President
William E. Pierson	Vice-President
Bhajan S. Saluja	Secretary
Richard E. Plymale	Member
Leonard J. Timms	Member
Lesley L. Rosier-Tabor	Executive Director
Aaron M. Armstrong	Board Investigator
Debra L. Hamilton	Legal Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

The Board meeting minutes for November 3, 2014 were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Mr. Plymale, seconded by Mr. Timms. Motion carried.

The Board budget summaries for November and December 2014 were received and reviewed. Ms. Rosier discussed the detailed PCard transactions and answered Board questions. The Board discussed the current Database Upgrade project, with Ms. Rosier providing a project status update and projected completion estimate.

A motion to approve the current expenditures and purchasing card transactions was made by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Saluja. Motion carried.

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

- Ms. Rosier reported on the most current status of the FE CBT exam, which included the first year of CBT implementation. She reported an overall CBT FE pass rate of 58.6% since inception.
- Mr. Saluja pointed out that the pass rates are very well in line with the previous pass rates. Dr. Pierson supported this observation and added that NCEES has seen a slight increase in pass rates at the national level.
- Mr. Timms reported that he will be unavailable to attend the April PE test in Fairmont, but also indicated the operation has been running very smoothly the past few years and his absence will not affect the test administration.
- Mr. Armstrong provided the Board with a report on the WV Engineering Law course he attended.

- Ms. Rosier reported on the upcoming meeting participation for the Board, to include the NCEES Board Presidents Assembly and the NCEES NE zone meeting. Ms. Rosier and Mr. Armstrong will attend the NE Zone meeting as the funded delegates, Mr. Timms will attend as an NCEES past president, and Dr. Pierson and Mr. Plymale will attend as funded Board members. Mr. Saluja is unable to attend while Mr. Robinson will report back to Ms. Rosier as to his availability.
- Ms. Rosier discussed the Interchange Newsletter preparation plan. Articles for the newsletter must be submitted by February 16, 2015 with mailing expected to take place late March or early April 2015.
- Dr. Pierson discussed the topic of continuing professional competency (CPC) as a potential newsletter article.

A motion was made by Mr. Plymale, seconded by Mr. Timms, to approve attendance and travel for Board members, staff and counsel to the activities as discussed and outlined in the Executive Director's report and updated 2015 calendar. Motion carried.

Mr. Timms made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 9:45 am, seconded by Mr. Plymale. Motion carried.

The Board recessed for an informal conference on C2014-16. At the conclusion of the informal conference, the Board resumed its Executive Session.

The Board recessed the meeting at 12:15pm for lunch. Meeting resumed in Executive Session at 12:50pm.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, Mr. Timms moved to enter into General Session at 1:51 pm with a second by Mr. Saluja. Motion carried and the Board took the following action:

- Dr. Pierson made a motion to move I2015-06 to complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Saluja and carried.
- Mr. Saluja made a motion to move I2015-09 to complaint, seconded by Mr. Timms. Motion carried.

Based on motions by Mr. Plymale, each seconded by Mr. Saluja, the Board took the following actions on Special Cases for Board Action:

1. Jeffrey Lorimer's PE Exam application was approved.
2. Timothy Dunaway's request for comity was approved.
3. Douglas Ernst's request for comity was approved.
4. Roberta Gellner's request for comity was approved.
5. Jeremy Hohnbaum's request for comity was approved.
6. William Lane's request for comity was approved.
7. Nancy Sauer's request for comity was approved.
8. Kerry Zwiershcke's request for comity was approved.

Ms. Rosier shared the NCEES Award nominations information and the NCEES Board Presidents Assembly agenda. Dr. Pierson's nomination package for the NCEES Distinguished Exam Service Award will be finalized and submitted prior to the end of January.

Ms. Rosier discussed the upcoming NCEES NE Zone meeting and reminded all who are funded through NCEES must make their travel arrangements prior to March 2, 2015. Additionally, she reminded all present that the NCEES President-Elect has requested all members and associate members to complete the on-line committee preference survey.

Mr. Timms inquired about the Board being able to review NCEES Institutional reports. Ms. Rosier indicated she can access that information and will provide an update during the next Board meeting.

Ms. Rosier provided a detailed breakdown of the FE CBT results to date. She noted a few items in the report to be discussed during the upcoming NCEES Board Presidents Assembly, such as being able to register for the FE without entering education information and multiple entries showing up in the report when a registrant lists multiple degrees.

Ms. Rosier presented the responses received from the Deans of all WV Engineering and Engineering Technology programs regarding their current status regarding faculty licensure. All but one institution provided a response to the Board's request. Mr. Timms made a motion to table this discussion until the March Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Mr. Saluja and the motion carried. Ms. Rosier will follow up with the one non-respondent for additional explanation.

Ms. Rosier presented the dates for the Board's participation in WV Expo 2015, to include their regular booth as well as the continuing education seminar.

The Board recessed the meeting at 2:15pm to conduct two (2) PE exam candidate interviews.

The Board returned to the General Session at 2:50pm.

Mr. Timms discussed the early taking of the PE exam and commented on the statistical data presented by NCEES. Mr. Timms reported that the data supports that the highest pass rate of first-time takers is are those with 4-5 years of professional experience, which falls in line with WV law regarding the experience requirement. This item will remain a topic on the March 2015 Board meeting agenda for further review and discussion.

Ms. Rosier and Ms. Hamilton provided an update on the final filing of the second notice of Legislative Rules and discussed the outcome of the December 2014 Legislative Interims. In addition, the Board was presented with the proposed change to §30-13-18. President Robinson agreed to work with staff and counsel on finding a sponsor. Upon

motion by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Plymale, the Board approved spending up to \$5000 for the hiring of a government relations consultant to assist in the monitoring of engineering-related matters, including the PE Board legislative bills. Motion carried.

Ms. Rosier provided the Board an update on the DEP legislation for aboveground tank inspections.

Ms. Rosier discussed the Board's 2015 Calendar of Events. She ask that any schedule conflicts be reported as soon as possible and prior to her noticing the meeting dates with the Secretary of State's Office. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday March 24th, 2015. The meeting will take place at the Board's office in Charleston, WV.

Upon motion by Mr. Plymale, seconded by Mr. Timms, the Board meeting adjourned at 3:30pm. The Board members will be compensated one day per diem plus travel expenses.

Edward L. Robinson, P.E.
Board President

Bhajan S. Saluja, P.E.
Secretary