**MINUTES**

**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**Date:**  January 19, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Place:** 1100 N. Eutaw Street

 Baltimore, MD 21201

Access Using Video Conferencing

 Meet.google.com/ipm-pxny-hej

 Phone: 1-484-416-2276

 PIN: 201 307 165#

**Present:** Howard (Skip) Harclerode, P.E., Chairman

 Sallye Perrin, P.E., Secretary

Karl Rickert, P.E

 Pastor Farinas, P.E.

 Edward Hubner, P.E.

**Others Present:** Zevi Thomas, Executive Director

Raquel Meyers, Assistant Executive Director

Andrew Brouwer, AAG, Counsel to the Board

 Ruby Courtney, Board Administrator

 Dorian Price, Administrative Specialist

 Tom Draper - Applicant

**Absent:** David Mongan, P.E., Vice Chairman

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Secretary Perrin called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.

**ACTION ON MINUTES**

Motion (I) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Hubner, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2022 Board meeting as submitted.

**APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

Motion (II) was made by Ms. Perrin, seconded by Mr. Farinas and unanimously carried to approve 25 applications for reciprocity, 3 applicants for PE Licensure by Transfer of Grades and 31 applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination. That same motion included requesting additional information from a Mechanical exam applicant.

Approvals are as follows:

**Applications for PE Licensure by Reciprocity are as follows:**

Abdel-Mohti, Ahmed (60457) Liu, Junjie (60463)

Abdolahi, Ali (60451) Mirza, Najam (38933)

Bandy, Theodore (60452) Naumchevski, Lj (60464)

Burkhardt, Jack (60453) Neighbor, Caroline (60465)

DiCamillo, Gregory (60454) Parker, Matthew (60466)

Guerrero-Molano, Juan (60455) Schaffer, Alexander

Gushue, Joseph (60456) Schroepfer, Terry (60468)

Kabaluk, Maksim (60457) Seliem, Hatem (60469)

Kachura, Christopher (60458) Smythe, Robert (60470)

Kansra, Chirantan (60459) Tiwari, Sanchay (60471)

Karki, Rajesh (60460) Trost, Andrew (60472)

Kulick, Matthew (60461) Welch, Chelsea (60473)

Kumar, Sushil (60462)

**Applications for PE Licensure by Transfer of Grades are as follows:**

Bazemo**,** Ulrich Yoan Y (56475) Yusuf, Raheem I (57216)

Ordonez, Freddy (60449)

**Applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination are as follows:**

Arnarasingha, Warunika G. Maranville, Tyler J.

Baxi, Yesah B. McGill, Joshua A.

Cao, Rui Morari, Eugeniu N.

Cynkar, Noah Neupane, Achyut R.

Deane, James A. Obaid, Wedyan

Ebrazibak Hshayesh, Babak Onyia, Chukwuebuka L.

Flurer, David F. Peek, Brian J.

Geleta, Fedesa I, Pollack, James R.

Geary, John P. Rahman, Motiar

Gu, Siyi Sanders, Edward

Hancock, Austin Smith, Kenneth R.

Heil, Kathryn R. Steffy, Scott R

Kreutzberg, Brent T. Terkowitz, Andrew P.

MacGregor, David Tillman, Leslie A.

**Applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination (Cont’d)**

Weitzel, Walter C. Zamani, Mohammad Zia

Xiao, Xuli

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Fraud Alert**

Mr. Hubner brought to the attention of the Board an email which he received regarding websites charging to remove fraudulent disciplinary information from licensees records. The email originated from the Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies who had become aware of websites that list the names of licensees with inaccurate disciplinary information. These websites offer to remove the fraudulent licensee information for a large sum of money.

Mr. Brouwer stated the alleged incidents occurred in Colorado it is not under our jurisdiction. Mr. Farinas suggested that the NCEES Law Enforcement Committee be made aware of the issue.

**Funded Delegates for the 20223 NCEES Zone Interim Meeting**

Mr. Thomas mentioned he submitted all of the Board members' names to NCEES and that any members who will not be funded by NCEES would be funded by the State. There was a discussion on the difference of being funded by NCEES and being funded by the State for the benefit of the newest Board member. It was suggested there be a discussion on who would be the delegates funded by NCEES before names are submitted.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Ms. Perrin and unanimously carried to enter Executive Session at 9:37 a.m. at Meet google.com/ipm-pxny-hej or by phone 1-484-416-2276 (PIN 201 307 165#). This session was permitted to be closed pursuant to General Provisions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, §3-305(b) (7).  Upon completion of the session, the Board reconvened its public meeting at 10:06 a.m.

**COMPLAINT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Rickert reported on the status of complaints discussed by the Complaint Committee January 17, 2023.

16-PE-22 Pursue for unlicensed practice and impersonation of a Professional Engineer

18-PE-22 Still under investigation. Suggested filing criminal charges once the investigation is

 complete.

02-PE-23 Pre-charge. Remain on report for tracking purposes only

05-PE-23 Awaiting signed complaint form

07-PE-23 Awaiting signed complaint form

10-PE-23 Pre-charge. Remain on report for tracking purposes only

11-PE-23 Refer to the Electrical Board

The Board discussed one renewal with a conduct issue. A transcript of the court case was requested and received. The applicant is appealing the court decision. The Board will deny the application for license renewal.

The Board discussed three applications for license reinstatement in which the continuing education was obtained after the reinstatement request was made. The Committee suggested a $1500 fine for all applicants and Failure to Respond for one applicant.

Motion (IV) was made by Ms. Perrin, seconded by Mr. Farinas and unanimously carried to accept the recommendations of the Complaint Committee.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Board Policies and Guidelines for Processing Applications**

Ms. Perrin reviewed the current policies and guidelines for processing applications and prepared a document which included Maryland law (§14-305) regarding qualifications for Professional Engineers which requires an applicant graduate from a college or university or completion of at least a 4-year curriculum, or its equivalent, that the Board approves.

Ms. Perrin stated the Board interprets that requirement as graduation from a ABET accredited engineering program which requires 30 hours of math and science and 45 hours of engineering design and higher math or has graduated from a university that is a signatory of the original Washington Accord.

NCEES has an education standard that requires 32 hours of math and science, 48 hours of engineering and design and 12 hours of general education, which is more than what ABET requires. The Board devised an Engineering Curriculum Checklist that requires 15 credit hours in math, 15 credit hours in science, 30 credit hours in engineering design and 15 credit hours in advanced math and does not require any general education credits. Ms. Perrin mentioned the FL Board for Professional Engineers reviews the NCEES evaluation and if the deficiency is in general education, they ignore it. If the deficiency is in math or science, they may substitute. Ms. Perrin supplied the Board with a copy of the Florida regulations regarding education for review.

Ms. Perrin also mentioned that the original signatories of the Washington Accord were all English-speaking countries and that ABET is now approving foreign schools in non-english-speaking countries as well. Chairman Harclerode informed the Board that ABET reevaluates accreditation every five years.

Ms. Perrin questioned if the NCEES shows deficiencies in general education if those deficiencies should be ignored since our checklist does not require general education. Ms. Perrin would like the Board to consider if they want to substitute credits, get rid of the checklist, consider broadening approved degrees to expanded Washington Accord signatories or do away with Washington Accord entirely.

The Board decided they wish to accept the NCEES model for education and would consider discarding the deficiencies on a case-by-case basis. The Board does not want to get rid of the Engineering Curriculum Checklist. It was also decided the checklist will not be used to move applications from 14-305 (c) to 14 (b). The checklist will be used as a reference only. The Board asked Board counsel to review the language in our law (09.23.05.02 and 09.23.05.06) relating to educational requirements. Ms. Perrin will update the document she prepared and recirculate to the Board members. Ms. Perrin also asked that the Board members review the FL law. This matter will be discussed further at the February 2023 Board meeting.

Mr. Hubner mentioned that the wording on the website is not consistent regarding credit for education and is not consistent with what is in our regulations. The regulations use the word “may” and the website uses the word “can” concerning possible credit for education. Staff will ensure the wording is consistent.

Mr. Hubner stated the Board voted in the past to require passing of the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam under 14-305 (d) and it was not enacted. Chairman Harclerode clarified that proposed regulation introduced by the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers passed in the House but failed in the Senate. This issue will also be discussed in further detail at the February 2023 meeting.

**CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY (CPC) COMMITTEE REPORT**

There were no applications for provider approval to review this month. The Board asked that a listing of examples of the problems with courses taken from approved providers be reported at the February 2023 Board meeting. Mr. Farinas suggested forming a sub-committee to address these issues. It was suggested that Ms. Perrin and Mr. Mongan be on the committee.

Motion (V) was made by Mr. Hubner, seconded by Mr. Farinas to form the sub-committee consisting of Ms. Perrin and Mr. Mongan to review issues with courses taken from approved providers. Three Board members voted for and one Board member voted against the motion. One Board member had to leave the meeting early.

**REPORT FROM ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Hubner will do the voice over for the free online Ethics course and send it to Mr. Thomas and Ms. Meyers for post-production. The goal is to accomplish this by the March 2023 meeting**.**

**REPORT FROM BOARD COUNSEL - None**

**REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Board discussed the inconvenience of reimbursement by the State. They also discussed what is covered and what is not covered. Mr. Thomas stated the deadline to submit requests for delegates funded by NCEES was January 18, 2023 and that is why he submitted the names of all interested parties to NCEES. Mr. Thomas mentioned any Board members not funded by NCEES would be funded by the State. The Board decided the funded delegates would be Ms. Perrin, Mr. Farinas, and Mr. Rickert.

It was mentioned that the State administration needs to provide reasoning for board member’s travel and the funding amounts and should try to mirror the funding amounts adopted by NCEES, particularly for incidentals such as hotel, transportation to and from events and meals.

Mr. Thomas informed the Board a lease was signed for the new location for the Department of Labor in the downtown business district. The move is anticipated in approximately 18 months or less. The office would be moving to 100 S. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

**CORRESPONDENCE - None**

**APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR RECIPROCITY**

There were 90 applications, supported by NCEES Model Law Engineer records that were administratively approved for licensure.

**REINSTATEMENT APPLICATIONS - None**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms. Courtney mentioned Mr. Hubner added a question and answer to the Most Frequently Asked Questions on the website regarding if a Joint Venture was required to obtain an Engineering Firm Permit. Ms. Courtney asked if any other Board members had questions they were asked frequently if they would contact her and have the question and answer posted to the website. Board Counsel asked that any questions and answers be shared with him before getting posted to the website.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion (VI) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Hubner and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ With Corrections                     \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Without Corrections

Signed by: Howard Harclorode Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                  Board Chairman