

**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

Date: August 8, 2024

Time: 9:30 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: Sallye Perrin, P.E., Chair
Howard (Skip) Harclerode, P.E., Vice Chairman
Edward Hubner, Secretary, P.E.
Pastor Farinas, P.E.
Karl Rickert, P.E.
Dhrubajyoti Biswas, P.E.
Judi Miller, R.A.
Tracey Clark, Realtor

Others Present: Zevi Thomas, Executive Director
Matthew Venuti, AAG, Board Counsel
Ruby Courtney, Board Administrator
Raquel M. Meyers, Assistant Executive Director
Dorian Price, Administrative Specialist
Gregory Morgan, MD-NSPE
Samer Alkhasii, Exam Applicant
Shun Lam, Exam Applicant
John Lin, Exam Applicant

Absent: None

CALL TO ORDER

The Board Chair, Ms. Perrin, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Motion (I) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Biswas, and unanimously carried to approve 15 applications for reciprocity. It was decided the vote on the exam applications will be taken after completion of the Executive Session.

Applications for PE Licensure by Reciprocity are as follows:

Abdul-Majid, Muadth Z. (60387)
Aboud, Karim (63378)
Bickley, Andrew (63379)
Condurat, Felix (63380)
Gheitasi, Amir (63381)
Jimenez, Luis E. (63382)
Kluk, Krzysztof M. (63383)
Mullens, Stacey B. (63384)

Parambath, Ashwim (63385)
Poulimenos, Demetrius J. (63386)
Rajan, Robert (63387)
Valenza, Tony J. (63388)
Vicuna-Reyes, Juan P. (63389)
Williams, Matthew J. (63390)
Zou, Yingjun (63391)

ACTION ON THE MINUTES

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Biswas, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2024 Board meeting as submitted.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Motions for the NCEES Annual Meeting

The Board Chair asked if any of the Board members would like to discuss any of the motions being proposed at the NCEES Annual meeting. Mr. Hubner stated that the motions clear up the concerns from the last Annual meeting, especially regarding the operating fund. The Board Chair stated motions were made at the last Annual meeting to change the process for awards but the Education Committee never met early enough to discuss possible changes. There were no other motions that concerned the Maryland Board.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board Chair added the continued discussion on ethics. This topic was removed from the agenda but the Board Chair asked that this topic remain on the agenda.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY (CPC) COMMITTEE REPORT

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Biswas, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the CPC Provider application of Chesapeake Stormwater Network.

REPORT FROM ETHICS COMMITTEE

The Board Chair asked about the status of the voice over for the free online Ethics course sponsored by the Board. Mr. Thomas informed her that the Agency's IT department is currently working on other priorities. The Board Chair again mentioned the Louisiana Board offers a one-hour seminar on the laws and regulations twice a year and it is well attended and suggests Mr. Hubner review that course and make recommendations to the Board at a future meeting.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Thomas introduced an email he received from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) asking if any members of the Maryland Board would like to serve as an observer for EAC and ETAC accreditation at the University of Maryland – Eastern Shore on October 20-22, 2024. The deadline to submit a bio or CV is August 20, 2024. The Board Chair tentatively agreed to participate.

Mr. Thomas mentioned NCEES has rolled out practice exams for the FE and PE exams in an effort to encourage more candidates to take these exams.

The Board Chair announced Ms. Meyers has returned to the Professional Design Boards. Ms. Meyers will be assisting Mr. Thomas with the Board's complaints and other duties as assigned.

REPORT FROM BOARD COUNSEL

Mr. Venuti stated he did not have anything to report. The Board Chair asked Mr. Venuti to describe the recent Supreme Court's ruling on the Chevron doctrine for the benefit of Board members who are new or were not present at the last meeting. Mr. Venuti stated the Chevron ruling took deference away from the regulatory agencies and Boards as to how they interpret their laws and regulations. He noted if a decision by the Board is appealed, such as a denial for licensure, the court is not making a decision based on past decisions made by the Board. Mr. Venuti explained this does not change our process.

Proposed Legislation by the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE-MD)

Mr. Morgan stated MSPE is pursuing legislation to require the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam under 14-305(d) of the Engineers' law and would like the support of the Board on this issue. Mr. Thomas informed Mr. Morgan that the current policy limits Board members serving as witnesses before the Legislative Assembly. Current Board members can only serve as witnesses in the capacity of subject matter experts, not as advocates for the PE Board. The Board as a whole could not support the proposed bill and Board counsel confirmed this. Mr. Morgan stated he understood and NSPE-MD will proceed with introducing the legislation.

CORRESPONDENCE – Already discussed in the Executive Director's Report.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR RECIPROCITY

There were 42 applications, supported by NCEES Model Law Engineer records that have been administratively approved for licensure.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion (IV) was made by Mr. Hubner, seconded by Mr. Farinas. and unanimously carried to enter Executive Session at 10:03 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) – To discuss complaints, exam applications, and to seek advice from Board Counsel. Upon completion of the session, the Board reconvened its public meeting at 10:44 a.m.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

Mr. Rickert reported on the status of complaints discussed by the Complaint Committee August 8, 2024.

- 14-PE-24 Recommend Close
- 16-PE-24 Invite licensee for discussion
- 19-PE-24 Invite licensee for discussion

The Complaint Committee reviewed one application for reinstatement and recommended a fine of \$600 for the signing of two projects during the time the license lapsed.

Pre-Charge Report:

- 13-PE-23 Pre-Charge
- 14-PE-23 Consent Order signed and fine paid. Close
- 21-PE-23 Pre-Charge
- 23-PE-23 Pre-Charge
- 24-PE-23 Consent Order signed and fine paid. Close
- 26-PE-23 Referred for criminal charges
- 34-PE-23 Pre-Charge
- 28-PE-23 Pre-Charge
- 29-PE-23 Pre-Charge
- 30-PE-23 Closed
- 32-PE-32 Closed
- 34-PE-23 Pre-Charge
- 39-PE-23 Pre-Charge: Possible criminal charges
- 04-PE-24 Pending Administrative Hearing
- 06-PE-24 Pre-Charge
- 07-PE-24 Pre-Charge
- 08-PE-24 Pre-Charge
- 10-PE-24 Pre-Charge
- 13-PE-24 Pre-Charge
- 15-PE-24 Pre-Charge

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

Motion (VI) was made by Mr. Rickert, seconded by Ms. Miller, and unanimously carried to 12 applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam and 3 applications for PE Licensure by Transfer of Grades. Approvals are as follows:

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

Berkley, Joshua J.
Elgendi, Fathy H.
Gangsa, Chula
Ihanainen, Noelle M.
Jackson, Sylvester F.
Kisenwether, Tess

Knight, Jeremy S.
O'Connor, William F.
Sanborn, Maxwell B.
Vath, Donald A.
Vinyard, Madisyn S.
Woodburn, Joshua W.

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

Lam, Shun (63396)
Lin, John K. (63393)

Yimer, Marta M. (63394)

Motion (VII) was made by Mr. Hubner, seconded by Mr. Farinas, and unanimously carried to deny four applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam for an insufficient amount of engineering work experience.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next Board meeting is hybrid and will be held on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

The Board confirmed which Board members are attending the NCEES Annual meeting being held in Chicago, IL from August 14-17, 2024. The Board Chair, Ms. Perrin, Mr. Hubner, Mr. Farinas, Mr. Rickert, Ms. Miller, and Mr. Thomas confirmed they will be attending.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (VIII) was made by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Hubner, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 a.m.

_____ With Corrections

_____ X _____ Without Corrections

Signed by: _____
Signature - on - file
Board Chairperson

Date: _____
September 16, 2024