# Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects

## Board Meeting Minutes - October 15, 2021, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The October 15, 2021, meeting of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects was held in the 5<sup>th</sup>-floor conference room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chair Foley called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. and noted the location of the Open Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

**Roll Call:** Brett Foley, Chair; Daniel Thiel, Vice-Chair; Jason Suelter, Acting Secretary; Jan Bostelman; Bruce Dvorak; Lenora Isom; Absent: Brian Kelly, Secretary; Dave Johnson

**Staff Present:** Jon Wilbeck, Executive Director (ED); Amy Habe, Compliance Officer (CO); Jean Lais, Administrative Programs Officer (APO)

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public were present.

#### A. CONSENT AGENDA

## September 6, 2021 meeting minutes

Motion by Thiele, second by Isom to approve the consent agenda. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

## **B. MEETING REPORTS**

## **NBEA Subcommittee Reports**

#### Catalyst Update

ED Wilbeck reported he and Kaitlin Reese from Catalyst Public Affairs will be meeting with Senator McCollister regarding LR191. He has also reached out to Dan Sweetwood, Executive Director of the Public Accountancy Board, to see if he would be interested in attending the meeting.

#### Legislative Committee

ED Wilbeck provided a list of administrative pros and cons of an allied board along with comments from the Board of Geologists.

#### Farm Building Committee

A copy of the letter to the Attorney General's office withdrawing the Board's October 20, 2020, requesting clarification of the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act related to farm building classifications was provided. A response to ED Wilbeck's initial stakeholder letter from the Nebraska Grain and Feed Association was also provided.

ED Wilbeck will contact Assistant Attorney General (AAG), John Jelkin, to set up a meeting with the architect members and the Farm Building Committee members as requested at the September meeting. November 9, 2021, was set as a tentative date.

#### **Rules Revisions Committee**

A copy of the draft Remediation Guide as discussed at the August meeting was provided. The following additional revisions were made:

• What is Remediation? – The section needs to indicate that remediation is used on projects subject to the Engineers and Architects Act, but did not involve licensees.

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• The State Fire Marshal has Already Approved My Project..? – This also needs to include the local building official.

#### C. OLD BUSINESS

#### New Licensee Ceremony Update

A copy of the latest program draft was provided. October 15, 2021, is the deadline for RSVP. Reminders were sent on October 7, 2021, to all eligible licensees who had not already responded. To date, 41 engineers and 5 architects have responded. Approximately 80 have not responded as of October 14.

Members not involved in the ceremony requested ED Wilbeck to let them know if the event capacity is not reached as several would like to attend if seats are available.

## **Database Update**

ED Wilbeck updated the members on the progress of the database conversion.

#### **D. NEW BUSINESS**

### NCARB Update - August 2021

A copy of the August 2021 NCARB Update was provided. Articles included articles on the NCARB support to the Architect Licensing Advisors Summit, NCARB organizational development, outreach, and department updates.

#### Nominations for NCEES National Service Awards

A copy of the call for nominations for the NCEES National Service Awards was provided. Nominations are due no later than January 31, 2022. The awards will be presented at the 2022 NCEES Annual Meeting in Carlsbad, California, August 24-26, 2022.

#### Fall 2021 Newsletter Topic Discussion

The Fall Newsletter is typically sent out at the end of November/beginning of December. The following topics were selected for inclusion:

- Article on occupation vs. profession w/ARPL input
- New Licensee Ceremony
- New Marketing & Communications Specialist
- Renewal Reminders/In Responsible Charge not renewing reminder
- Compliance Cases
- NCEES Engineering Education Award

# Board member travel and per diem requests

The following per diem and travel requests were approved by the Board:

- Isom October 13, 2021 NCARB Regional Leadership Meeting (Virtual)
- Isom November 5, 2021 New Licensee Ceremony Lincoln
- Isom November 9, 2021 Farm Building Committee meeting with AAG Jelkin Lincoln (tentative)
- Isom December 2, 2021 NCARB Diversity Collaborative Travel December 1 Washington DC
- Isom December 3-4, 2021 NCARB Committee Summit Travel December 5 Washington DC

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- Foley November 5, 2021 New Licensee Ceremony Lincoln
- Suelter November 5, 2021 New Licensee Ceremony Lincoln
- Johnson November 9, 2021 Farm Building Committee meeting with AAG Jelkin Lincoln (tentative)
- Dvorak October 12, 2021 NCEES Education Committee meeting (Virtual)
- Dvorak November 2, 2021 NCEES Education Committee meeting (Virtual)
- Bostelman NCEES Examination for Professional Engineers Committee February 4-5, 2022 Travel February 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> – Greenville, NC

Suelter informed the members he has been selected for the NCEES Structural CBT Exam Leadership Committee. ED Wilbeck is a member of the NCARB Incidental Practice Committee and NCEES Uniform Procedures and Legislative Guidelines Committee.

Motion by Thiele, second by Suelter to approve the per diem and travel requests. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Not Present: Bostelman; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

Motion by Thiele, second by Isom to go into executive session for the discussion of compliance investigations and partner-agency processes, not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

Executive Session began at 10:02 a.m.

### **E. COMPLIANCE**

Cases 20.02, 20.14, 20.37, 21.11, 21.12, 21.13, 21.23, 21.24, 21.25, 21.26, 21.27, 21.29, 21.30, 21.31, 21.32, 21.33, 21.34, 21.35, Project Review 10-01, and partner-agency processes were discussed in executive session.

Motion by Suelter, second by Thiele to close the executive session for the discussion of compliance investigations and partner-agency processes, not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

Executive Session ended at 11:44 a.m.

Motion by Suelter, second by Isom to dismiss Case 20.37 with no disciplinary action based on the successful completion of architectural and engineering remediation. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

Motion by Suelter, second by Isom to dismiss Case 21.30 with no disciplinary action based on the successful completion of architectural remediation. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

Motion by Suelter, second by Isom to authorize architectural and engineering remediation in Case 21.35 and request a response within 30 days and a remediation plan within 60 days. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

Motion by Suelter, second by Isom to open a case against the project owner in Project Review 10-1 and authorize engineering remediation with structural engineering calculations and request a response within 15 days and a remediation plan within 30 days. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

Motion by Suelter, second by Isom to open a case against the project designer in Project Review 10-1 for the unlicensed practice of architecture and request a response within 30 days. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

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#### F. APPLICATIONS

#### **Administratively Approved**

Licensure of Professional Engineers by NCEES MLE Designation

Approved: E-18994 John David Baber, Civil; E-18982 Jennifer Ann Balk, Civil; E-18964 David Allen Bidelspach, Civil; E-18993 Heidi Lin Blasingame, Mechanical; E-18985 Jason Ted Blasingame, Mechanical; E-18961 Giancario Massaro Boswell, Control Systems, E-18979 Alexander Carl Brase, Civil; E-18976 Christopher James Cruse, Civil; E-18990 David Michael Drewing, Electrical and Computer; E-18932 David Jeffrey Haight, Civil; E-18987 Tracy Lane Helton, Electrical; E-18977 Michael John Hemann, Structural; E18967 Benjamin Lee Hollon, Mechanical; E-18973 William Blaine Holt, Civil; E-18940 Kevin Reed Honeycutt, Chemical; E-18983 Mark Edward Hopkins, Civil; E-18974 Warren Lee Humphreys, Electrical and Computer; E-18935 Curtis John Kampman, Civil; E-18933 Jacob Robert Kelly, Civil; E-18978 Jared Anthon Krupa, Civil; E-18975 Ryan Odel LaBere, Civil; E-18962 Phillip Andrew Lewis, Civil; E-18984 Andrew Charles MacDonald, Chemical; E-18968 Justin Dewayne Maiden, Civil; E-18971 Samantha Stock Morford, Civil; E-18981 Joel Rodney Morris, Civil; E-18995 Evan Schoultz Mudd, Mining and Mineral; E-18980 William Michael Paris, Civil; E-18988 Timothy Allen Payne, Electrical; E-18936 Johnathan Raymond Phillips, Electrical and Computer; E-18939 Roy I Pierce II, Electrical and Computer; E-18969 Matthew Stephen Robinson, Mechanical; E-18934 Pedro Ruiz Fabian, Civil; E-18965 Gregory Dean Shreve, Structural; E-18992 Leonard Anthony Spears, Mechanical; E-18972 Casey John Steiner, Architectural; E-18970 Terry Wayne Stiles, Civil; E-18938 Scott Arthur Sullivan, Electrical; E-18989 Michael Young Summers, Civil; E-18966 David Patrick Swyden, Civil; E-18963 Charles David Toy, Mechanical; E-18937 Hayward Neil Warren, Structural; E-18986 Michael James Welch, Civil; E-18991 Laura Cooley Wible, Civil

## Licensure of Architects by NCARB Certification

**Approved:** A-5322 Eric Jason Geppelt, A-5325 Christopher Juergens Hogan, A-5328 Tonia Lynn Householder, A-5330 Charles Patrick Kolarik, A-5329 Anne Rose McManis, A-5327 Christopher Sean O'Brien, A-5324 Brian Richard Riddle, A-5326 Niccolo Valerio

#### **Temporary Permits**

**Approved:** T-635 Sudha Sikha, Engineering; T-636 Jonathan Michael Lowry, Engineering; T-637 Andrew James Thill, Engineering

**Engineer Intern Enrollments** 

**Approved:** Trevor Barry Thomsen

# Certificates of Authorization

**Approved:** CA4643 Fire & Risk Alliance LLC, CA4644 Wilder Engineering, CA4645 Whirlwind Steel Buildings Inc, CA4646 Method Studio Inc, CA4647 Stonefield Engineering and Design LLC, CA4648 Lowry Engineering PLLC, CA4649 Ridgeline Engineering Company, CA4650 ICC PEI LLC, CA4651 BSA Consulting Engineers PLLC, CA4652 GeoTech Foundation Company-West, CA4653 Spear and Associates LLC, CA4654 Swatt Miers Architects Inc, CA4655 POET Design & Construction, CA4656 EMS Engineering Services Inc, CA4657 Engineers Northwest Inc, CA4658 HBGD LLC, CA4659 5 Smooth Stones Restoration PLLC CA4660 Valerio Architects Inc, CA4661 Environmental Solutions & Innovations Inc

#### PE Exam Approvals

**Approved:** Philip John Gorospe, Mechanical; Keegan Randall Melcher, Civil; James Woodrow Rittenberger, Chemical; Daniel Ghebregziabher Yohannes, Structural

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## Licensure/Examination

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Comity and Initial Licensure

**Approved Initial Applications:** Drew Elliott Flemming Gay, Electrical and Computer; Tyler Robert Hardy, Mechanical; Christopher James Hodges, Mechanical; Cale Joshua Stolle, Mechanical

Approved Comity Applications: Sanya Phatcharakitti, Mechanical; Mokkarala Venkata Prakash, Civil

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Experience

**Approved:** Jeffrey James Egbert, Civil; Alain Antoine Haddad, Mechanical; Dennis Gene Odens, Civil; Forrest Dean Peterson, Electrical

Licensure of Architects by Comity and Initial Licensure – None

Licensure of Architects by Experience – None

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Reinstatement

Approved: E-13372 John Steven Eurek, Mechanical; E-12093 Rock Alan Fankhauser, Mechanical

Licensure of Architects by Reinstatement - None

#### **Special Cases**

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Comity

Approved: Farzana Karim Jamil, Civil

# **Other Applications Actions**

**Completed Application Statistics** 

Charts and statistics regarding the number of applications, certificates of authorization, and other applications by type were provided.

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman to accept the remaining staff recommendations on the Comity and Initial applications. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

Motion by Thiele, second by Isom to accept the staff recommendations on the remaining applications. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

#### G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

#### **Financial Reports**

FY 2021-22 Financial Profile, September 2021

Budget Status Report - September 2021

Fund Summary Report - September 2021

MTD General Ledger Detail Report - September 2021

Motion by Thiele, second by Isom to approve the financial reports as presented. Voting Yes: Suelter, Thiele, Bostelman, Dvorak, Isom, Foley; Voting No: None; Absent: Kelly, Johnson

#### H. GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and events was provided. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2021, at 8:30 a.m., in the fifth-floor conference room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. The members requested staff to look at the possibility of rescheduling the meeting to December 10<sup>th</sup>

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as three members will not or may not be able to attend on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. APO Lais will submit a room reservation and advise once it has been confirmed.

#### Licensure and Certificate Trends

Numbers as of October 5, 2021

Professional Engineers	8,772
Architects	1,936
Certificates of Authorization	2,332
Temporary Permits	16

#### **Examination Information/Results**

The August and September ARE Pass/Fail reports were provided.

The October ARE Candidates with Open Eligibilities report was provided.

#### Other Information

The 2021-22 Marketing Plan was provided.

The Facebook Analytics Report for September 9 to October 6, 2021, showed nine posts with the post related to the Marketing and Communications Specialist position posting having the most Post Reaches with 488 and 37 Engagements. The next highest post reach was the NCEES Engineering Education Award winners with 139 reaches and 13 Engagements. During the same period, 67.4% of the audience reached were male, and 32.6% were female.

The Website Dashboard Report indicates the Board's website had 2,989 total visitors in September. LinkedIn generated the most traffic from social media with 37 sessions.

The Board policies as of July 9, 2021, were provided.

Motion by Suelter to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 p.m.

Jason Suelter, Secretary