

**Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
Legislative Issues Committee Meeting Minutes
1917 S. Interstate 35
Austin, TX 78745
November 17, 2022
10:00 am-10:30 am Central Time**

1. Preliminary Matters (Albert Cheng, Chair)

A. Call to Order

Mr. Albert Cheng, Chair, called the Legislative Issues Committee meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors at 1917 S. Interstate 35, Austin, TX. (NOTE: all votes are unanimous unless noted.)

B. Roll Call

Ms. Bodden called the roll. It was noted for the record that a quorum was present.

The following Committee members were present:

Albert Cheng	Chair
Karen Friese, P.E.	Member
Coleen Johnson, R.P.L.S.	Member
Kiran Shah	Public Member

The following staff members were present:

Lance Kinney, Ph.D., P.E.	Executive Director
Rick Strong, P.E.	Director of Licensing and Registration
Michael Sims, P.E.	Director of Compliance and Enforcement
Elissa Mazza	Staff Attorney
Mason Schoolfield	Lead Systems Developer
Ed Brannan, P.E.	Technical Engineering Specialist
Cristabel Bodden	Executive Assistant

C. Excuse absent Committee members

All Committee members were present.

D. Welcome Visitors

Ademola Adejokun, P.E., Board Member; Lamberto Ballí, P.E., Advisory Member; Jon Hodde, R.P.L.S., Advisory Member; Govind Nadkarni, P.E., Advisory Member; Sina K. Nejad, P.E., P.Eng., Board Member; Catherine Norwood, P.E., Board Member; Rolando Rubiano, P.E., Board Member; and Dr. Marguerite McClinton Stoglin, Public Board Member, were present.

E. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. Important Dates and Information Related to the 88th Legislative Session

Mr. Cheng stated that bill filing started on Monday, November 14, 2022, and many bills have been filed already.

Mr. Cheng stated that the big news for the 2023 session is a 27-billion-dollar surplus which is good news for the state. Given the surplus, the Governor has asked different groups for their wish list in terms of what they need.

3. Update on bills relating to the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Mr. Cheng stated that agency staff do a great job of tracking all the bills related to engineering and land surveying. Most of the bills tracked thus far relate to being a state agency. Nothing has been filed regarding regulating or changing anything with Engineers or Land Surveyors.

Dr. Kinney stated that in the exhibit provided he had provided the process of how we monitor the bills through Telicon which is a very common legislative tracking service. Dr. Kinney stated that staff reviews every single bill filed and flags those that may have anything even tangentially related to engineering, land surveying, or agency operations. Staff also flags bills that affect other agencies as they could expand to impact TBPELS.

Dr. Kinney stated that the last day to fill a new bill is March 10, 2023.

Ms. Friese asked to be kept abreast more routinely on bills affecting the agency. Dr. Kinney stated he would provide the Telicon report to members as often as they would like.

4. Legislative Communication Plan

Dr. Kinney stated that because bill filing just started and we have no real issues, the Communication Plan is only a short summary of agency operations and contact

information. It shows what is going on with our agency and we can take it and hand it off to legislative members that we meet with.

5. Future Committee Meetings: Agenda items, dates, locations, and other arrangements

No issues were presented or addressed for consideration at the next Committee meeting.

6. Adjourn

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Johnson/Friese) to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 a.m. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Committee approved minutes:

February 16, 2023

Date Board approved minutes:

February 16, 2023