

**Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
Licensing and Registration Committee Meeting Minutes
1917 S. Interstate 35
Austin, Texas 78741
November 8, 2023
2 p.m. Central Time**

1. Preliminary Matters (Catherine Norwood, P.E., Chair)

a. Call to Order

Ms. Catherine Norwood, P.E., Chair, called the Licensing and Registration Committee meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to order at 2:01 p.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

Mr. Sims called the roll. It was noted for the record that a quorum was present.

The following Committee members were present:

Catherine Norwood, P.E.	Chair
Albert Cheng	Public Member
Coleen Johnson, R.P.L.S.	Member
Rolando Rubiano, P.E.	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
Ed Brannan, P.E.	Technical Engineering Specialist
Mason Schoolfield	Director of Operations

c. Excuse absent Committee members

All Committee members were present.

d. Welcome Visitors

Sina K. Nejad, P.E., P.Eng., Board Chair; Mark Neubauer, LSLS, RPLS, Board Member; Ademola Adejokun, Board Member; Kiran Shah, Board Member; Ricardo

Rendon Bernot, Applicant; Jason Danowsky, Attorney for Mr. Bernot; Kyle Geitner, Applicant; Bryan Lightweis, Applicant; Casey Miller, Applicant; and Taylor Woodruff, Applicant.

e. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. August 9, 2023, Licensing and Registration Committee Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Rubiano/Johnson) to approve the August 9, 2023, Licensing and Registration Committee minutes as presented. A vote was taken, and MOTION PASSED.

3. Applications for Licensure

- **Personal Interviews Cases:**
 - **Rendon Bernot, Ricardo**

This applicant applied for licensure. Mr. Rendon Bernot and his attorney Mr. Danowsky appeared before the Committee due to multiple, recent criminal judgments. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Rubiano/Johnson) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on November 9, 2023, that Mr. Rendon Bernot return before the licensing committee after completing his court requirements and successful competition of the 60-hour Intermediate Level Ethics course through the Texas Tech Murdough Center for Engineering Professionalism (Murdough Center).

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

- **Geitner, Kyle Joseph**

Mr. Geitner previously appeared before the Committee and full Board. After his previous appearance, the Board required that Mr. Geitner complete the 30-hour Ethics course through the Murdough Center and submit an updated, more detailed Supplementary Experience Record (SER). Mr. Geitner appeared at this meeting after having successfully completed the ethics course and submitting the updated SER.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Norwood/Cheng) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on November 9, 2023, that Mr. Geitner be approved for licensure since he fulfilled the Board's previous directives.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

- **Lightweis, Bryan Stephen**

Mr. Bryan Lightweis appeared before the Committee due to recent criminal judgments. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Cheng/Rubiano) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on November 9, 2023, that Mr. Bryan Lightweis be approved for Texas PE licensure upon the successful completion of the 90-hour Ethics course through the Murdough Center.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

- **Miller, Casey Alexander**

Mr. Miller has previously appeared before the Committee. After his previous appearance, the Board required Mr. Miller to successfully complete the 60-hour Intermediate Level Ethics course through the Murdough Center. Mr. Miller reappeared after successfully completing the course. However, he still has some outstanding requirements set by the criminal court system.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Rubiano/Johnson) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on November 9, 2023, that Mr. Miller come before the Board for reconsideration of licensure in Texas upon the successful completion of all of his requirements set by the court.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

- **Woodruff, Taylor Mark**

Mr. Taylor Woodruff appears before the Committee based on recent criminal judgments. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Norwood/Johnson) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on November 9, 2023, that Mr. Taylor Woodruff be approved for licensure in Texas upon the successful completion of the 30-hour Ethics course through the Murdough Center.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

4. Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors' Land Surveying Exam Update

Mr. Strong gave an update on the NCEES PE exam. All 8-hour exam disciplines have been converted to computer-based testing (CBT). The CBT structural engineering exam is still being developed.

Mr. Strong stated that the first Texas Specific Surveying Exam was administered on October 13, 2023, with 98 test-takers. Forty-eight examinees passed, for a 49% pass rate, which is in line with the national exam and with the previous RPLS exam. The new exam format will be offered three times per year. Overall, feedback on the new exam was extremely positive.

Mr. Strong thanked those involved for their hard work with the exams.

5. Licensing and Registration Director's Report

(a) Engineer Results and Statistics: Licensing Application and Examination Report

Mr. Strong reviewed the report with the Committee members and provided application and exam results.

(b) Surveyor Results and Statistics: Registration Application and Examination Report

Mr. Strong reviewed the report with the Committee members and provided application and exam results.

6. Future Committee Meetings: Agenda items, dates, locations, and other Arrangements

Mr. Rubiano requested that the Committee review exam waiver processes at the next Committee meeting in February.

7. Adjourn

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Johnson/Rubiano) to adjourn the meeting at 3.28 p.m. A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Committee approved minutes: February 14, 2024

Date Board approved minutes: February 15, 2024