

**Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
Licensing and Registration Committee Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2024
2:00 pm Central Time**

Physical Meeting Location:
Hotel Viata - Juniper Room
320 S Capital of Texas Hwy
West Lake Hills, TX 78746

1. Preliminary Matters - Officer Presiding

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 2:05 p.m. at the Hotel Viata - Juniper Room, 320 S Capital of Texas Hwy in West Lake Hills, TX 78746. (NOTE: all votes are unanimous unless noted.)

b. Roll Call

Ms. Trevino 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
Ademola Adejokun, P.E.	Member
Albert Cheng	Member
Coleen Johnson, R.P.L.S.	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
Brian Waltman, P.E.	Technical Engineering Specialist
Mason Schoolfield	Director of Operations
Jeff Mutscher	Chief Financial Officer
Odilia Trevino	Executive Administrator

C. Excuse absent Committee members

All Committee members were present.

d. Welcome Visitors

Roberto Moreno, P.E., Board Member; Colby Brackin; Mitch Brackin, R.P.L.S., Access Surveyors; Ken Dowling, MEP Engineering; Steven J. Freeman II, R.P.L.S., Texas Society of Professional Surveyors (TSPS) Liaison – Freeman Surveying; Stephanie Stanford, P.E., Texas Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE) Liaison; Personal Appearances: Hector Ortiz; Ricardo Rendon-Bernot; Jason Danowski, attorney for Rendon-Bernot; Kyle Smith; Kuei Wang

e. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. February 14, 2024, Licensing and Registration Committee Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Johnson/Cheng) to approve the February 14, 2024, Licensing and Registration Committee minutes as presented.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

3. Applications for Licensure

- **Personal Interviews Cases:**
- **Ortiz, Hector Enrique**

Mr. Hector Ortiz appeared before the Committee based on multiple past criminal judgments. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Johnson/Cheng) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 16, 2024, for Mr. Ortiz to be approved for Texas PE licensure after submitting documentation of the successful completion of the 60-hour Intermediate Level Ethics course from the Texas Tech Murdough Center for Engineering.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

- **Rendon Bernot, Ricardo**

Mr. Ricardo Rendon Bernot previously appeared before the Committee on November 9, 2023, where the Board required that he complete his court requirements and the 60-hour Intermediate Level Ethics course from the Texas Tech Murdough Center for Engineering.

Mr. Rendon appeared at this meeting after successfully fulfilling the Board's previous directives.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Norwood/Cheng) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 16, 2024, for Mr. Rendon to be approved for Texas PE licensure.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

- **Smith, Kyle Thomas**

Mr. Kyle Smith appeared before the Committee based on multiple past criminal judgments. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Cheng/Johnson) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 16, 2024, for Mr. Smith to be approved for Texas PE licensure after submitting documentation of the successful completion of the 30-hour Basic Level Ethics course from Texas Tech Murdough Center for Engineering.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

- **Wang, Kuei**

Mr. Kuei Wang appeared before the Committee based on multiple criminal judgments. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Norwood/Cheng) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 16, 2024, for Mr. Wang to be approved to take the Texas PE exam and that Mr. Wang appear before the Committee after submitting documentation of the successful completion of the 90-hour Intermediate Level Ethics course from Texas Tech Murdough Center for Engineering and passing of the PE exam.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

4. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 131, Subchapter A – Scope and Definitions**
§131.2 Definitions
5. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 133, Subchapter D – Education**
§133.31 Educational Requirement for Applicants
6. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 133, Subchapter E – Experience**
§133.43 Experience Evaluation
7. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 133, Subchapter F - Reference Documentation**
§133.53 Reference Statements

8. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 133, Subchapter G – Examinations
§133.67 Examination on the Principles and Practice of Engineering**
9. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 133, Subchapter G – Examinations
§133.69 Waiver of Examinations**
10. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 134, Subchapter
C – Land Surveyor Application Requirements
§134.25 Application from Out-Of-State Registration Holders**
11. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 134, Subchapter E – Experience
§134.43 Experience Evaluations**
12. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 134, Subchapter F – Reference
Documentation
§134.53 Reference Statements**
13. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 134, Subchapter G – Examinations
§134.67 Examination on the Principles and Practices of Surveying**
14. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 134, Subchapter G – Examinations
§134.68 Licensed State Land Surveyor Examination**

Mr. Brannon reviewed each proposed rule amendment with the committee. It was moved/seconded (Johnson/Cheng) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 16, 2024, that items 4-14 be approved to be published in the Texas Register for public comments and possible adoption by the board at a future board meeting.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

15. **Propose Amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 134, Subchapter D – Education
§134.31 Educational Requirements for Applicants**

Mr. Sims reviewed the proposed rule amendment with the committee. It was moved/seconded (Johnson/Cheng) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 16, 2024, that item 15 be approved to be published in the Texas Register for public comments and possible adoption by the board at a future board meeting.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

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

Mr. Strong provided a report as an exhibit. He 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 was converted this year.

Mr. Strong stated that the first Texas Specific Surveying Exam administered on October 13, 2023, was very successful. The March 2024 exam was also administered. We are offering three exams per year. The next exam is scheduled for June 21, 2024. The third one will be in October of 2024.

Mr. Strong gave statistics for the LSLS exam on April 19, 2024. There were four examinees and two passed for a 50% pass rate.

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

No action required on this item.

17. International Licensure Report

Dr. Kinney reviewed the information from the international meetings he and Dr. Nejad attended as part of the Texas delegation. The discussion was regarding a mutual recognition agreement between NCEES and the UK Engineering Council for international licensure reciprocity. He stated the MRA is non-binding but is a show of interest and participation for the board.

Dr. Kinney requested that the committee recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 16, 2024, that the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) be signed at the NCEES Annual Meeting in August 2024.

It was moved/seconded (Johnson/Adejokun) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on May 16, 2024, that the Texas delegation sign the MRA at the NCEES Annual Meeting in August 2024.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

18. 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 applications and exam results.

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

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

No action required on this item.

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

No new business was proposed for the Committee meeting in August.

20. Adjourn

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Johnson/Adejokun) to adjourn the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Committee approved minutes: 08/07/2024

Date Board approved minutes: 08/08/2024