

**MINUTES
POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
1917 S. INTERSTATE 35
AUSTIN, TX 78741
NOVEMBER 14, 2024 - 8:30 AM**

Discuss and Possibly Act on the Following Agenda Items:

1. Preliminary Matters - Officer Presiding

A. Call to Order

Ms. Karen Friese, P.E., Chair, called the Policy Advisory Committee meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to order at 8:45 a.m. (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:

Karen Friese, P.E., Chair
Roberto Moreno, P.E., Member
Kiran Shah, Member

Mr. Steven Ogle, Assistant Attorney General and General Counsel for the Board, was present to provide legal counsel to the Board.

The following staff members were present:

Lance Kinney, Ph.D., P.E.	Executive Director
Rick Strong, P.E.	Director of Licensing
Michael Sims, P.E.	Director of Compliance and Enforcement
Mason Schoolfield	Director of Operations
Elissa Mazza	Staff Attorney
Ed Brannan, P.E.	Technical Engineering Specialist
Brian Waltman, P.E.	Technical Engineering Specialist
Odilia Trevino	Executive Administrator

C. Excuse absent Committee members

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Shah/Moreno) to excuse committee member Ademola Adejokun, P.E., Board Member.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Adejokun was present and attended the meeting at 8:48 a.m.

D. Welcome Visitors

Coleen Johnson, R.P.L.S., Board Member; Catherine Norwood, P.E., Board Member; Dr. Sina Nejad, P.E., P.Eng., Board Chair; Albert Cheng, Board Member; Govind Nadkarni, P.E., Advisory Board Member; Colby Brackin, S.I.T., C.F.M.; and K.V. Vartevan were present.

E. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. August 8, 2024, Policy Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Moreno/Shah) to approve the August 8, 2024, Policy Advisory Committee Meeting minutes as presented.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

3. Policy Advisory Opinion Request Regarding The Use of Artificial Intelligence in Professional Practice (Policy Advisory Opinion Request No. 71)

Mr. Sims discussed the staff initiated Policy Advisory Opinion regarding the use of artificial intelligence (AI) software by licensees under the Board's jurisdiction. AI software is a tool available to the public at large, including the Board's licensees, that is quickly evolving. At this time, a policy has been developed for professional engineers and land surveyors and states that AI software should not be used unless the engineer/surveyor is already competent on the project and confidentiality requirements remain in place. Further, if licensees use AI software or not, they remain ultimately responsible for everything they sign and seal. An exhibit elaborating on this position was provided. Mr. Sims stated that the Board staff will continue to monitor the issue and update the policy as needed.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Moreno/Adejokun) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting to adopt the policy for PAO Request #71 as submitted.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

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

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

5. Adjourn

Ms. Friese adjourned the meeting at 8:51 a.m.

Note: In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. GA-0957, dated July 27, 2012, this is notification that some Board members who are not members of the Policy Advisory Committee may be present at this Committee meeting, thereby creating a quorum of the Board. This agenda does not authorize Board members, other than the Policy Advisory Committee members, to deliberate or vote on matters before the Policy Advisory Committee. All matters reported out of this Committee will be presented at a future Board meeting for deliberation and possible action.

Note: This meeting may be held by videoconference call pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.127. The member presiding over the meeting will be physically present at the location of the meeting listed above and will preside over the meeting at that location. The meeting will be accessible to the public at the physical location listed above.

The Committee may meet in closed session on any agenda item listed above as authorized by the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

Individuals needing auxiliary aids or services should contact the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors at (512) 440-7723, in a timely manner.

Date Board approved minutes: 02/13/2025