

MINUTES
Policy Advisory Committee Meeting
Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
May 15, 2025 - 9:00 am

Discuss and Possibly Act on the Following Agenda Items:

1. Preliminary Matters - Officer Presiding

A. Call to Order

Mr. Roberto Moreno, P.E., Committee Member, called the Policy Advisory Committee meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to order at 9:00 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:

Roberto Moreno, P.E., Member
Kiran Shah, Member
Catherine Norwood, P.E., Alternate Member

Mr. Steven Ogle, Assistant Attorney General and General Counsel for the Board, was present via Videoconference 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
Jeff Mutscher	Chief Financial Officer
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 (Norwood/Shah) to excuse committee members Karen Friese, P.E., Chair and Ademola Adejokun, P.E., Board Member.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

D. Welcome Visitors

Mark Neugebauer, R.P.L.S., L.S.L.S, Board Member; Coleen Johnson, R.P.L.S., Board Member; and Jon Hodde, R.P.L.S., Advisory Board Member were present.

E. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. Policy Advisory Opinion Request Regarding Limits on Foreign Based Firms Offering Engineering Services in Texas (Policy Advisory Opinion Request No. 72)

Mr. Sims discussed the Policy Advisory Opinion request which was submitted anonymously and was received on March 1, 2025. He stated that the Rules do not differentiate between engineering firms based on where they are located. The only requirement for a firm to offer services in Texas is that the firm be registered with the Board and have licensed Texas PEs on staff. If it is not registered and has no licensed PEs, they cannot provide engineering services in Texas but can contract them out.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Norwood/Shah) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting to accept the response, as prepared, for PAO Request #72.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

3. Policy Advisory Opinion Request Regarding How Information Technology Services Fall Under Electrical Engineering as They Relate to the Public Work Exemption Found in The Texas Engineering Practice Act (Policy Advisory Opinion Request No. 73)

Mr. Sims stated that this request was submitted by Mr. Rudy Juarez and was received on March 4, 2025. He indicated that more time was needed to research the specific definition for electrical engineering as the term is used in the section of the Act about public works but is not defined anywhere in statute. Therefore, PAO 73 will be presented at the August 2025 meeting.

No action was required for this agenda item.

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

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Norwood/Shah) to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

A vote was taken, and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Committee approved minutes: 08/14/2025

Date Board approved minutes: 08/1482025