

MINUTES
LICENSING AND REGISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
August 26, 2021—8:30 AM

Discuss and Possibly Act on the Following Agenda Items:

1. Preliminary Matters

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 8:45 a.m. via Videoconference. (NOTE: all votes are unanimous unless noted.)

B. Roll Call

Dr. Kinney 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
Lamberto Ballí, P.E.	Member
Albert Cheng	Public Member
Coleen Johnson, R.P.L.S.	Member

Melissa Juarez, 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 and Registration
Michael Sims, P.E.	Director of Compliance and Enforcement
Elissa Mazza	Staff Attorney
Janet Sobieski	Director of Operations
Mason Schoolfield	Lead Systems Developer
Cristabel Bodden	Executive Assistant

C. Excuse absent Committee members

All Committee members were present.

D. Welcome Visitors

Kahshay Aminabadi; Jason Danowky, Attorney at Law; Jon Hodde, R.P.L.S., Advisory Member; Dr. Sina K. Nejad, P.E., P.Eng., Board Member; Mark Neugebauer, R.P.L.S., L.S.L.S.,

Board Member; Rolando Rubiano, P.E., Board Member; and R. Kyle Womack, P.E., Retired, Advisory Member, were present.

E. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. May 26, 2021 Licensing Committee Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Ballí/Johnson) to approve the May 26, 2021, Licensing Committee minutes as submitted. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

3. Applications for Licensure

- **Personal Interviews Cases:**

- **Zandi, Firooz**

This applicant applied for licensure. He came before the Committee due to a reported incident. The applicant has completed all court requirements. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Ballí/Cheng) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on August 26, 2021, that Mr. Zandi be approved for P.E. licensure in Texas after successful completion of his Indiana PE Board probationary period. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

4. Aminabadi, Kahshay tabled discussion. Propose motion for Licensure.

Ms. Norwood stated that the Committee had received Mr. Aminabadi's supplemental experience and additional PE reference for their review.

After discussion, it was MOVED/SECONDED (Norwood/Cheng) to refer this matter to the full Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on August 26, 2021, to continue review and discussion of Mr. Aminabadi's application for licensure. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

5. Propose Amendments to Add 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 133, Subchapter H – Review Process of Applications and License Issuance

- **§133.83 – Executive Director Review, Evaluation, and Processing of Applications**
- **§133.85 – Board Review of and Action on Applications**
- **§133.87 – Final Action on Applications**
- **§133.89 – Processing of Administratively Withdrawn Applications**

Dr. Kinney stated that these rules are a continuation from the previous meeting to modify the application and license process.

Dr. Kinney stated that the rules have gone to the Governor's and Office of the Attorney General's offices for review and feedback. There was very minor commentary received and staff have incorporated these suggestions into the rules presented. Agency staff have worked with the General Counsel to come up with a reasonable alternative approach.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Norwood/Ballí) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Board meeting on August 26, 2021, to propose and publish pending review from the Office of the Attorney General the amendments to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 133, Subchapter H – Review Process of Applications and License Issuance. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

6. Propose Amendment to 22 Tex. Admin. Code Chapter 134, Subchapter H – Review Process of Applications and Registration Issuance

- **§133.83 – Executive Director Review, Evaluation, and Processing of Applications**
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7. Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors' Land Surveying Exam Update

Mr. Strong stated that they are in the process of preparing the October 2021 exams. Staff are still considering safety protocols in booking a location for the exams.

Mr. Strong stated that the PAC study is being prepared by members of the QA/QC team and a survey was sent out to all surveyors in the State of Texas for a new Texas-specific exam and had a great response from the surveyors.

Mr. Strong stated that NCEES exam are ongoing, and October's exams will be the final paper and pencil PE exams. Starting in 2022, all FE and PE exams will be computer-based except for the structural exam.

No action was required on this agenda item.

8. Licensing Director's Report

- **Engineer Results and Statistics: Licensing Application and Examination Report**

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

No action was required on this agenda item.

- **Surveyor Results and Statistics: Registration Application and Examination Report**

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

No action was required on this agenda item.

9. Issues for consideration for future Committee meetings

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

10. Adjourn

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Ballí/Johnson) to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 a.m. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Board approved minutes:

November 18, 2021