

CALL TO ORDER

The January 10, 2020 meeting of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects was held in the 5th floor conference room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chair Isom called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and noted the location of the Public Meeting Statutes. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Member Roll Call: Lenora Isom, Chair; Jan Bostelman, Vice Chair; Brett Foley, Secretary; David Johnson; Brian Kelly; Jennifer Klein; Randy Peters; Daniel Thiele. Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jon Wilbeck, Executive Director (ED); Amy Habe, Compliance Officer (CO); Sandra Weaver, Business Manager; Jean Lais, Administrative Assistant (AA); Molly Mayhew, Public Information Officer (PIO).

Public Comment

Julie Erickson, American Communications Group, Inc.

Hearing on Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects v. Lawrence S Huffman, 19.03

As presiding officer, Chair Isom opened the hearing at 9:02 a.m. for the matter of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects v. Lawrence S Huffman, 19.03. Respondent Lawrence Huffman did not attend the hearing, and Huffman was not represented by counsel. Special Assistant Attorney General Sean Minahan questioned Executive Director Wilbeck in direct examination. Exhibits were presented to the Board as evidence. Julie Pell, Pell Reporting, recorded the proceedings. A closing statement was made by Special Assistant Attorney General Minahan. The hearing concluded at 9:23 a.m.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

[December 13, 2019 meeting minutes](#)

Motion by Thiele, second by Peters to approve the consent agenda. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

B. MEETING REPORTS

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

[Legislative Committee Report](#)

Julie Erickson reported the Nebraska Legislature has been in session for three days. LB 834, which will amend the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act, was introduced by Senator John Arch. A copy of the bill was provided. Plans for testimony at the bill's legislative hearing were discussed. ED Wilbeck will list the letters for the hearing and draft testimony. ED Wilbeck and Julie Erickson will meet with the remainder of the members of the Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, January 13.

LB 857 was identified as a bill of interest to the Board. If successful, it will require each state agency to review its adopted and promulgated rules and regulations and provide an electronic report to the Clerk of the Legislature by a scheduled date. Julie Erickson will ascertain the background of the bill and report back to the Board.

C. OLD BUSINESS

FY 2019-20 Marketing Plan

PIO Mayhew updated the Board on the FY 2019-20 Marketing Plan.

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The 2020 schedule for the Board of Engineers and Architects was provided to several organizations and contacts at the UN-L Engineering and Architecture Faculties.

PIO Mayhew and CO Habe will provide a presentation at the Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association (NPZA) and American Planning Association (APA) annual conferences in March 2020.

NCEES is requesting the first engineering license from each state. PIO Mayhew reported reaching out to UN-L and several societies to see if there is a copy available of the first Nebraska license.

ED Wilbeck and AA Lais will provide a presentation on the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) examination at UNO and UN-L.

Kelly noted that Associate Professor David Karle is the new Interim Director of the Architecture Program at UN-L.

D. NEW BUSINESS

[NCEES examination change notification](#)

PE exams are scheduled to transition to computer-based (CBT) testing as follows:

- Industrial and Systems - October 2020
- Fire Protection – October 2020
- Mining and Mineral Processing – October 2021
- Electrical and Computer – Power exam - April 2021, Electronics, Controls and Communication exam and Computer exam - October 2021
- Mechanical – April 2020
- Agricultural and Biological – October 2021

New specifications are scheduled for examinations as follows:

- Fundamentals of Engineering – July 2020
- PE Chemical – January 2020
- PE Industrial and Systems – October 2020

The spring 2020 pencil-and-paper exams will be administered on April 17 and 18, 2020. The PE exams and the Vertical Forces component of the Structural Engineering (SE) exam will be administered only on Friday, April 17. The Lateral Forces component of the SE exam will be administered only on Saturday, April 18.

[NCEES call for nominations for national service awards](#)

The NCEES Committee on Awards is now soliciting nominations for awards to be presented at the 99th annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois, on August 26-29, 2020. The awards will recognize individuals who have made exceptional contributions and provided outstanding service to the organization. Awards include the Distinguished Service Award with Special Commendation, the Distinguished Service Award, the Meritorious Service Award, and the Distinguished Examination Service Award. A completed nomination package must be received at NCEES headquarters no later than January 31, 2020.

[NCARB MBE Workshop and Regional Summit agendas and registration information](#)

Meeting agendas and registration information were provided for the NCARB Member Board Executives (MBE) Workshop and the Regional Summit Meeting to be held March 5 and March 6-7, 2020, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The deadline to register for the event on the Regional Summit website and reserve a hotel room is February 3, 2020.

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NCEES 2020 Central Zone elections and call for Distinguished Service Award nominations

The Central Zone Vice President called for nominations for the Central Zone Distinguished Service Award. The nominee form must be submitted by February 21, 2020.

A Central Zone Vice President and Assistant Vice President will be elected at the 2020 interim zone meeting to be held at Houston, Texas. Nominations for the offices are to be sent to the chair of the Nominating Committee by February 21, 2020. A NCEES Treasurer will be elected at the NCEES Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, in June. Boards wishing to nominate a candidate are asked to contact CEO David Cox by June 26, 2020.

NCEES proposal for the 16-hour structural exam transition to computer-based testing

NCEES is in the process of determining the transition of the structural exam to the computer-based testing (CBT) format as required by Council vote in 2012 to convert all professional exams to CBT. An invitation to a Basecamp project set up for questions and answers will be sent to members in the next few days. Foley voiced some concerns on the proposed changes to the examination structure. Bostelman will report his concerns to the NCEES Examinations for Professional Engineers (EPE) Committee.

2020 travel and per diem authorization

Authorization requests:

- Bostelman to attend the NCEES Industrial & Systems Engineering Exam Cut Score Meeting on February 21-22, 2020, in Seneca, SC. Travel will occur on Feb 20 and 22. Travel will be funded by NCEES.
- Johnson and Kelly to attend the NCARB New Board Member and Executive Orientation on February 12-14, 2020, in Washington, DC. Kelly will travel on the February 11 and 15. Travel will be funded by NCEES.

Motion by Thiele, second by Klein to approve travel and per diem authorization as requested. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

E. COMPLIANCE

Summary of Open Cases

Executive Session – Commenced at 9:57 a.m.

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman to enter into executive session for discussion of compliance investigations, a continuing education waiver request, and a license renewal disclosure not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. The limitation for going into executive session was restated by Chair Isom. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Active Cases: Summary & Documentation

Case 18.02, Case 18.13, Case 18.20, Case 18.21, Case 19.01, Case 19.03, Case 19.05, Case 19.11, Case 19.12, Case 19.14, and Case 19.16 were reviewed in executive session.

Other Compliance Issues

A continuing education waiver request because of health issues and a disciplinary action disclosed on a license renewal were reviewed in executive session.

Executive Session – Concluded at 11:56 a.m.

Motion by Thiele, second by Klein to close executive session for discussion of compliance investigations, a continuing education waiver request, and a license renewal disclosure not a matter of public information to

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prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Thiele, second by Foley to dismiss Case 19.11 with no disciplinary action based on finding no violation of the Act or Code of Conduct. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Thiele, second by Johnson to dismiss Case 19.12 with no disciplinary action based on finding no violation of the Act or Code of Conduct. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman to dismiss Case 19.14 with no disciplinary action based on finding no violation of Act or Code of Conduct. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Thiele, second by Johnson to dismiss Case 19.16 with no disciplinary action based on finding no violation of the Act or Code of Conduct. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Thiele, second by Peters to request documentation of continuing education hours achieved to date, documentation of the illness from the physician, and waive the remainder of the continuing education hours required for 2018-2019 for the renewal of license A-1146, as authorized by Rule 9.6.1.3. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman. Voting No: None. Abstain: Isom. Absent: None.

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman to renew license E-12495 as per staff recommendation. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

F. APPLICATIONS

Administratively Approved

Licensure of Professional Engineers by NCEES MLE Designation

Approved: E-17920 Isaac Michael Anderson, Mechanical; E-17993 Justin Peter Carney, Structural; E-17935 John Anthony Colarelli, Electrical; E-17936 Daniel John Corning, Civil; E-17937 Jason Douglas Daye, Civil; E-17969 Griet Cecile Devriese, Electrical and Computer; E-17923 William Ramsey Fowler, Mechanical; E-17984 David John Grapsas, Structural; E-17985 John Alan Lang, Electrical; E-17921 Cody James Lechleitner, Civil; E-18002 Adam Mark McLaughlin, Structural; E-17994 Tyler Bennion Mertlich, Civil; E-17996 Keith Glen Pehl, Electrical; E-17995 Kimberly Jo Smith, Civil; E-17992 Joel Nathaniel Swenson, Civil; E-17970 Bradley Donald Townsend, Civil; E-17922 Ryan Roger Vaughn, Mechanical; E-17938 Andrew Thomas Walther, Architectural; E-17919 Wyatt Walter Wirges, Mechanical; E-18005 John Steven York, Jr, Civil.

Licensure of Architects by NCARB Certification

Approved: A-5140 Dana Marie Blaschko, A-5143 George Iain Dickie, A-5145 Daniel Edwin Fankhauser, A-5147 Alissa Alden MacInnes Johnson, A-5142 Charles Sylvain Klee, A-5146 Monique Fara Reindersma, A-5141 Paul Matthew Sabal, A-5144 Leslie Lynn Suhr.

Temporary Permits (None)

Engineer Intern Enrollments

Approved: Jared Ross Adkins, Gregory Meyer Brozek, Katherine Evelyn Johnson.

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Certificates of Authorization

Approved: CA4278 MJ2 Consulting PLLC, CA4279 SNC-Lavalin Engineers & Constructors Inc, CA4280 Clearwell PLLC, CA4281 Frankfurt-Short-Bruza Associates PC, CA4282 SolTerra Engineering Inc, CA4283 JDSG & Associates PLLC, CA4284 Marcus Construction Co Inc, CA4285 Michael E Courture Architect, CA4286 Elness Swenson Graham Architects Inc, CA4287 Pacific Advanced Civil Engineering Inc, CA4288 Raise PS, CA4289 Stiver Engineering Inc, CA4290 Summit Engineering Services Inc, CA4291 Infinity MEP Consultants, CA4292 United Structural Design LLC, CA4293 Riverwise Engineering LLC, CA4294 Cementation.

Licensure/Examination

Initial Licensure of Professional Engineers (*None*)

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Comity

Approved: Kaleb Joseph Nielsen-Sheffield, Structural, KS; Cesar Rojas, Civil, TX.

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Experience

Approved: James Mark Festa, Civil, NJ; Henry Dick Jacobsen, Electrical, WY

Initial Licensure of Architects (*None*)

Licensure of Architects by Comity (*None*)

Licensure of Architects by Experience (*None*)

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Reinstatement

Approved: E-12646 Sarah Albers Stewart, Civil.

Licensure of Architects by Reinstatement (*None*)

ARE Exam Approvals (*None*)

PE/SE Exam Approvals

Approved: Aislyn Rose Anderson, Civil; Binay Basnet, Civil; Benett James Batenhorst, Civil; Christopher Robert Vaughn Boden, Structural VL; Samuel Joseph Cunningham, Mechanical; Alec Nelson Drey, Civil; Carl Derek Edwards, Electrical & Computer; Sarah Ann Erickson, Structural VL; Rachel Adele Fuchs, Civil; Benjamin Joseph Garday, Mechanical; Jacob William Hanus, Electrical & Computer; Brandt Morgan Humphrey, Structural VL; Benjamin Michael Kaipust, Electrical & Computer; Seunghee Kim, Civil; Christopher Glenn Klosterman, Structural VL; Erin Elizabeth Krug, Structural VL; Jonathan Dubes McCarville, Civil; Jacob James McNealy, Civil; Nicholas Anthony Menefee, Civil; Alexa Muhs Metcalf, Civil; Ethan Duane Miller, Civil; Yuye Peng, Electrical & Computer; Todd Michael Pernicek, Civil; Noah Anton Pitts, Structural VL; Shawn Jeffrey Prochaska, Electrical & Computer; Cara Ann Roesler, Civil; Pranav Man Shakya, Structural VL; Joseph Augustus Shy, Civil; Scott Phillip Speicher, Civil; Aaron Len Wiese, Civil; Jordan Thomas Wipf, Civil; Tymothy Howard Wood, Electrical & Computer.

Special Cases

PE/SE Exam Approvals

Approved: Christine Erin Wittich, Civil; Xiaoxiang Xue, Civil.

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman to approve applications as recommended by staff. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports

[FY 2019-20 Financial Profile, as of December 31, 2019](#)

[Budget Status Report, December 2019](#)

[MTD General Ledger Detail Report, December 2019](#)

[Fund Summary Report, December 2019](#)

ED Wilbeck reviewed the December 2019 financial reports with the Board and noted an increase in revenue in December was caused by the license renewal deadline on December 31. A new counter height table was purchased and installed in the office. A review of licensing database systems has begun. ED Wilbeck will check with the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) to see what is available.

Motion by Bostelman, second by Thiele to approve the financial reports as presented. Voting Yes: Foley, Johnson, Kelly, Klein, Peters, Thiele, Bostelman, Isom. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

[Mileage reimbursement rates as of January 1, 2020](#)

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1176 provides that Administrative Services shall set the mileage rate used to reimburse State employees for use of a personal vehicle in conducting business for the State of Nebraska. Effective January 1, 2020, the standard reimbursable mileage rate for use of a personal vehicle will be \$.575 per mile.

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and events was provided for review. The next board meeting is scheduled on Friday, February 14, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. in the 5th floor conference room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. Johnson and Kelly will not be able to attend since they will be attending the new board member orientation in Boston, Massachusetts. Bostelman noted she might be unable to attend as well.

[Individuals and organizations authorized to practice as of December 30, 2019:](#)

Professional Engineers.....	8,505
Architects	2,008
Certificates of Authorization.....	2,253
Temporary Permits	19

Examination Information/Results

The ARE Monthly Pass/Fail Report showed 6 exams taken and 2 exams passed in November 2019. 86 ARE candidates had open eligibilities on January 1, 2020.

The 2019 PE Exam Registration & Pass Rate History Report showed an average pass rate of 72.4% for the paper and pencil exam in Nebraska since 2011. The national pass rate is 55.6%.

Other Information

The Facebook Analytics Report showed 172 people reached from December 3, 2019, to December 30, 2019.

The Mailchimp Analytics Report indicated license renewal reminders were emailed on November 17, 2019, to 1,584 architects and professional engineers whose licenses would expire on December 31, 2019. In 2019, a total of 30,419 email messages were sent to licensees, emeritus members, non-licensees, societies, and organizations with certificates of authorization.

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The December 2019 Website Dashboard Report indicated the Board's website had 6,178 total visits. The 2019 End-of-year Analytics Report showed the most consistently visited webpages were the E&A Regulation Act Handbook, Engineer Comity, Engineer Initial Licensure, and Firms.

PIO Mayhew provided maps showing the number of architects and professional engineers in each county of Nebraska.

Board policies approved as of September 13, 2019, were provided.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.



Brett P. Foley, Secretary

2/14/2020