Board Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

CALL TO ORDER

The April 14, 2023, meeting of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects was held in the fifth-floor conference room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chair Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. and noted the location of the Open Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Brian Kelly, Chair; Alan Wedige, Secretary; Jan Bostelman, Bruce Dvorak, Dan Thiele; Absent: Brett Foley, Lenora Isom, Jason Suelter

Staff Present: Jon Wilbeck, Executive Director (ED); Amy Habe, Compliance Officer (CO); Jean Lais, Administrative Programs Officer (APO); Josh Frerking, Public Information Officer (PIO)

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

March 16, 2023, meeting minutes

Motion by Thiele, second by Wedige to approve the consent agenda. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

B. MEETING REPORTS

NBEA Subcommittee Reports

A copy of the 2022-23 committee appointments and charges was provided.

Legislative Committee

A list of introduced bills of interest to the Board was provided along with a copy of the press release announcing Senator Geist's resignation. Geist was the sponsor of LB471. Senator Brewer has taken sponsorship of the bill. It was suggested the Legislative Committee schedule with Brewer to discuss the Board's concerns, and recommended amendments have been discussed with the interior designers and other stakeholders.

Other Meeting Reports - None

C. OLD BUSINESS

Database Replacement Project w/NCARB

Discussion was held regarding the continuing education (CE) audit options in the Licensing System software. Two options were provided, with the first requiring everyone to upload CE documentation. The system would then randomly select those to be audited. This option requires all renewals to be put in a hold queue and then manually reviewed and renewed.

The second option would be to renew everyone and conduct the CE audits outside the renewal process. This option would require disciplinary action by the Board to revert the license back to a non-renewed status if the individual didn't pass or complete the audit.

It is the members' preference that only licensees selected for audit be required to submit CE documentation.

Board Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

Discussion regarding offered settlement agreements

Special Assistant Attorney General Minahan provided guidance on handling unexecuted CE audit settlement agreements. In his opinion, if a licensee does not complete the audit or fails to accept the settlement agreement and the license ultimately expires, they may not fall within the governance of the Board since they are no longer licensed or practicing engineering and/or architecture. An option would be to bring action against them if they re-applied in the future.

The objective of imposing a fine and order is to take reportable disciplinary action and to have the licensee affirm they have completed the CE requirement. One suggestion in the context of Minahan's opinion would be to renew the license, then begin the disciplinary process. The question was raised that if an individual did not complete the audit and applied for reinstatement, could providing false statements regarding the CE completion on the renewal be grounds for denying the reinstatement application? CE documentation is required as part of the reinstatement process. Staff informed the members that at one point, licenses with incomplete audits were changed to non-renewable after six months and required to submit a reinstatement application if they wanted to practice in the future.

The members requested staff ask Minahan if they renewed the license, could they then bring reportable action against them for the incomplete audit.

Operational Planning Meeting Info/Draft List of Topics

The meeting will be held May 4, 2023, at the Thiele Geotech Training Center, 13478 Chandler Rd Omaha, at 12:00 p.m. A list of proposed topics was provided. The following topics were added:

- CE audit disciplinary action
- Results of PIO Frerking canvas of licensees on topics they would like covered in the Boards Lunch and Learn webinars and if there are any groups or organizations the Board should be reaching out

April 5 Board Webinar Recap

The slide deck from the April 5, 2023, webinar was provided. The webinar covered the Code of Practice and technical submissions. There were over 800 registered and close to 500 participated. Several organizations provided attendance lists for licensees who participated as a group. The webinar and a list of questions asked have been posted to the Board's YouTube channel. A link to the recording and slides were posted on Facebook and the website.

Suggestions for future webinars were discussed, including:

- Open-format webinar to allow licensees and individuals to ask any questions they may have.
- Remediation Process with a 10–15-minute overview that can be posted as a separate video.
- Solicit questions from the licensees and structure webinars around common topics.

D. NEW BUSINESS

Question re: Landscape Architects as Coordinating Professionals

An inquiry as to whether a landscape architect can act as a coordinating professional was received. ED Wilbeck provided the communication thread. Discussion was held as to what constitutes a landscape architect project as required by the Professional Landscape Architects Act (PLA Act). It was the consensus of the members that a project that includes any landscape architecture activities would constitute a landscape architecture project.

Board Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

Both Boards' rules require the project owner to recognize the coordinating professional, and the work is being done by licensees, so the Board did not have an issue with a professional landscape architect acting as the coordinating professional.

ED Wilbeck will be discussing the topic with the Board of Landscape Architects at it's meeting on April 25, 2023.

Trade Name Request

A request was received from Langan Engineering and Environmental Services Inc to allow the use of engineering in the organization's name when filing with the Secretary of State. The organization involves environmental survey sampling, which does not include any engineering or architectural services.

Motion by Bostelman, second by Dvorak to deny the request from Langan Engineering and Environmental Services Inc to use engineering in the organization's name unless the organization applies for and is granted a certificate of authorization. Voting Yes: Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Abstain: Thiele; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

NCARB Education Standard Comment Period Memorandum

NCARB is considering changes to the *NCARB Education Guidelines* and is seeking comments. Comments are due by May 16, 2023. The revisions proposed are:

- To allow upper secondary education in a country other than the US or Canada to be counted as meeting the Liberal Arts requirement, and
- To allow continuing education programs to be accepted toward meeting the following areas:
 - History, Theory, and Human Behavior
 - Building Technology
 - Professional Practice

The proposed revisions recognize differences in pre-collegiate education in countries other than the US and Canada and the additional costs of, and difficulty locating, individual college courses offered outside a major program of study.

Both revisions would require NAAB to accept the upper secondary coursework or pre-approved continuing education (CE) courses to satisfy the listed courses.

The members were in agreement with the revisions with the requirement that NAAB pre-approves the CE courses.

NCARB Get on Board Initiative

The initiative promotes and encourages representation and service on jurisdictional licensing boards to reflect the communities they serve. NCARB is looking for member boards to receive recruitment support that includes a candidate pipeline list of potential board prospects of NCARB volunteers, recommendations, and support from external partners. NCARB will also share current vacancies to the member board vacancy list on its website. ED Wilbeck informed the members he had responded positively to the request for support.

NCARB Update, February 2023

A copy of the NCARB February 2023 Update was provided.

NCARB Fast Facts, February and March 2023

Copies of the NCARB February and March 2023 Fast Facts were provided.

Board Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

Marketing Plan Update

PIO Frerking gave an update on the 2022-23 Marketing Plan. Highlights included:

- Work continues on editing the Engineer Intern video publish to the Board's YouTube channel on April 13th
- PIO Frerking and CO Habe presented at the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association in Kearney on March 23rd
- ED Wilbeck presented to the UNL CIVE385 class on March 28th
- Chair Kelly, ED Wilbeck, and PIO Frerking sat in on an American Institute of Architect Students (AIAS) panel discussion on March 27th
- Work will begin on the What is the Board video
- ED Wilbeck, PIO Frerking, and CO Habe hosted a *Lunch and Learn* webinar on April 5th. There were over 450 attendees. The webinar has been posted along with the list of questions and answers
- Details related to the State Fire Marshal joint webinar in May are being worked out

Spring 2023 Newsletter Draft Stories

Drafts of the newsletter articles were provided. Topics include:

- CE Audits: A Closer Look A recap of the requirements and results from the 2021-22 audits
- LB471 Creates an Interior Designer Registry
- New Staff
- NCARB Exam information
- New Board Officers
- Suelter nominated to NCEES Central Zone seat
- Conference Outreach Recap
- Lunch and Learn Webinar Series

Board member travel and per diem requests

The following travel and per diem requests were approved:

- Jan Bostelman April 11, 2023 NCEES Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- Jason Suelter April 13-15, 2023 NCEES Structural PE Exam Committee (Greenville SC)
 Travel Days: April 12 and 16
- Lenora Isom April 14, 2023 NCARB Pre-Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
 Lenora Isom, Brian Kelly, Alan Wedige April 24, 2024 NCARB Region V Pre-Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- Jan Bostelman, Bruce Dvorak, Jason Suelter, Dan Thiele May 10, 2023 NCEES State of the Council Meeting (Virtual)
- Jan Bostelman, Bruce Dvorak, Jason Suelter, Dan Thiele June 7, 2023 NCEES State of the Council Meeting (Virtual)
- Jan Bostelman, Bruce Dvorak, Jason Suelter, Dan Thiele July 12, 2023 NCEES State of the Council Meeting (Virtual)

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman to approve the travel and per diem requests. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Board Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

State Fire Marshal (SFM) issues re: licensees designing projects without following applicable codes

Communication received from the SFM's office related to an architect not designing a church to current fire codes was provided. The members agreed that there appears to be probable cause of a violation of Rules 5.1.1 and 5.1.2, and requested a compliance case be opened to further investigate.

E. COMPLIANCE

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to go into executive session for the purpose of discussion of compliance investigations and partner-agency processes, not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Executive Session began at 10:23 a.m.

Cases 20.14, 21.24, 21.33, 21.40, 22.05, 22.09, 22.10, 22.16, 22.21, 22.25, 22.27, 23.02, 23.08, 23.09, 23.10, and 23.11 were discussed in executive session.

Other Compliance Issues

Project Review 04-01 and partner-agency processes were discussed in executive session.

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman to close the executive session for the purpose of discussion of compliance investigations and partner-agency processes, not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Executive Session ended at 11:00 a.m.

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to modify the Board's March action related to Case 20.14 and find the respondent in violation of the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act for the unlicensed practice of architecture and engineering and impose disciplinary action to include costs and a \$2,500 penalty, stay penalty if the project has been found to comply with the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act within sixty days. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to modify the Board's March action related to Case 21.33 and find the respondent in violation of the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act for the unlicensed practice of architecture and engineering and impose disciplinary action to include costs and a \$5,000 penalty, stay penalty if the project has been found to comply with the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act within sixty days Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to schedule a hearing for June 9, 2023, in Case 22.05. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, SuelterC

Motion by Wedige, second by Bostelman to dismiss Case 22.10 without disciplinary action based on the completion of architectural and engineering remediation. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to schedule a hearing for June 9, 2023, in Case 22.25. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to dismiss Case 22.27 without disciplinary action based on the engagements of licensees on the project with the right to reopen. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Board Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

F. APPLICATIONS

Administratively Approved

Licensure of Professional Engineers by NCEES MLE Designation

Approved: E-19873 James Martin Atwater, Electrical; E-19846 Kara Ann Blanchard, Civil; E-19896 Biljana Bulakovska, Civil; E-19847 Nicholas Anthony Casale, Mechanical; E-19871 Zachary Dvid Fadness, Mechanical; E-19877 Brandon Michael Ford, Structural; E-19878 Michael Carl-Gares Fucinari, Civil; E-19880 Javier Garcia, Mechanical; E-19875 Jeremy Lynn Goeckel, Electrical and Computer; E-19900 Michael Christopher Griffith, Civil; E-19874 Roger Wade Griffith, Mechanical; E-19893 Jaime Xavier Gurerra, Electrical and Computer; E-19892 Hampton Eugene Hunter, Electrical and Computer; E-19902 Sean Stephen Johnson, Mechanical; E-19889 Bryan Lin, Structural; E-19891 Andrew Frank Lund, Civil; E-19901 Jack Andrew Mackie, Civil; E-19898 Menad Metlic, Electrical and Computer; E-19876 Gerold Lynn Moughler, Civil; E-19903 Peter James Murphy, Electrical; E-19845 Kyle Matthew Nelson, Civil; E-19887 James Joseph Nonnenmann, Mechanical; E-19851 Eric Clark Rasmussen, Electrical and Computer; E-19881 John LeeAndrew Reddin, Mechanical; E-19886 Lincoln Andrew Rodenburg, Civil; E-19848 Piotr Roman Rusinkiewicz, Civil; E-19890 Muhammad Omar Sharif, Electrical and Computer; E-19849 Jeffrey Kenneth Shealey, Civil; E-19897 Brock Hunt Shrader, Mechanical; E-19895 Kristin Lynne Skinner, Civil; E-19850 Dylan Gray Smith, Structural; E-19882 William Joseph Snodgrass, Electrical; E-19888 Lance Armand Solaroli II. Civil: E-19879 Mark Douglas Strickland, Mechanical: E-19884 Pedro Ian Tolosa Tomassini, Fire Protection, E-19899 Austin James Walz, Electrical and Computer; E-19885 William Ross Welch, Electrial and Computer; E-19883 Conrad Shalo Weledji, Structrual; E-19872 Jonathan Micah Westhoff, Civil; E-19894 Andrew David White, Mechanical

Licensure of Architects by NCARB Certification

Approved: A-5516 Addison William Bliss, A-5515 Michael Busch Jr, A-5512 Frank Castrovillari, A-5517 Ruben Michael De Lao, A-5513 Justin Nyle Dumsday, A-5519 Jerud Steven Pummel, A-5514 Stephen Michael Wise

Temporary Permits - None

Engineer Intern Enrollments

Approved: Nathan Timothy Dowler, Andrew James Hansen, Justin Matthew Humphrey, Trevin Joseph Rezac, Matthew Jason Taylor, Jacob Lloyd Thompson, Taylor Leonard Tuel, Trevor Michael Wald, Alexander John Kasik Walter

Certificates of Authorization

Approved: CA5014 Apogee, CA5015 Jacobs Project Management Co, CA5016 Recreation Engineering & Planning Inc, CA5017 Solphi Engineering PLLC, CA5018 Leigh and O'Kane LLC, CA5019 BDG/Boduch Design Group Inc, CA5020 Qk4az Architecture Incorporated, CA5021 Ragona Architecture & Design PLLC, CA5022 ULteig Operations LLC, CA5023 KMAX Engineering, CA5024 Industrial Tower West LLC, CA5025 EMA Engineering & Consulting Inc, CA5026 Universal Surveyging and Mapping LLC, CA5027 McGreer Holdings, CA5028 IMEG Consultants Corp, CA5029 Architectural Engineering Design Group Inc, CA5030 JJK Group Inc, CA5031 JRE Consulting LLC, CA5032 MDA Engineering Inc, CA5033 TKE Engineering & Design Inc, CA5034 MB Architectural and Desigh LLC, CA5035 Design-Aire Engineering Inc, CA5036 Strickland Engineering LC, CA5037 Studio NYL-NE LLC, CA5038 Priority Engineers Inc, CA5039 Welch & Sandon Design LLC

PE Exam Approvals

Approved: Mustafa Kamel Mustafa Al-Khaled, Civil; Michael Dann Bitzky, Civil; Michael Bradley Friest, Mechanical; Clay Thomas Hemphill, Civil; Jason Dale Hup, Mechanical; Guadalupe Leon, Civil; Connor Jay Mislivec, Control Systems; Adam Patrick Nebelsick, Mechanical; Riing Agoth Riing, Civil; Nathan Avery Schmidt, Civil

Board Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

Licensure/Examination

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Comity and Initial

Approved Initial Applications: Matthew Lawrence Magee, Civil; Dylan Lee Schlitz, Civil; Dallas John Schroeder, Civil; Hillary Justine Stoll, Environmental; Tyler James Weis, Electrical and Computer

Approved Comity Applications: Joshua James Ayers, Electrical and Computer; Kia Chehreh, Civil; Peire Luc Gonzalez, Civil

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Experience

Approved: Ali Alghothani, Civil; Daniel Wayne Mayorgas, Electrical; Alex Konstantinov Saev, Electrical and Computer

Licensure of Architects by Comity and Initial - None

Licensure of Architects by Experience - None

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Reinstatement

Approved: E-14389 Christopher Morin, Civil; E-15864 Joseph Scott Tonneson, Structural

Licensure of Architects by Reinstatement - None

Special Cases - None

Other Issues/Information

Charts and statistics regarding the number of applications, certificates of authorization, and other application types were provided.

Motion by Thiele, second by Wedige to accept the staff recommendations on applications. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports - March

FY22-23 Financial Profile

Budget Status Report

Fund Summary Reports

MTD General Ledger Detail Reports

Motion by Thiele, second by Wedige to approve the financials as presented. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Foley, Isom, Suelter

Other Financial Matters - None

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and events was provided. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2023, at 8:30 a.m., in the fifth-floor conference room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. An operational planning meeting will be held on May 4, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. at 13460 Chandler Rd Omaha, Nebraska.

Licensure and Certificate Trends

Numbers as of April 5, 2023

Board Meeting Minutes - April 14, 2023, 8:30 a.m.

5th Floor Large Conference Room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE

Architects	1,890
Certificates of Authorization	2,415
Temporary Permits	20

Examination Information/Statistics

The April 2023 ARE Open Eligibility and February 2023 ARE Pass/Fail reports were provided.

Other Information

FY22-23 Marketing Plan

The FY2022-23 Marketing Plan was provided.

Social Media Analytics

The Facebook Analytics for Mach 2023 shows 199 people were reached with 86 page visits and 4 new likes.

Website Dashboard Report - March 2023

The Website Dashboard reports the Board's website had 2,561 total visits in March. Facebook had the most social media sessions with 44.

Record of Board Policies

The Board's approved policies as of February 16, 2023, were provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

Alan Wedige, Secretary