

CALL TO ORDER

The May 12, 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 8:31 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; Jason Suelter, Vice-Chair; Alan Wedige, Secretary; Jan Bostelman, Bruce Dvorak, Brett Foley, Dan Thiele; Absent: Lenora Isom

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Melissa Ficke – Catalyst Public Affairs was present and updated the members on the 2023 Legislative session during the *Meeting Reports* section of the meeting.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

[April 14, 2023, meeting minutes](#)

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

B. MEETING REPORTS

NBEA Subcommittee Reports

ED Wilbeck and Chair Kelly provided a list of proposed committees and charges for 2023-24. The following committees were formed:

- Executive Committee – Kelly (Chair), Suelter, Wedige
 - Meet with ED in May or June 2023 to review and discuss performance; consider adjustments in ED salary for the upcoming fiscal year, recommend salary adjustment to Board at the June 2023 meeting
 - Meet to review and discuss ED performance in November 2023
- Legislative Committee – Suelter (Chair), Bostelman, Isom
 - Prepare talking points, public hearing testimony, and other statements as needed related to potential bills and other matters directly impacting the Board in FY2023-24.
- Interior Design Committee- Wedige (Chair), Isom, Kelly
 - Monitor developments related to interior design regulation; and
 - If needed, reach out to representatives of interior design professional organizations and other primary stakeholders to discuss efforts to regulate the practice of interior design
- Rules Committee – Dvorak (Chair), Foley, Thiele
 - Review existing procedures related to engineering experience verification and continuing education audits, and suggest modifications to procedures (if any);
 - Draft rule modifications as discussed at the Board's May Operational Planning Meetings and present to the board as soon as practicable;
 - Identify desired E&A Act changes reviewed at the same meeting, not limited to but including changes to accommodate PE exam direct registration.

[Legislative Committee](#)

A list of introduced bills of interest to the Board was provided. ED Wilbeck provided a copy of the letters sent to the Legislature's Government, Veteran's Affairs, and Military Committee outlining the Board's concerns with LB471. The next step will be to reach out to each committee member to ensure they received the letter and to set up meetings during the legislative interim. Ficke informed the members the bill will not be moved out of committee during the 2023 session and will be held over to 2024.

Ficke also reported Speaker Arch is prioritizing placing the 2023-25 biennium budget bills on the agenda on May 16th for final reading. There is a lawful requirement to have the budget passed by day 80. There appear to be several amendments in the works that, if introduced, may require the bills to go back to Select File (second reading). If not passed, the Governor would likely call for a special session to begin almost immediately after the legislative session ends. During a special session, only the topics charged by the Governor can be addressed.

Isom entered the meeting at 8:48 a.m.

Other Meeting Reports – None

C. OLD BUSINESS

[Database Replacement Project w/NCARB](#)

ED Wilbeck updated the members on the database conversion.

[NCEES Zone Summit Recap](#)

ED Wilbeck recapped the sessions and elections that occurred during the summit. Vice-Chair Suelter was elected as Central Zone Secretary-Treasurer. Attendees were given a summary of the resolutions to be voted on at the NCEES Annual Meeting in August 2023.

[Review of Possible Changes to Rules and/or Statutes](#)

A list of proposed rules and/or statute changes was provided. Discussion continued from the May 4, 2023, Operational Planning meeting. The members agreed the Rules Committee should look at the proposed changes and bring a final draft to the Board for consideration.

D. NEW BUSINESS

[NCARB Update, March 2023](#)

A copy of the NCARB March 2023 *Update* was provided.

[NCARB Fast Facts, April 2023](#)

A copy of the NCARB April 2023 *Fast Facts* was provided.

[As-Built Seals Question](#)

A question was received regarding the removal of the original engineer's seal on As-built plan sheets. ED Wilbeck provided a copy of his response. He clarified Board Rules 6.1.9.1 and 6.1.9.6 state As-built drawings are not the practice of engineering and, therefore, do not require a seal per the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act. After discussion, the members agreed the original seal may be removed when practical, and a notation added to the drawings next to the seal indicating the seal relates to the original design documents and is not associated with the as-built drawings. If the original seal is not removed, it should be made clear to someone viewing the drawings that the seal relates to the original design and not the as-builts.

Marketing Plan Update

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

- The Engineering Intern Video has been published on the Board's YouTube channel and other social media outlets
- Work has started on the *Who is the Board* video production
- PIO Frerking and CO Habe hosted a *Lunch and Learn Series* webinar on April 5th. There were over 450 attendees and a recording of the webinar will be posted to YouTube.
- Work on the Spring newsletter is underway
- The next *Lunch and Learn Series* webinar has been scheduled for June 28th, the topic has not been determined to date.
- PIO Frerking and CO Habe presented at the Associated Builders and Contractors Nebraska chapter on May 10th in Omaha
- Day trips to second-class cities will begin
- ED Wilbeck will be presenting at the Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers (NeSPE) on June 8th
- The joint webinar with the State Fire Marshal has been scheduled for June 7th

Recap of Goal-Setting and Prioritizing Marketing and Outreach for FY 2023-34

PIO Frerking provided a recap of the goal-setting and prioritized marketing and outreach for FY2023-24 discussed at the May 4, 2023, Operational Planning Meeting.

- **Priority Target Audiences**
 - Local jurisdiction officials, state agencies, chambers of commerce, and school boards
 - **Target Goals** – Increase awareness of the Board and E&A Act, build relations, recruit as “Front-line Partners”
 - **Strategies** – Day trips to local jurisdictions, increase presentations and communications with other state agencies, run pieces in local newspapers, present at professional organizations' conferences
- **Secondary Target Audiences**
 - Drafting, lumber, and contracting companies, Members of the public, project owners, daycares, etc.
 - **Target Goals** – Increase awareness of the Board, compliance with the E&A Act, and build relations
 - **Strategies** – Survey audiences (what are their needs, pain points, and preferences), send correspondence to companies and organizations outlining common mistakes using case studies; run pieces targeting audiences in local newspapers; target community colleges and drafting schools with presentations and media; presentations and newsletter articles with associated organizations
- **Tertiary Target Audiences**
 - Students, licensees, and firms
 - **Target Goals** – Increase awareness of licensure among students and young professionals, answer common questions regarding the E&A Act, decrease compliance cases and audit failures among licensees
 - **Strategies** – Partner with professional organizations and schools to bring in ethics presenters, webinars, social media, blogs, videos, in-person presentations, and other content

Spring 2023 Newsletter Draft

A draft of the Spring newsletter was provided. Articles include:

- 2022 CE Audits: A Closer Look

- 2023 Board Officers Elected
- New Staff
- NBEA Outreach
- Lunch and Learn Webinar Series
- NCARB & NCEES News
- Compliance Case Summaries

Board member travel and per diem requests

The following travel and per diems were approved:

- Brian Kelly – April 25, 2023 – NCARB FY23 Credentials Committee Chair Coordination Meeting (Virtual)
- Brian Kelly – May 18, 2023 – NCARB Listening Session (Virtual)
Lenora Isom
Alan Wedige
- Lenora Isom – May 25, 2023 – NCARB Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)
- Bruce Dvorak – June 7, 2023 – NCEES Engineering Award Jury (Virtual)
- Jason Suelter – June 23-24, 2023 – NCEES SE Exam Item Writing (Greenville SC)
Travel Days: June 22 and 25
- Jan Bostelman – August 13, 2023 – NCEES Pre-Annual Meeting Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)

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

Trade Name Request

A trade name request was received from *Growth Architects* to use the term “architects” in its name.

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman to deny the trade name request for Growth Architects. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Thiele, second by Isom 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, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Executive Session began at 9:51 a.m.

E. COMPLIANCE

Cases 20.14, 21.24, 21.33, 21.40, 22.05, 22.09, 22.16, 22.21, 22.25, 23.02, 23.08, 23.09, 23.10, 23.11, 23.12, 23.13, 23.14, 23.15, and 23.16 were discussed in executive session.

Other Compliance Issues

Project Review 05-01 and partner-agency process were discussed in executive session.

Motion by Thiele, second by Isom 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, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Executive Session ended at 11:01 a.m.

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to accept the settlement agreement in Case 23.02, authorize the Chair to execute said agreement, and dismiss the case. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

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Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to dismiss Case 23.08. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to dismiss Case 23.09. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to dismiss Case 23.10. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to accept the settlement agreement in Case 23.11, authorize the Chair to execute, and dismiss the case, and renew the license once the audit is completed. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to dismiss Case 23.12. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to authorize architectural and engineering remediation in Case 23.13, request a response within 30 days, and a written remediation plan in 60 days. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to authorize architectural and engineering remediation in Case 23.14, request a response within 30 days, and a written remediation plan in 60 days. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to authorize architectural and engineering remediation in Case 23.15, request a response within 30 days, and a written remediation plan within 60 days. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

Motion by Wedige, second by Thiele to authorize architectural remediation in Case 23.16, request a response within 30 days, and a written remediation plan within 60 days. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Kelly; Voting No: None; Abstain: Suelter

F. APPLICATIONS

Administratively Approved

[Licensure of Professional Engineers by NCEES MLE Designation](#)

Approved: E-19941 Casey Michael Ackerman, Civil; E-19925 Robynn Noel Andrecsek, Environmental; E-19913 Michael Donald Frederick Baldwin, Electrical and Computer; E-19931 James Robert Callahan, Electrical and Computer; E-19943 Brooke Ashley Clark, Fire Protection; E-19910 John David Coulter, Civil; E-19926 Jason Allen Cullens, Mechanical; E-19932 Elaine Brook Durham, Mechanical; E-19904 David Alessandro Duszak, Civil; E-19939 Samuel Jared Fynes, Electrical and Computer; E-19944 Michael Ryan Golias, Civil; E-19907 Benjamin Lee Harclerode, Civil; E-19947 Christy Marie Hawthorn, Electrical and Computer; E-19906 Casey Taylor Hecht, Civil; E-19908 Matthew Jacob Hill, Mechanical; E-19945 Jonathan Jay Jennings, Electrical and Computer; E-19949 Chad Thomas Katzenberger, Civil; E-19937 Daniel Joseph Keller, Architectural; E-19936 Mitchell Joe Kerns, Civil; E-19912 Brian Edward Kirley, Mechanical; E-19927 Joseph Michael Krewson, Mechanical; E-19928 Robert Charles Kunkel, Mechanical; E-19938 Nathan Paull Mayberry, Mechanical; E-19933 Anthony John Miller, Chemical; E-19946 Trevor Alan Owen, Mechanical; E-19909 Suoung Tuyet Pham, Mechanical; E-19948 Christopher Michael Plate, Electrical and Computer; E-19929 Patrick Day Raney, Electrical and Computer; E-19934 Dvid Charles Schmitt, Control Systems; E-19942 Robynn Renee Steffen, Civil; E-19935 David Andrew Thompson, Civil; E-19940 Steven Lee Wagner, Mechanical; E-19905 James Neil Wilerson, Civil; E-19950 Thoms Harold Wille, Mechanical; E-19911 Matthew Vernon Williams, Civil; E-19930 Russel Hampton Williams, Chemical

Licensure of Architects by NCARB Certification

Approved: A-5528 Dane Richard Astle, A-5523 Joana Kay Berling, A-5525 Catherine Purple Cherry, A-5529 Norman Lee Herman, A-5522 Ryan Jeffrey King, A-5521 Jeffrey Gilbert Landtiser, A-5526 Thomas James McCleister, A-5527 Ryan Joseph Mullenix, A-5524 Zachary John Snethen, A-5530 Stephen Joseph Telscher, A-5520 Matthew Richard Usbeck

Temporary Permits

Approved: T-652 Todd Anthony McInerney, Engineering; T-653 Gilead Reed Ziemba, Engineering

Engineer Intern Enrollments

Approved: Jenna Noelle Irwin, Martin Phan, Matthew Stobbe, Jacob Rodger Sykora, Makenna Joyce Midholm

Certificates of Authorization

Approved: CA5040 Mechanical Concepts LLC, CA5041 Twin Oaks Consulting LLC, CA5042 BlueScope Buildings North America Inc; CA5043 Upper Deck Architects Inc, CA5044 Providence Engineering and Environmental Group LLC, CA5045 XC Engineering PLC, CA5046 Sparton Engineering Inc, CA5047 Everj Engineering Inc, CA5048 Krewson & Associates LLC, CA5049 KC Mechanical Engineering, CA5050 Wilson & Girgenti PA, CA5051 CTA Engineering Corporation, CA5052 Klare Structural Engineering, CA5053 Howard I Sapiro & Associates Consulting Engineers PC, CA5054 TMJ Studios LLC

PE Exam Approvals

Approved: Isabel Elise Anderson, Architectural; Andrew Jon Holthaus, Mechanical; Julian Isaiah Jones, Electrical and Computer; Mitchell Joseph Kowalewski, Structural; Jonah Benjamin Letak, Electrical and Computer; Christopher Louis Porter, Chemical; Fray Francisco Pozo-Lora, Civil; Isabelle Kristine Swerczek, Architectural; Taylor Leonard Tuel, Mechanical

Licensure/Examination

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Comity and Initial

Approved Initial Applications: Zachary John Bell, Mechanical; Richard Anthony Bishop, Civil; Nathan Daniel German, Mechanical; Bryce Allen Hallmark, Civil; John Steven Colin Meyers, Mechanical; Samuel David Sobczyk, Civil; Brian Paul Turner, Electrical and Computer

Approved Comity Applications: Zahra Ghadimi Ghadimi Khasraghy, Civil; Marcus Kwame Oden, Civil; Jacek Sluzynski, Civil; Darin Arlon Tiffany, Architectural; Andrew Josiah Wicks, Civil

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Experience

Approved: Keith Marcel Britton, Civil; Garardo Valenzuela Calvillo Jr, Structural; Robert Joseph Diebold, Structural; Agron Ekrem Gjinolli, Civil; Anthony Rocco Paniccia, Electrical

Licensure of Architects by Comity and Initial - *None*

Licensure of Architects by Experience - *None*

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Reinstatement

Approved: E-13683 Jeffrey Allan Blake, Electrical

Licensure of Architects by Reinstatement - *None*

Special Cases

PE Exam Approvals

Approved: Naisargi Nitinkumar Dave, Civil

[Licensure of Professional Engineers by Initial](#)

Approved: Ben Joshua Everswick, Environmental

[Certificate of Authorization](#)

Approved: RDH Engineering Inc upon receipt of in-arrear fees

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

Motion by Thiele, second by Suelter to approve the certificate of authorization application for RDH Engineering Inc upon approval of in-arrear fees. Voting Yes: Thiele, Wedige, Bostelman, Dvorak, Foley, Isom, Suelter, Kelly; Voting No: None

G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports – April

[FY22-23 Financial Profile](#)

[Budget Status Report](#)

[Fund Summary Reports](#)

[MTD General Ledger Detail Reports](#)

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

Other Financial Matters

[2023-25 Biennium Budget](#)

The Appropriations Committee's 2023-25 biennium budget recommendations were introduced as amendment AM915 to LB814 on May 1, 2023. The committee is recommending \$848,527 for FY2023-24 and \$873,423 for FY2024-25. The recommended salary limits are \$438,628 and \$457,962, respectively. Copies of the Board's original request and LB814 were provided for comparison.

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and events was provided. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2023, at 8:30 a.m., in the fifth-floor conference room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Licensure and Certificate Trends

Numbers as of May 3, 2023

Professional Engineers.....	8,861
Architects	1,903
Certificates of Authorizations	2,429
Temporary Permits	22

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Examination Information/Statistics

The May 2023 ARE Open Eligibilities and March 2023 ARE Pass/Fail reports were provided along with the 2023/Quarter 1 Pass/Fail Statistics.

The 2023/Quarter 1 Pass/Fail statistics for the FE and computer-based PE exams were provided along with the October 2022 Structural exam statistics.

Other Information

[FY22-23 Marketing Plan](#)

The FY22-23 Marketing Plan was provided.

[Social Media Analytics – April 2023](#)

The Facebook Analytics for April 2023 shows 261 people were reached, with 110 page visits and 11 new likes.

[Website Dashboard Report – April 2023](#)

The Website Dashboard reports the Board's website had 3,624 total visits in March. Facebook had 83 social media impressions.

[Record of Board Policies](#)

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

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.



Secretary (ACTING)