

CALL TO ORDER

The September 13, 2024, meeting of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects was held in the 5th-floor conference room, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. Vice-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, Vice-Chair; Bruce Dvorak, Secretary; Jan Bostelman; Jim Brisnehan; Brett Foley; Dan Thiele; Absent; Jason Suelter, Chair; Lenora Nelson

Staff Present: Jon Wilbeck, Executive Director (ED); Amy Habe, Compliance Officer (CO); Jean Lais, Administrative Programs Officer (APO); Allyson Bennett, Public Information Officer (PIO); Lilliana Irvine, Compliance Assistant (CA)

A. CONSENT AGENDA

[August 2, 2024, Meeting Minutes](#)

[NCARB Fast Facts – August 2024](#)

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

B. MEETING REPORTS

NBEA Subcommittee Reports

A copy of the FY2024-25 committee appointments and charges was provided.

Nelson entered the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

[Professional Services Committee Report](#)

The Professional Services Committee was charged with reviewing the current legislative liaison contract and conducting a competitive selection process as required by Board Policy 13.02. Presentations were given by the top three candidates, Catalyst Public Affairs (current contractee), Edwards | Westerhold | Moore, and Nebraska Strategies.

Motion by Thiele, second by Nelson, to go into executive session for the purpose of conducting interviews for the legislative liaison contract, not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Executive session began at 9:00 a.m.

Catalyst Public Affairs – 9:00 a.m.

Edwards Westerhold Moore – 9:20 a.m.

Nebraska Strategies – 9:40 a.m.

Motion by Thiele, second by Nelson, to close the executive session for the purpose of conducting interviews for the legislative liaison contract, not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes –September 13, 2024, 8:30 a.m.
NBEA Offices, 215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 400, Lincoln, NE 68508

Executive session ended at 10:19 a.m.

Motion by Thiele, second by Foley, to authorize ED Wilbeck to enter into negotiations with Edward Westerhold Moore for the FY2025-26 contract. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

C. OLD BUSINESS

[NCEES Annual Meeting Recap](#)

A recap of the NCEES Annual Meeting held in Chicago IL, August 14-17, 2024.

2024-25 NCEES Board of Directors

- Andrew Zoutewelle, P.L.S. President (NC)
- Elizabeth Beckett Johnston, P.E. President-Elect (AK)
- Laura Sievers, P.E. Immediate Past President (IA)
- Karl Tonander, P.E. Treasurer (NM)
- Jason Suelter, P.E., S.E. Central Zone Vice President (NE)
- Samuel Wilson, P.E. Northeast Zone Vice President (DC)
- James Kelly, P.E. Southern Zone Vice President (VA)
- Aaron Blaisdell, P.L.S. Western Zone Vice President (WA)

Summary of Motions Adopted

- ACCA Motion 1 added a position statement on professional ethics.
- ACCA Motion 2 created Meritorious Service Award with Special Commendation.
- ELTF Motion 1 directs UPLG Committee to amend *Model Law* 130.10 B.2.b to provide a third pathway for comity licensure based on an individual who has: seven years licensed experience, passed a PE Exam, is not applying for structural discipline, and no history of disciplinary action.
- Finance Motion 3 amended the membership fee schedule. Effective January 1, 2026, NBEA will pay \$6,000 annually, a reduction from the current \$6,500 level.
- Finance Motions 4 and 5 approved a \$100,000 contribution to the NCEES Foundation for immediate awarding and a \$3 million transfer for investment.
- Northeast Zone Motion 1 directly UPLG to add ETAC/ABET-accredited degrees to *Model Law* and make modifications throughout *Model Law* and *Model Rules* as needed.

Twenty-six member boards, including NBEA, participated in the signing ceremony of the United Kingdom Mutual Recognition Agreement.

26% of attendees were attending the annual meeting for the first time.

[NCARB/AIA Statement regarding NAAB expenses](#)

A joint statement from NCARB and AIA regarding the National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB) proposed schedule for directly billing architectural programs to cover all or part of NAAB's expenses starting in 2025. Two scenarios were proposed: one in which AIA and NCARB offset the cost to the schools through direct annual support in an amount that increases each year over the next four years. AIA and NCARB stressed they support accreditation and find value in working with NAAB, but they do not support the proposed pricing model. They do not have any oversight in the operational decision-making at NAAB, including pricing, and were not consulted in the development of the pricing model.

AIA, NCARB, and other NAAB collaterals will continue to advocate for a more cost-effective approach that includes all the collateral organizations, restores the role of volunteers, and focuses on operational efficiency and user experience.

[Proposed Policy on Sealing Specifications Involving Multiple Licensees](#)

Per discussion at the August 2024 meeting, staff presented a draft policy related to sealing specifications involving multiple licensees. The following was reviewed as Board Policy 24.03:

When sealing large specifications involving the work of multiple licensees where it may be cumbersome to coordinate sealing the first and last pages of each specification section, each licensee may place their seal on a separate sheet listing each specification section that either they prepared or was prepared under their direct supervision.

The members requested staff revise the proposed policy language to require a sheet with each licensee's seal and a list of sections responsible to be included at the beginning and end of the specification. Further discussion and action will take place at the October meeting.

[Revised CE Flowchart](#)

The revised continuing education (CE) flowchart was provided based on the discussion at the August 2024 meeting.

Motion by Thiele, second by Nelson, to approve the revised CE Flowchart as presented and pre-authorize the Compliance Officer and Executive Director to negotiate consent agreements in accordance. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter, Foley

[Update on Licensee Database Replacement Project w/NCARB](#)

ED Wilbeck updated the members on the progress of the database replacement project.

D. NEW BUSINESS

[Trade Name Request; "Museum of Windmill Science and Engineering"](#)

A request was received from the *Museum of Windmill Science and Engineering* to use the term *engineering* in their trade name. The museum is a non-profit corporation for the purpose of creating and operating a museum regarding the history and science of windmills.

Motion by Thiele, second by Dvorak, to approve the request from the Museum of Windmill Science and Engineering to use the term engineering in its trade name. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

[NCARB Member Board Chair/Executive Leadership Summit Invitation](#)

At the August 2024 meeting, Vice-Chair Kelly was approved to attend the NCARB Member Board Chair/Executive Leadership Summit in Fargo, ND, October 18-19, 2024. Due to a scheduling conflict he is unable to attend. Chair Suelter also has a scheduling conflict and cannot attend. Nelson was approved to attend in their place.

Motion by Foley, second by Dvorak, to approve Nelson to attend the NCARB Member Board Chair/Executive Leadership Summit in Fargo ND, October 18-19, 2024. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

[McKissock Continuing Education](#)

Information regarding continuing education (CE) offerings from McKissock Learning was provided. It appears the company may be misleading licensees into buying their CE packages even though they do not meet Nebraska's requirements. McKissock only offers web-based courses for professional engineers, which are limited to 7.5

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes –September 13, 2024, 8:30 a.m.
NBEA Offices, 215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 400, Lincoln, NE 68508

hours of the 30-hour requirement per Board Rule 9.3.2. The members requested a letter be drafted by Special Assistant Attorney General Minahan to be sent to the company.

Outreach & Marketing Update

PIO Bennett updated the members on the FY2024-25 Marketing Plan and Outreach. Highlights included:

- The latest edition of *The Nebraska Professional* was released on August 28th.
- The 2024 Licensee Recognition Ceremony for newly licensed engineers and architects is scheduled for Friday, November 1st, in the Capital Rotunda. AIA and NeSPE have confirmed their attendance and speakers. Invitations have been sent to all new licensees to date. Invitations will also be sent to initial licenses approved at this meeting.
- The next *Lunch and Learn* webinar is scheduled for September 25th and will cover professional practice and ethics. There is a 1,000-participant limit with Webex, so a second presentation is scheduled for October 9th.
- E&A Handbooks and *Before You Build* brochures were mailed to western jurisdictions that PIO Bennett was not able to visit during her July trip.
- Work as started on a brochure regarding the licensee seal and how to seal documents.
- Work as started on language regarding coordinating professionals, as well as adding additional information regarding licensure by experience to the website.

Board Member Travel and Per Diem Requests

The following travel and per diem requests were approved.

- Brett Foley – September 5, 2024 – NCEES Professional Conduct Committee Meeting (Virtual)
- Bruce Dvorak – September 12, 2024 – NCEES Committee Chair Orientation (Virtual)
- Jan Bostelman – September 23, 2024 – NCEES EPE Committee Meeting (Virtual)
- Bruce Dvorak – September 24, 2024 – NCEES Education Committee Meeting (Virtual)
- All Members – November 1, 2024 – NBEA Licensee Recognition Ceremony (Lincoln NE)
- Jan Bostelman – November 8-9, 2024 – NCEES EPE Committee Meeting (Virtual)
- Jan Bostelman – February 7-8, 2025 – NCEES EPE Committee Meeting (Greenville SC)
Travel Days: February 6 and 9

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

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman, to go into executive session for the purpose of the 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: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Executive session started at 11:02 a.m.

Motion by Thiele, second by Bosteman, to close executive session for the purpose of the 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: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Executive session ended at 12:13 p.m.

E. COMPLIANCE

Cases 23.15, 24.02, 24.04, 24.05, 24.07, 24.08, 24.12, 24.13, 24.14, 24.15, 24.18, 24.20, 24.21, 24.22, 24.23, 24.24, 24.25, 24.26, 24.27, 24.28, and 24.29 were discussed in executive session.

Other Compliance Issues

Partner-agency processes were discussed in executive session.

Bostelman recused herself from the discussion on Case 24.24.

Motion by Thiele, second by Nelson, to schedule a hearing in Case 24.13 for December 6, 2024. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Motion by Thiele, second by Nelson, to schedule a hearing in Case 24.15 for December 6, 2024. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman, to accept the settlement agreement in Case 24.18, authorize Vice-Chair Kelly to execute, and close the case. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Motion by Thiele, second by Dvorak, to accept the settlement agreement in Case 24.24, authorize Vice-Chair Kelly to execute, and close the case. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter; Abstain: Bostelman

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman, to dismiss Case 24.25 based on the project falling into Occupancy Category B. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Motion by Thiele, second by Nelson, to open a case against the contractor who prepared the plans in Case 24.26 for the unlicensed practice of architecture and engineering. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman, to dismiss Case 24.28 based on the engagement of licensees. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

F. APPLICATIONS

Administratively Approved

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

E-20802 Aaron Duran Bagley, Civil; E-20861 Timothy James Brooks, Civil; E-20869 Tristan Harry Burm, Civil; E-20842 Christopher Lawrence Cavin, Mechanical; E-20859 Mark Drew Cerminara, Structural; E-2852 Matthen Scott Childs, Civil; E-20863 Jeffery Alan Deal, Mechanical; E-20805 Jordan Michael Timothy Denaro, Chemical; E-20857 Joshua William DeRitter, Civil; E-20853 Corey Joseph Erickson, Civil; E-20868 Kiev Alexander Faber, Mechanical; E-20848 Michael Steven Fox, Mechanical; E-20833 Teles Jo Fremin, Electrical and Computer; E-20834 Jeremy John Gacnik, Civil; E-20803 Stanislav Yevgenyevic Gorbis, Civil; E-20835 Joshua David Hartsock, Civil; E-20837 Lance Christopher Heyer, Civil; E-20858 Paul Michael Hopkins, Structural; E-20847 Michael Allen Huntwork, Electrical and Computer; E-20846 Serena Joy Keller, Civil; E-20845 Travis Dell Koger, Civil; E-20840 Michael Anthony Kulbacki, Civil; E-20862 Travis Wade Mecham, Electrical; E-20864 Michael Scott Middleton, Mechanical; E-20806 Ryan Patrick Miller, Electrical and Computer; E-20860 Jacob Charles Nebgen, Electrical and Computer; E-20841 Brent Herbert Palmer, Electrical and Computer; E-20856 Bruce Lynn Palmer, Electrical; E-20843 James Patrick Plantes, Structural; E-20866 Dane Stephen Pletcher, Mechanical; E-20854 Mateusz Jan Prusak, Civil; E-20851 Erin Nichole Wobbe Scarfino, Civil; E-20867 Dana Regina Schwenker, Civil; E-20804 Nathan

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes –September 13, 2024, 8:30 a.m.
NBEA Offices, 215 Centennial Mall South, Suite 400, Lincoln, NE 68508

Allen Short, Electrical and Computer; E-20838 Leon Yatchun So, Mechanical; E-20849 Todd Allen Spencer, Electrical and Computer; E-20855 Spencer Frank Stanley, Civil; E-20836 Joseph Michael Tremblay, Mechanical; E-20865 Shelley Howard Tripolone, Civil; E-20839 Mark Steven Wassom; E-20850 Connor Joseph Yarnall, Civil; E-20844 Joshua Benjamin Zaro, Mechanical

Licensure of Architects by NCARB Certification

A-5697 Kristyn Averil Anderson, A-5703 Scott Andrew Bofinger, A-5704 Albert Christopher Buck, A-5709 David Lee Cantrell, A-5701 Jeffery Lynn Durham, A-5698 John Philip Frederickson, A-5699 Douglas Russ Newby, A-5700 Stephanie Elizabeth Poole, A-5702 Patrick Colin Reuter, A-5707 Brian Burton Sandstrom, A-5706 Bradford Kane Shapiro, A-5708 Manuel Alejandro Terraza, A-5705 Daniel Lee Wilson.

Temporary Permits

T-660 Tanya Luthi, Engineering

Engineer Intern Enrollment Certificates

Jackson Alexander Dier, Morgan Jenna Ferrin, Samuel Ryan Harre, Alyssa Jo Husk, Austin Dean Miller, Gerald Henry Righter, Christopher Allan Storf, Luke Rae Ylala Valencia, Jordan Daniel West, Malayna Diaz Wingert

Certificates of Authorization

CA5306 Fox Architecture PLLC, CA5307 ARC Engineering PSC, CA5308 Salmons PC, CA5309 Vocon Partners LLC, CA5310 Professional Engineering Associates Inc, CA5311 Kilo Engineering LLC, CA5312 Levi Jay & Associates Inc, CA5313 XII Stones Inc, CA5314 Blymyer Engineers Inc, CA5315 Foxtail Studios LLC, CA5316 CSHQA Inc, CA5317 McPherson Design Group Inc, CA5318 Kahuna USA LLC, CA5319 SynchroGrid Inc, CA5320 Polarworx Inc, CA5321 Matt Childs Engineering PLLC, CA5322 Timberlab Inc, CA5323 Energy Systems Design Inc, CA5324 Grimes Consulting Inc, CA5325 Arora Engineers LLC, CA5326 Shapiro & Company Architects PC

PE Exam Applications

Kaitlyn Rae Anderson, Civil; Hannah Michelle Bena, Architectural; Vincent Domenick Fucinaro, Metallurgical & Materials; Gage Andrew Gibney, Architectural; David Duane Le, Civil; Noah Tate Miller, Electrical & Computer; Austin Dean Miller, Electrical & Computer; Grant Mason Mitera, Control Systems; Matthew Thomas Pelak, Mechanical; Angelica Rain Solomon, Civil; Edward Zackary Stanek, Mechanical; Bentley Graham Paige Tonniges, Electrical & Computer; Chase Alan Zacharias, Mechanical

Nelson left the meeting at 12:19 a.m.

Licensure/Examination

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Comity and Initial

Initial License, Staff Recommendation to Approve: Austin Phillip Anderson, Mechanical; Colin Ray Anthony, Civil; Ryan Joseph Bell, Civil; William Francisco Calderon, Environmental; Nathalie Johanna Ford, Civil; Dillon Russell Gushard, Chemical; William James Kallhoff, Civil; Justin Luke Kershaw, Civil; Colton John Knust, Civil; Mitchell Thomas Marean, Electrical and Computer; Derek John Meyer, Civil; Braden Dean Mishler, Agricultural and Biological; Nicholas Albert Swoboda, Structural (second license discipline)

Comity License, Staff Recommendation to Approve: Hayley Marie Siedlik, Civil; Jessica Nicole Sorenson, Architectural; Xiaojian Xie, Civil

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Experience

Staff Recommendation to Approve: Tracy Michael Lawless, Civil; Tracy Michael Lawless, Structural; John Glennon Steward, Civil

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Reinstatement – *None*

Licensure of Architects by Comity and Initial

Initial License, Staff Recommendation to Approve: Angel Fawn Coleman, Scott Michael Stovall

Licensure of Architects by Experience – *None*

Licensure of Architects by Reinstatement – *None*

Special Cases

Certificates of Authorization

Approved: E-Design LLC upon receipt of in arrears fees of \$270.83.

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

G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports – August

[FY2024-25 Financial Profile](#)

[Budget Status](#)

[Fund Summary](#)

[MTD General Ledger Detail](#)

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman, to approve the financial reports as presented. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Nelson, Suelter

Other Financial Matters

[2025-2027 Biennium Budget Request](#)

Motion by Thiele, second by Dvorak, to approve the 2025-2027 Biennium Budget Request as presented. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and national events was provided. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. at 215 Centennial Mall South Ste 400, Lincoln.

Licensure and Certificate Trends

Numbers as of September 5, 2024

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Professional Engineers..... | 9,424 |
| Architects | 1,986 |
| Certificates of Authorization..... | 2,481 |
| Temporary Permits | 13 |

Examination Information/Statistics

The August and September ARE Open Eligibility reports were provided.

The July ARE Pass/Fail report was provided.

Other Information

The FY24-25 Marketing Plan was provided.

The Facebook Analytics for August 2024 were provided. There were 129 visits with 473 reaches. There are a total of 612 followers with three new likes. Sixteen posts were made, with the post regarding new board member, James Brisnehan receiving 313 reaches and 15 reactions.

The Website Analytic report for August was provided. There were a total of 3,400 visits with 2,800 new users.

The Board's approved policies as of August 2, 2024, were provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Thiele, second by Bostelman, to adjourn the meeting at 12:33 p.m. Voting Yes: Nelson, Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly; Voting No: None; Absent: Suelter



Bruce Dvorak, Secretary