

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m.
215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln NE 68508

CALL TO ORDER

The April 17, 2026, meeting of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects (the Board) was held at 215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chair Nelson called the meeting to order at 8:30 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: Lenora Nelson, Chair; Dan Thiele, Vice-Chair; Jim Brisnehan, Secretary; Jan Bostelman; Bruce Dvorak; Brett Foley; Brian Kelly; Jason Suelter

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

Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

[March 27, 2026, Meeting Minutes Draft](#)

[NCARB Update, March 2026](#)

[NCARB Fast Facts, March 2026](#)

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

B. SUBCOMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

NBEA Subcommittee Reports

A copy of the FY2025-26 Board committees and charges was provided.

[Legislative Committee](#)

A copy of legislative bills currently being tracked that may be of interest to the Board was provided.

LB899, which revises the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act (E&A Act), was amended into LB1212 (licensure of internationally trained physicians) via AM2998. LB1212 passed on final reading and was signed by Governor Pillen on April 14, 2026. The provisions will go into effect on July 17, 2026.

[Other Reports](#)

2026 Interim Study List

A list of interim studies that may be of interest to the Board was provided. The members indicated they are also interested in LR432, a study on residential building codes and rehabilitation costs, and LR441, a study on building codes and LB1227 implications.

LR 447

LR 447 will examine the potential benefits and implications of offering baccalaureate degrees in Nebraska that require fewer than the traditional 120 credit hours or four years of study. The Education Committee will conduct the study analyzing the feasibility and potential benefits of baccalaureate degree programs requiring fewer than 120 credit hours. The study will consider geographic, industry, student population, and institutional factors, with the goal of expanding access to bachelor's degrees, addressing workforce shortages, and aligning postsecondary

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m.
215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln NE 68508

education with evolving state needs. The committee is to report its findings and recommendations upon completion of the study.

Dvorak informed the members that the College of Engineering is already required to do this when a program's hours are revised to more than 120 hours. He stated it is important to stress the relationship between hours and licensure. Kelly indicated that some architectural programs in the US offer 90-hour bachelor's degrees. Both stated there could be a reduction in the number of general education hours required and that students at UNL may already bring 9-12 hours of general education from high school. It was pointed out that not all high schools in Nebraska offer advanced/dual credit classes. Westerhold believed the study is centered around trades and professions in which there is a shortage in Nebraska.

Russell Westerhold, Edwards Westerhold Moore (EWM)

Russell Westerhold, Edwards Westerhold Moore, reported on the 2026 legislative session. Westerhold reported April 17, 2026, is the last day of the session. The legislature will be addressing any veto overrides and other end-of-session business. He will inform ED Wilbeck when hearings are scheduled for the three interim studies for which the members have indicated interest.

There are 25 legislative seats open in the November 2026 general election, all even-numbered districts and District 41, which will be filled for the remainder of the term due to a resignation.

C. OLD BUSINESS

[State of Board Rules Changes After January 2026 NBEA Meeting](#)

A copy of the proposed rules incorporating the changes discussed at the October meeting was provided. No discussion or action taken. Final staff recommendations will be presented at the Operational Planning meeting on May 21, 2026. ED Wilbeck will provide proposed language to incorporate Policy 26.02 into Rule 4.1.5.

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

ED Wilbeck updated the members on the progress of the licensee database replacement project. The goal is to finalize applications by the end of April and begin testing.

[Possible Operational Planning Topics](#)

ED Wilbeck provided a list of possible topics for discussion at the Operational Planning meeting on May 21, 2026. Proposed topics included:

- NCARB/NCEES Motions, Resolutions, and Elections
- Rules review prior to rulemaking
- 2027-19 Biennium Budget
- Enforcement/Regulation
 - Office software/CAD as acceptable CE topics
 - Re-watching NBEA webinars as self-study
- Goal Setting and priorities for FY26-27 and 2027-29 biennium

Additional topics suggested by the members included:

- Artificial Intelligence – what are other jurisdictions seeing; education
- Online Marketplaces – Sealing of Plans

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m.
215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln NE 68508

- Region V Leadership symposium at UNL – What is the Board’s role?

D. NEW BUSINESS

Outreach/Marketing Plan Update

PIO Berglund updated the members on the recent and upcoming events related to the *Outreach/Marketing Plan*. The highlights included:

- Upcoming presentations and exhibitor spaces:
 - Nebraska Society of Professional Engineers Summer Annual Meeting, June 4, 2026
- Upcoming 2nd Quarter Webinar
 - Collaboration with BLD Connection
 - Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at noon
 - Topics
 - The Board and the Act
 - When a professional engineer and/or architect is required for a building project
 - Case studies of lumberyards preparing building plans
 - Cost of non-compliance
 - Resources available
- Past Day Trip Information
 - September 8-10, 2025 – Blaine, Buffalo, Custer, Dawson, Frontier, Gosper, Kearney, Loup, and Phelps
 - December 1-3, 2025 – Boyd, Garfield, Greeley, Hall, Holt, Howard, Sherman, Valley, Wheeler
 - March 10-12, 2026 – Adams, Clay, Fillmore, Hamilton, Nuckolls, Thayer, Webster, York
 - March 24, 2026 – Jefferson, Saline
- Upcoming Day Trip Information
 - June 2026 – Lancaster and Gage
 - June 15-17, 2026 – Antelope, Boone, Cedar, Dakota, Dixon, Knox, Madison, Nance, Pierce

Board Member Travel and Per Diem Requests

Board Member	Date	Funding	Activity
Lenora Nelson	April 8, 2026	N/A	NCARB Leadership Roundtable
Lenora Nelson	April 23, 2026	N/A	Women in NCARB
Jason Suelter	May 17, 2026 travel: May 18	NCEES	NCEES Board of Directors (San Juan, PR)
Brian Kelly	June 24-25, 2026 travel: 23	NCARB	NCARB Region IV Higher Education Symposium (Minneapolis, MN)

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m.
215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln NE 68508

Jason Suelter	June 6-12, 2026 travel: 5 and 13	NCEES	International Engineering Alliance Meeting (Cape Town, Africa)
Jan Bostelman Bruce Dvorak Jason Suelter (BOD) Dan Thiele Jon Wilbeck	August 18-21, 20, 2026 travel: 17 and 22	NCEES NBEA NCEES NCEES NCEES	NCEES Annual Meeting (Henderson, NV)
Amy Habe	August 21-22, 2026 travel: 20 and 23	NCEES	NCEES Law Enforcement Program (Henderson, NV)

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

E. APPLICATIONS

Administratively Approved

Licensure of Professional Engineers by NCEES MLE Designation

E-22039 Nickals Cody Barber, Mechanical; E-22015 Alan Robert Beith, Electrical and Computer, E-22016 Kris Lewis Bezenek, Structural; E-22034 John Adam Carey, Mechanical; E-22033 Ethan Tyler Colin, Mechanical; E-22032 Mark Howard Conder, Electrical; E-22017 Alex Gregory Darr, Mechanical; E-22018 John Andrew DeVantier, Electrical and Computer; E-21994 Scott John DiFiore, Civil; E-21996 Jan Dokonal, Civil; E-22019 Rachel Lynn Drain, Civil; E-22020 Ryan Matthew Elliott, Civil; E-21993 Alex Paul Gumm, Electrical and Computer; E-21997 Michael Paul Harris II, Mechanical; E-21998 Darlene Kay Horm, Civil; E-22021 Sangwon Lee, Civil; E-22030 Kevin Mak, Mechanical; E-22022 Abigail Elizabeth Menkhus, Environmental; E-22023 Clifton Russell Orcutt, Architectural; E-22037 Werner Ottenhiemer Sr, Electrical and Computer; E-22038 Amanda Renee Peterman, Civil; E-22024 Corin Renee Treat Pirki, Civil; E-22035 Kevin Andrew Riley, Mechanical; E-22025 Adam Trinidad Sanchez, Civil; E-22026 Michael Anthony Schmit, Civil; E-22031 Alexis Lynn Sidari, Civil; E-22036 Tyler Joseph Starr, Mechanical; E-21999 Chad Evan Stewart, Civil; E-22027 Schuyler Logan Sutter, Civil; E-22028 Melissa Lynn Vestal Taylor, Electrical and Computer; E-22000 Paul David Tucker, Civil; E-21995 Scott Brian Van Pelt, Civil; E-2029 Ryan Christopher West, Electrical and Computer; E-22040 Brian James William, Civil

Licensure of Architects by NCARB Certification

A-5922 Shawn Charles Basler, A-5917 Neal Allen Clements, A-5918 Christopher Lewis Davis, A-5916 Benjamin Wayne Fleener, A-5920 Patrick Everett Kelderhouse, A-5921 Ryan Owen McDermott, A-5919 Rafael Martinez Morales, A-5923 Roger Brian Sanders

Temporary Permits

T-673 Elizbeth Mary Hennessy, Engineering

Engineer Intern Enrollment Certificates

Emma Grace Dungan, Ryan Thomas Hatterty

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m.
215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln NE 68508

Certificates of Authorization

CA5671 United Structural Design LLC, CA5672 Kontexture LLC, CA5673 AMC Engineers & Consultants LLC, CA5674 Gilsanz Murray Stefieck LLP Engineers and Architects, CA5675 Cammack Energy Consulting LLC, CA5676 Leigh + O’Kane, CA5677 DRSB Engineering Inc, CA5678 Alliant Engineering Inc, CA5679 Brian Stokes Architects LLC, CA5680 National Flood Experts LLC, CA5681 PHM Engineering Inc, CA5682 Scott C Woods & Associates PA, CA5683 BluePoint Engineering LLC, CA5684 JHG Inc, CA5685 CGID LLC, CA5686 CVG Architecture PLLC, CA5687 Victor Saroki & Associates Architects PC, CA5688 Woden Fire LLC, CA5689 Cosmati Architects PLLC

PE Exam Applications

Dwane Roberto Amado Rocha, Civil; Collin Josphe Boehmer, Civil; Nathan Ronald Christensen, Civil; Everson James Ewoldt, Civil; Jacob Nathan Felty, Civil; Brendan John Finley, Aaron Thomas Grochowski, Civil; Alexis Martinez, Civil; Griffin James Rozek, Civil; Joshua Roy Strafelda, Civil; Matthew Thomas Wissing, Civil

Licensure/Examination

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Comity and Initial

Initial Licensure, Staff Recommendation to Approve: Tanner Dean Grieve, Control Systems; Mason Andrew Kenney, Civil; Pascual Mauricio Jr, Civil; Larry Dean Rock, Mechanical; Collin Robert Steimer, Civil; Michael Terence Swan, Electrical and Computer; Megan Alyssa Walker, Electrical and Computer

Comity Licensure, Staff Recommendation to Approve: John Landrum Baker, Mechanical; Louis Joseph Garces, Chemical

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Experience

Staff Recommendation to Approve: Justin Wayne Capp, Structural; James Reed Olson, Civil

Licensure of Professional Engineers by Reinstatement - *None*

Licensure of Architects by Comity and Initial - *None*

Licensure of Architects by Experience - *None*

Licensure of Architects by Reinstatement

Staff Recommendation to Approve: A-4295 William Lee Rhoad Jr

Special Cases – *None*

Other Issues/Information

Education Evaluation Request

Approved: Justin Truong

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

Motion by Foley, second by Thiele, to approve the NCEES education evaluation request for Justin Truong. Voting Yes: Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Dvorak, Foley, Kelly, Suelter, Nelson; Voting No: None

Completed Application Statistics

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

F. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports – March 2026

[Financial Summary FY25-26](#)

[Budget Status Report](#)

[Fund Summary](#)

[MTD General Ledger Detail](#)

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

Other Financial Matters – None

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

Executive session began at 9:53 a.m.

Dvorak left the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

G. COMPLIANCE

Cases 24.07, 25.16, 25.19, 25.21, 25.22, 25.26, 25.27, 25.28, 25.30, 25.31, 25.32, 25.33, 25.35, 26.06, 26.07, 26.09, 26.11, 26.12, 26.13, 26.14, 26.15, 26.16, Project Reviews 03-01, 04-02, 04-03, 04-04, 04-05, and 04-06 were discussed in executive session.

Other Compliance Issues

Partner agency processes were discussed in executive session.

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

Executive session ended at 11:25 a.m.

Motion by Brisnehan, second by Kelly, to dismiss Case 25.16 without disciplinary action based on the successful completion of architectural remediation. Voting Yes: Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Foley, Kelly, Suelter, Nelson; Voting No: None; Absent: Dvorak

Motion by Brisnehan, second by Thiele, to dismiss Case 25.21 without disciplinary action based on the successful completion of architectural remediation. Voting Yes: Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Foley, Kelly, Suelter, Nelson; Voting No: None; Absent: Dvorak

Motion by Brisnehan, second by Thiele, to delegate a hearing officer in Case 25.27. Voting Yes: Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Foley, Kelly, Suelter, Nelson; Voting No: None; Absent: Dvorak

Motion by Brisnehan, second by Foley, to authorize architectural and engineering remediation in Case 26.13 and request a response within 30 days and a written remediation plan within 90 days. Voting Yes: Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Foley, Kelly, Suelter, Nelson; Voting No: None; Absent: Dvorak

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
Board Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2026, 8:30 a.m.
215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln NE 68508

Motion by Brisnehan, second by Foley, to authorize architectural and engineering remediation in Case 26.14 and request a response within 30 days and a written remediation plan within 90 days. Voting Yes: Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Foley, Kelly, Suelter, Nelson; Voting No: None; Absent: Dvorak

Motion by Brisnehan, second by Bostelman, to authorize architectural and engineering remediation in Case 26.15 and request a response within 30 days and a written remediation plan within 90 days. Voting Yes: Thiele, Bostelman, Brisnehan, Foley, Kelly, Suelter, Nelson; Voting No: None; Absent: Dvorak

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and national events was provided. An operational planning meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2026, at the Thiele Geotech Training Center, 13478 Chandler Rd, Omaha, Nebraska. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for May 29, 2026, at 8:30 a.m., at 215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Licensure and Certificate Trends

Numbers as of April 9, 2026

Professional Engineers.....	9,575
Architects.....	1,915
Certificates of Authorization.....	2,480
Temporary Permits	16

Examination Information/Statistics

The April 2026 ARE Open Eligibility report was provided.

The 2026 Q3 FE and PE exam pass rates were provided.

Other Information

The FY2025-26 Marketing Plan was provided.

Facebook analytics for March 2026 were provided:

<i>Views:</i>	<i>2,500</i>
<i>Viewers:</i>	<i>365</i>
<i>Content Interactions:</i>	<i>65</i>
<i>Link Clicks:</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Visits:</i>	<i>149</i>
<i>New Follows:</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Posts:</i>	<i>19</i>

The March 2026 Website Analytics report was provided:

<i>Visits</i>	<i>3,600</i>
<i>New Users</i>	<i>2,800</i>

The Board's approved policies as of March 27, 2026, were provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at 11:29 p.m.

Jim Brisnehan, Secretary

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