Nebraska Of Engineers and Architects

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NCEES Refining Changes to Records Program

Jerry Carter NCEES Chief Executive Officer

Reprinted with permission from NCEES Licensure Exchange, February 2017.

It's been said that if you don't make mistakes, you're not working on hard-enough problems—and that's a big mistake. At NCEES, we are constantly working on difficult problems to better serve the organization's 70 jurisdictional boards and the thousands of professional engineers and surveyors licensed by them. However, this does not mean that we always hit the mark.

During the summer of 2016, NCEES staff finalized a two-year project to unify our many databases into one integrated system. Until this time, NCEES had separate databases to handle services such as examinations, Records, and Credentials Evaluations. all of which were unable to communicate with each other. An individual who registered for exams, bought study materials, had an education evaluation, and purchased an NCEES Record could have four separate login protocols to access his or her information on file with NCEES.

This problem was solved by the migration of all of the data into one robust database that is accessible by the individual licensee as well as by all NCEES member boards. With this modification to the system, we were able to discontinue requiring Record holders to pay an annual renewal fee; now a fee is assessed only when a Record is transmitted to a member board. Not only has this significantly improved efficiency in the verification of information between member boards and expedited the comity licensure process, the system also now allows licensees to record their continuing education activities with NCEES at no charge. This

"No one likes to admit to making a mistake, but here we are, hat in hand. We apologize to the affected Record holders."

> information is also accessible by all NCEES member boards, which should aid in reporting CPC credits and responding to audit requests.

While the system is working well and doing what was intended, we failed to properly communicate to many of our current Record holders adequate details about the transition, including the time line. For approximately 95 percent of current Record holders, the transition caused no issues, but for those who created their Record prior to 2008, we dropped the ball.

We have long known that NCEES Records that were created prior to 2008 contained poorly scanned images of critical documents. In some cases, handwriting was illegible, and in others, certain information was missing. Our plan had been to wait until licensees with a pre-2008 NCEES Record needed to transmit their Record, at which point we would have them provide the updated/missing material that was required. Unfortunately, what we learned shortly after implementing the system is that some Record holders need to obtain a comity license in a short span of time,

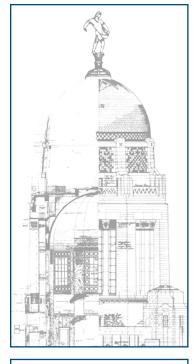
and gathering the needed information takes a great deal of time and effort. Also, some who contacted the NCEES office with questions about the process were advised that much of their previous information had either been lost or deleted and was no longer available to NCEES. This is incorrect—and regrettable. NCEES has

always had access to any data previously provided to establish a Record.

To address this problem, we revised the system, and pre-2008 NCEES Record holders are no longer required to manually reestablish the majority of their information into the new system. NCEES staff keyed in most information previously contained in the pre-2008 Records, and Record holders were requested to log on to the system and update their information at their convenience and to replace any documents that are illegible or where updates are needed.

Prior to the implementation of this new system, the NCEES management team discussed at length the best manner to execute the revised process, and we all agreed that our plan was

See NCEES RECORDS, Page 2



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NCEES Records Continued From Page 1

the one to use and the one that would cause the least problems among Record holders. Well, I'm here to tell you that we were wrong, and we heard about it very quickly. I am also glad to report that it did not take us long to understand the magnitude of the problem that we had caused, and our team quickly devised a plan to mitigate this issue. We are still working with some pre-2008 Record holders to get their information updated and suitable for transmitting in the new system, but complaints have been greatly reduced.

No one likes to admit to making a mistake, but here we are, hat in hand. We apologize to the affected Record holders. We appreciate your feedback to find a solution that meets your needs-and we appreciate your patience. This issue affected long-established NCEES Records, which means it affected long-standing customers. We appreciate your commitment to the Records program. We hope that the new system and the changes to the Records program will serve you well going forward; we just regret the difficulties the rollout caused you.∎

ARE 5.0 Testing Sees Results

Molly Mayhew NBEA Public Information Officer

After four years of development, the ARE 5.0 was released this past November by the National Council of Architectural Registration Board (NCARB).

Since the release, NCARB has been working hard to make sure the transition from 4.0 testing to 5.0 is as smooth as possible for those looking to finish exams.

"5.0 is going to be there for a longtime and we're [NCARB] going to keep making updates," Director of Examination, Jared Zurn, said last month during *NCARB Live*. "But we really do want the best experience for candidates when they go in. That's why we went down this path with the new test to begin with."

To encourage early adoption of process, NCARB began offering incentives from the first of the year until the end of February. As of early February, over 2,000 candidates had transitioned from ARE 4.0 and another 800 candidates had enrolled for the first time.

But the transition was not as smooth as NCARB had hoped.

"Some of our candidates in test centers experienced an ARE 5.0 exam shut down, and it impacted about 40 percent of the candidates," said Zurn. "But the good news is, we worked with our vendors to get things reset and had service restored."

During a *NCARB Live* presentation, Ryan Misner, the Assistant Director of Examination Research and Development, urged any exam candidates to contact NCARB customer service if any issues arise during the exam.

"Any time you [the test taker] have an issue in the test center, your first action as soon as you get out of the test center is to contact NCARB customer service," Misner said. "That allows us to respond to you as an individual and really investigate the issue on a personal See ARE 5.0, Page 6

Fire Marshal Assists NBEA with Compliance

Molly Mayhew NBEA Public Information Officer

The shared goal of the State Fire Marshal and Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects is to protect life and property of residents and visitors.

As of last March, the two departments have pledged to keep an open line of communication to assure projects in Nebraska are complying with the state law.

The Board of Engineers and Architects gets anywhere from a dozen to two dozen plans without a seal of a licensed architect or professional engineer every month, which range all across the state of Nebraska.

"We send notification by email to the E&A Board for submitted plans that do not bear the seal(s) of Nebraska Architect or Professional Engineer which includes information about the submitter," said State Fire Marshal, Jim Heine. "We include on our State Fire Marshal Code Review Document when returned to the submitting party a statement indicating that the submitted plans do not bear a required seal and that contact should be made with the Board."

Once the information has been received by the Compliance Officer, Lindy Rauscher, the project owner is contacted and the Board begins investigation into the project.

"The time it takes to resolve a compliance case can vary," Jon Wilbeck, NBEA Executive Director said. "Some are resolved within a few months, but others can take much longer."

One outcome of an investigation is that all construction stops while there is a Board review, ensuring there is no further threat to public safety.

"The State Fire Marshal and The Board share missions to protect life and property," Heine said. "We are working together to strengthen efforts to safeguard Nebraska citizens and visitors by ensuring public safety through compliance with all applicable code and regulatory provisions."

"The process the Board has established with the State Fire Marhsal benefits the public by following the E&A Regulation Act," Wilbeck said. "Following the Act helps owners protect their property, protect persons on their property, and prevents damage or liability from improperly constructed buildings and projects."

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Peters and Bostelman New Appointees to E&A Board

Molly Mayhew NBEA Public Information Officer

With nearly 40 years of experience each, the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects is pleased to welcome our newest board members, Randall 'Randy' Peters of Omaha and Jan Bostelman of Brainard.



Randy Peters, P.E.

Peters, who is an associate professor of practice civil engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, was appointed as a NBEA education board member this past fall.

Before joining the staff at University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), Peters worked for the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) for 38 years. Peters traveled every mile of highway in the state of Nebraska as part of a camera crew photo-documenting road conditions. He managed a highway design section which produced plans for over eighty miles of Nebraska's four-lane expressway system, spent ten years as State Traffic Engineer, and served three years as Deputy Director for Engineering before Governor Dave Heineman appointed him the 28th Director of NDOR in 2012.

He is also an alumnus of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering and currently a member of the UNL Civil Engineering Department Advisory Board.

"I see the work of the Board as a great opportunity to advance the integrity of the profession and protect the welfare of the public through service," said Peters. "I'm looking forward the working alongside and learning from the other distinguished members of the board as we work together to oversee and regulate professional practice in Nebraska."

With graduate work completed in Metallurgical Engineering from UNL and Nuclear and Chemical Engineering from the University of New Mexico, Bostelman has an accomplished past.

She has worked for companies such as Northeast Professional Engineering Consultants, Alion Science and Technology and the Omaha Power District.



Jan Bostelman, P.E.

"I have been able to do everything from failures analyses, teaching/training, materials testing, design/ storage of reactor fuel, and performing a significant amount of safety analyses regarding reactor operations,"Bostelman said. "Lately I have been called upon to perform complex calculations for radiological engineering which is an offshoot of nuclear engineering to assist in predicting consequences for emergency planning of utility organizations. My engineering background has had to grow considerably to keep pace with innovations in how we approach either material testing or even computational predictions."

Bostelman was brought onto the board this March and is currently one of the two board members who hails from outside of Lincoln or Omaha.

"My background in a heavily regulated and compliance driven industry affords me the opportunity and insight to serve on a board such as this," Bostelman said. "The motivation for serving is driven by a desire to work with the board and pay it forward...I look forward to listening and being open to changes that may be needed."

Bostelman also expressed the importance of educating the public of rules and regulations to ensure safety.

"Maintaining the safety and health of the public as first priority. Second, being open to changes in processes if it is meaningful without compromising the first priority," said Bostelman. "Also, education of companies doing work in Nebraska is still one concern."

When she isn't managing Bostelman Engineering in Brainard, Bostelman also volunteers and is an elected member to the East Butler Board of Education.

Board to hold Rule Making Hearing

Molly Mayhew

NBEA Public Information Officer

The Board of Engineers and Architects will hold a rule making hearing on May 24, 2017, at 8:30 a.m., at the Lincoln Community Foundation Building, 215 Centennial Mall South, 5th Floor conference room.

The Board is reorganizing, amending for clarification, and adopting new rules reflecting current board policy. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend and voice comments or concerns on the proposed changes.

Some of the newly proposed rules include specifying that an applicant's prior criminal or disciplinary history is not an automatic bar to licensure or admittance to examinations, what web-based continuing education (CE) courses are restricted under Rule 9.2.3, clarifying what constitutes acceptable direct supervision of architectural or engineering work, clarification regarding continuing education requirements for military personnel, and clarifying what is considered the practice of engineering and architecture as it relates to participation in design competitions, forensic engineering, and working as an expert witness.

You may submit written comments prior to the hearing which must be received by the Board of Engineers and Architects by the end of business on May 23, 2017.

Comments on the proposed rules should be sent to nbea.office@ nebraska.gov. Rule changes can be viewed at *ea.nebraska.gov/news/ notice-rulemaking-hearing*.

NCEES Readies Computer Based Testing

Molly Mayhew

NBEA Public Information Officer

Over the next several years, the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) will be paving the way toward more streamlined PE and FE exam environments.

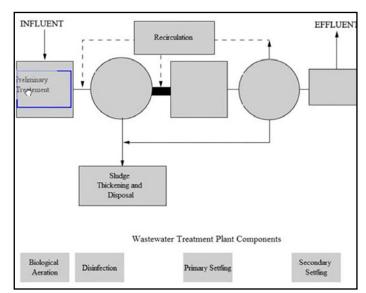
Chemical and nuclear exams will be the first to make the transition to the new computer based testing system, or CBT, as early as next year.

"The Chemical PE will transition in January 2018 and will be available year round at Pearson VUE Professional Test Centers," Davy McDowell, Chief Operating Officer at NCEES, said. "The last paper and pencil PE chemical will be this April 2017. There will be no paper and pencil PE chemical in October 2017. Also the nuclear PE examination will move to CBT in 2018. It will be offered only one day each year."

NCEES has set up a provisional schedule of dates for the rest of the exams to make the switch. After the first round of chemical and nuclear exams, environmental, software and petroleum are tentatively set to make the transition in 2019.

Among the numerous advantages for making the shift from pen and pencil exams to CBT, test-takers can expect a quicker release of results, standardized testing environments, a searchable handbook, and flexible exam scheduling.

Candidates can also look forward to 'alternative item types' on the test, or AIT. Currently, the PE exams are multiple choice but with the swap to CBT, those taking the tests will enjoy the AIT formats



The figure above shows the new drag and drop AIT option that will be seen in future testing. In this example, the user must show the proper order of the flow chart by dragging wording to the correct placement.

such as dragging and dropping tokens onto targets, fill-in-the-blank options, and point and click options (such as identifying a spot on a drawing or figure).

NCEES can also more easily update test questions, control security and supply year-round testing dates for candidates.

To learn more about the CBT testing, you can visit NCEES's website at ncees.org. To see the AIT examples in action, go to *ncees.org/exams/ cbt*.■

New Accounting Clerk, Public Information Officer Join NBEA

Molly Mayhew NBEA Public Information Officer

The Board welcomes new Accounting Clerk, Amber Bassingthwaighte, and new Public Information Officer, Molly Mayhew.

Before joining the NBEA staff, Bassingthwaighte lived in Kansas and was the Head of the Quik Stop Accounting Department for Kroger. She has an Associate of Arts in Graphic Design from Long Beach, California and a Bachelors in Accounting from Friend University in Wichita, Kansas.

"I have always enjoyed math so all areas of the position [at NBEA] are enjoyable. I really enjoy the people I work with also," said Bassingthwaighte. "I look forward to learning more



Amber Bassingthwaighte about the software I work in daily and improving and growing in all aspects that come with learning a new job in a new place."

"She has a team player attitude with an infectious sense of humor," said Sandra Weaver, Business Manager for NBEA.



Molly Mayhew Mayhew, a Lincoln native, has worked as a marketing and communications specialist for several years across the state of Nebraska. She has a Bachelor's in Mass Communications/ Journalism from Wayne State College where she won multiple

awards from the Nebraska Collegiate Media Association for excellence in newspaper, radio and television. She has also been recognized by The Nebraska Broadcasters Association for outstanding dedication.

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with the board and improve communication about the board's mission," said Mayhew.

"Molly's variety of experience and great technical skills makes her a great addition to the Board," Jon Wilbeck, NBEA Executive Director said. "We are looking forward to her coordinating the Board's outreach and education efforts."

Recently Resolved Compliance Cases

The following cases were reviewed for compliance by the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects, and resolved via the action noted. These summaries are provided for licensee education and information, and should not be interpreted as a full description of the cases described. In cases where disciplinary action was taken by the Board per Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-3444, the names of the individuals and/or organizations involved are included.

Case #16.03_

Noncompliance with Laws – Settlement Agreement

Summary: A complaint was filed by the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality against Nathan A. Pesta, a PE based in North Dakota, alleging noncompliance with the Code of Practice. The alleged noncompliance arose in relation to discrepancies and contradictions between certification forms submitted to NDEQ and the approved construction and operating permit for a livestock waste facility.

Action: In lieu of a formal hearing, Mr. Pesta agreed to enter a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve the allegations. Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, the Board imposed a \$1,000 penalty.

Case #16.07___

Unlicensed Practice

Summary: A complaint was filed alleging unlicensed individual and organizational practice of engineering. The complaint also alleged that the individual was holding himself out as a licensed PE on correspondence and the firm's website. The individual license and Certificate of Authorization had expired.

Action: The Board reinstated the individual's license, reissued the Certificate of Authorization, and imposed renewal fees in arrears for the period of time the Certificate of Authorization was expired. The case was dismissed with no disciplinary action.

Cases #16.09 & #16.12___

Unlicensed Practice

Summary: A complaint was filed alleging that several firms were advertising and providing architectural and engineering services in Nebraska without a Certificate of Authorization issued by the Board. The firms were allegedly advertising and providing professional services by participating in a local municipal business directory of organizations pre-qualified for municipal bidding preferences.

Action: The Board determined that participation in the business directory did not constitute an offer to practice architecture or engineering, found no probable cause of violations of the E&A Act, and dismissed the cases with no disciplinary action.

Case #16.15____

Noncompliance with Laws

Summary: A complaint was filed alleging that an individual had misrepresented his credentials as an architect in an industry publication. The alleged misrepresentation occurred when the individual was identified as an architect in the project information submitted to the publication.

Action: In the course of the compliance investigation, the Board's Compliance Officer learned that the individual was not involved in the publication submission and was not involved in the design of the project, but provided construction administration services. The Board dismissed this case with no disciplinary action. This case was the most recent allegation of misrepresentation of licensure status and was the catalyst for the story about responsible marketing in the Fall 2016 Newsletter.

Case #16.16 ____

Unlicensed Practice

Summary: The Board initiated a complaint against a Nebraska-licensed architect for unlicensed practice of engineering following review of a set of plans submitted to a local building official. The project was a Business occupancy comprising approximately 2,100 square feet and qualified for a practice exemption. However, the electrical, mechanical, and plumbing plans had been sealed by the licensed architect.

Action: The Board dismissed this case with no disciplinary action and emphasized that licensed architects are not authorized to practice engineering, and vice versa, regardless of practice exemptions that may apply to a project. Case #16.17___

Unlicensed Practice

Summary: A complaint was filed alleging unlicensed practice of engineering in relation to a demolition project.

Action: The Board found no probable cause of a violation of the E&A Act and dismissed the case with no disciplinary action.

Case #16.19_

Unlicensed Practice

Summary: A complaint was filed alleging unlicensed individual and organizational practice of engineering. The alleged unlicensed practice occurred when an engineering report was submitted to a local building official in relation to a municipal sanitation project. In the course of the compliance investigation, the Board's Compliance Officer learned that the municipal project was the subject of ongoing civil litigation and that the engineering report had been generated as an expert witness report.

Action: As noted in Board Policy 12.05, the Board's position is that an architect or professional engineer who serves as a testifying or non-testifying expert in a lawsuit or arbitration in the state of Nebraska regarding issues within the scope of their professional knowledge is not practicing architecture or engineering in Nebraska for purposes of the E&A Act. Consequently, the Board dismissed the case with no disciplinary action.

Case #17.01 ____

Violations of E&A Reg. Act

Summary: The Board was notified by a partner-agency that unsealed plans had been submitted for review in connection with a business and mercantile renovation project comprising 6720 square feet in total impacted area.

Action: Per Board Rule 10.3.11, any structure containing two or more occupancies is governed by the most restrictive occupancy. In this case, Board Rules 10.3.2 and 10.3.7 for business and mercantile occupancies respectively, are equally restrictive at 3,000 square feet. This project qualified as the practice of architecture and/or engineering and did not qualify for a practice exemption. Upon receipt of modified plans sealed by a licensed professional, the Board dismissed this case with no disciplinary action.

Case #17.05_

Violations of E&A Reg. Act

Summary: The Board was notified by that unsealed plans had been submitted for review in connection with the construction of a pre-engineered one-level mercantile project comprising 7,000 square feet in size. In the course of the compliance investigation, the pre-engineered building specifications prepared by a Nebraska-licensed professional engineer were obtained. In addition, the project owner enclosed an area comprising approximately 800 square feet for office and bathroom space.

Action: Per Board Rule 10.3.7, a mercantile project of 3,000 or more square feet is exempt from practice requirements. The pre-engineered building was found to satisfy practice requirements and the enclosure qualified for a practice exemption. The Board dismissed the case with no disciplinary action.

Case #17.08_

Violations of E&A Reg. Act

Summary: The Board was notified by a partner-agency that unsealed plans had been submitted for review in connection with the construction of a business, mercantile, and storage project comprising 6,468 square feet in size. In the course of the compliance investigation, the Board's Compliance Officer learned that the structure would be used for a small office and shop connected to a garage-type storage space.

Action: Per Board Rule 10.3.11, any structure containing two or more occupancies is governed by the most restrictive occupancy. In this case, Board Rules 10.3.2 and 10.3.7 for business and mercantile occupancies respectively, are equally restrictive at 3,000 square feet; Board Rule 10.3.9 for a storage occupancy is less restrictive at 5,000 square feet. However, the Board determined that the work involved in the project did not constitute the practices of architecture or engineering and dismissed the case with no disciplinary action.

ARE 5.0 Continued From Page 2

level and reduce that time of

impact as much as possible."

Although Miser and Zurn said some candidates were hesitant to make the switch, they had also received positive feedback about the cleaner look of the new interface and the ease of taking the test without having to learn a lot of software aspects. Those looking to familiarize themselves with the new layout, were encouraged to explore the online demo.

"What is available in the test demo is exactly what you are going to get in the testing center," Misner said. "That way, when you are in the test center, you can focus on answering the questions and not dealing with learning the interface."

And once the cut scoring system is fully implemented, candidates can look forward to exam results within days of taking the exam.

"The reality is, it's much quicker than in 4.0.," Misner said. "One to two days is all it's going to be."

Any candidates that have taken test in ARE 4.0 can easily make the switch over to 5.0 as well. NCARB has even provided a 'transition calculator' that populates current credits and shows the expiration dates for credits. Zurn said this will help candidates plan their best strategy to get done with testing.

In March, NCARB released the second set of 5.0 testing scores for Project Development and Documentation, and also released Practice Management at the beginning of April.

NCEES CPC Registry Helps Track CE

Molly Mayhew

NBEA Public Information Officer

The amount of continuing education courses available to engineers and surveyors is boundless and everychanging. Keeping record of what classes where taken, when and where can become an immense task.

The National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) has come up with an easy and free solution for licensees to do just that. This past June, NCEES released a new service called the Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) Registry.

"The registry is place for engineers and surveyors to log their continuing education hours. It is especially useful to engineers and surveyors that are licensed in multiple jurisdictions since you can track by jurisdiction," said Davy McDowell, Chief Operating Officer at NCEES. "

In roughly nine months, the CPC has had over 2,300 users that have logged over 23,000 courses.

"So far the feedback has been positive," McDowell said. "The biggest advantage to the system for an

individual is that they have the capability of easily seeing how they are doing in each jurisdiction in which they are licensed. The registry is easy to update and those that have an account can upload any PDF's they have to verify attendance at the course."

There is no limit to how many courses can be logged for an individual and users are encouraged to attach certificates, syllabi and course descriptions for better documentation. The CPC registry is also designed to print a portfolio in an easily-readable format so licensees can send credentials to boards looking for proof of attendance.

One thing that McDowell says is important to note is that NCEES is not vetting the courses and verifying that the course meets state requirements.

"We are not looking at the quality of the courses nor are we saying the board will accept them. This is purely a repository," McDowell said. ■

License Renewal Essential - 2.0

This is a follow-up to the article by Mr. Bruce Carpenter of AIA in the Spring 2016 Newsletter (hence the 2.0.)

I too want to relay my experience to highlight the importance of diligence in renewing your license biannually and periodically checking the status of such license.

I wasn't as lucky as Bruce to have a colleague call me. I didn't realize my license had lapsed until I received a letter from the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA) stating that a complaint had been lodged against me for the unauthorized practice of Engineering. I can't repeat here what my reaction was. I immediately called Jon Wilbeck, Executive Director of the NBEA, to explain that I did not realize that I hadn't renewed my license. As with Bruce, the mistake was mine and the issue was my responsibility. I had not sent in my fee for renewal.

So, I instituted all the proceedings to have my license reinstated. It is not a simple process and takes a substantial amount of time and effort. The NBEA staff was very helpful in this process, but if I had renewed in a timely manner, none of the effort would have been needed. I have been a Licensed Professional Engineer for about as long as I can remember and the thought of not being a 'P.E.' was disheartening. I took and still do take that title very seriously. I will reiterate and quote Bruce's statement " My advice to be spared of a similar experience is this: please be diligent in sending in your license renewal as soon as you receive the notice." With the technology available and on-line availability, it is a huge mistake to not do it when received and for goodness sake, do not depend on an assistant to do it for you. It is YOUR responsibility. ■

-Paul E. Ziemba

Paul E. Ziemba is a licensed professional engineer in the state of Nebraska. For further information on how to renew, please visit our site at ea.nebraska.gov



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Warren A. Curry	OMAHA	NE
Meagan M. McColloch	OMAHA	NE

Professional Engineers By Exam

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Jared T. Ashton	LINCOLN	NE
Shaddi A. Assad	THORNTON	CO
Ryan J. Bateman	OMAHA	NE
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Adam C. Brumbaugh	OMAHA	NE	
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Fire Protection			
Jesse A. Warboys	OMAHA	NE	

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Karen S. Schurr

Mechanical		
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October 12, 2016 - March 14, 2017

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I	Environmental		
S	steven L. Pelletier	ROSEVILLE	MN
I	Fire Protection		
S	Scott D. Repke	AUGUSTA	MO
I	ndustrial		
ŀ	Kenneth G. Merkel	OMAHA	NE
Ν	Aichael W. Riley	LINCOLN	NE
I	Mechanical		
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9	Structural		
H V H S	Ronald J. DalPonte Paul J. Martin Villiam T. McCarthy Edward S. Scott Roger S. Sorensen Steven T. Sturgeon Michael J. Weber	LAKE BLUFF OMAHA SPICER GILLETTE AUSTIN OVERLAND PARK CEDARBURG	IL NE MN WY TX KS WI
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be closed

May 29

for Memorial Day

LINCOLN

NE



STATE OF NEBRASKA BOARD OF ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS

P.O. Box 95165 • Lincoln, NE 68509

UPCOMING NBEA EVENTS

MAY	24	Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Lincoln, NE
	29	Closed - Memorial Day
JUNE	29	Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Lincoln, NE
JULY	4	Independence Day - Closed
	28	PE First Time Application Deadline
AUG	11	Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Lincoln, NE
	25	PE Retake Application Deadline

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A PUMP IN A FIELD

They're often the last thing left standing after the farmhouse, barn, and outbuildings have been bulldozed, piled and burned and the ground's been plowed over for corn, a pump on a concrete, card-table-sized slab with its handle removed as if to discourage some stranger from stopping to draw up a drink. The person who unbolts a handle and drives it away in the back of a pickup puts us on notice, not only that the water is theirs but that its music, too, is theirs to listen to, should they choose to come back with the handle, and fit it on, and pump it and pump it and pump it, up to the surface, those squeals with the cold bell-like clanks far below, then the beautiful gurgle.

Ted Kooser

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"Water pump on Highway 34 near Utica, Nebraska" (1984) By **Robert L. Hanna**, architectural illustrator and Nebraska Emeritus Architect

Ted Kooser, former U.S. Poet Laureate (2004-2006), and recipient of the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, a Nebraska Poet.

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