

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2013**

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was held at 215 Centennial Mall South, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Large Conference Room, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chair Helgoth called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and noted the location of the Public Meeting Statutes. Notice of the meeting was published on the Board's website and the Lincoln Journal Star in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

**Roll Call:** Present: Roger Helgoth, Chair; Tom Laging, Vice Chair; Jennifer Klein, Secretary; Mark Champion; Fred Choobineh; Michael Conzett; Krista Kester; Lori Krejci. Absent: None.

**Staff Present:** Jon Wilbeck, Executive Director (ED); Sandra Weaver, Administrator (AD); Lisa Mathews, Compliance Officer (CO); Jean Lais, Administrative Assistant (AA); Rachel Fetterman, Public Information Officer (PIO).

**Open Meetings Act Overview**

Notes taken at an Independent Agency Meeting on the Open Meetings Act were provided.

**Public Comment/Appointments**

8:30 a.m. – Bob Bartle, Special Assistant Attorney General

9:30 a.m. – Rich Lombardi, American Communications Group, Inc.

**Election of Officers**

**Board Policy 3/17/2000**

Chair Helgoth noted the Board policy for election of officers and called for nominations for Secretary of the Board.

**Action** Motion by Laging, second by Champion to nominate Lori Krejci as Secretary of the Board. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

**Action** Motion by Krejci, second by Champion to close nominations and elect Lori Krejci as Secretary of the Board and accept new officers as indicated in Board policy. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Laging became Chair and Klein became Vice Chair as per board policy 00.01.

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**Agenda Items**

**A Consent Agenda**

**Meeting Minutes**

February 15, 2013 meeting minutes approved as presented.

**Licensure/Examination Applications**

**NCEES MLE – Engineers**

E-14597 Vaughan Lee Brady Adkins, Civil; E-14573 Danny Kenneth Armstrong, Structural; E-14596 Yelena Nikolaevna Bronshvayg, Structural; E-14590 Mark Stephen Densmore, Civil; E-14594 Scott Charles Dicus, Electrical and Computer; E-14592 Ildefonso Gonzalez-Artigas, Civil; E-14593 Thomas Caldwell Harter, Industrial; E-14600 Brad Michael Kauffman, Electrical and Computer; E-14601 Aaron Stephen Miller, Civil; E-14599 Electrical and Computer Engineer; E-14599 Clifton Paul Oertli, Electrical and Computer; E-14589 Jared Larry Olson, Civil; E-14595 John Douglas Roberson, Electrical; E-14571 Gregory John Schaapveld, Civil; E-14598 Robert Joseph Schuerger, Electrical; E-14588 Kelly Jo Sias, Civil; E-14591 Gregg Brian Somermeyer, Chemical; E-14602 Johnathan Daniel Toman, Mechanical.

**NCARB Certification – Architects**

A-4323 Curtis George Baer; A-4324 Jeffery Swayne Crocker; A-4322 Jamie Davis Dreyer; A-4326 Mark Joseph Gettemeyer; A-4325 David Edwin Riffel; A-4321 Dawn Marie Ostrenga Rolling.

**Temporary Permits**

T-498 Patrick C. Edwards, Engineering, AL.

**Organizational Practice – Certificates of Authorization**

CA2939 Prater Engineering Associates Inc; CA2940 Napier Engineering LLC; CA2942 Allen Henderson and Associates Inc; CA2943 Montrol Automation Inc; CA2944 Economou Partners/STJ PC; CA2945 Golden Empire Mfg Inc; CA2946 Schmidt Beck & Boyd Engineering LLC; CA2947 J Cook Structural Engineering LLC; CA2948 The Robins & Morton Group; CA2949 Zimmerman Architectural Studios Inc; CA2950 Big Red Rooster Architecture LLC; CA2951 The Kelly-Buck Company; CA2952 SDII Global Corporation; CA2953 CHI Engineering Services Incorporated; CA2954 ASA Architectural Design LLC.

**Engineer Intern Enrollment**

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2013**

Keiv Daniel Spare, KS.

**Fundamentals of Engineering Examination**

Jordan Richard Burchatz, NE; Kathryn Marjorie Conroy, NE; Eric Del Toro, KS; Fred Del Toro, KS; Bethany Ann Drain, NE; Kelly Christina Esch, NE; Brian Montgomery Ganzel, NE; Joshua W. Hargis, KS; Eric Brian Hogan, NE; Todd Jason Keiner, NE; Scott Daniel Kielion, NE; Maurice Allan Kimsey, III, NE; Erik Michael Knudsen, NE; Daniel Scott Lightbody, NE; Drew S. Lirette, NE; Shea Michael Lusero, NE; Matthew John Morhardt, NE; Marlaine Mbiya Ngudia, NE; Lowell Shawn Reeh, NE; Jon Charles Riede, NE; Rachel Anne Tibbs, NE; Christopher Rudersdort Tomlinson, NE; Daniel James White, NE; Benjamin Joseph Wilton, NE.

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

**Action** Motion by Kester, second by Conzett to approve the consent agenda. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

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**B Financial Matters**

**FY 2012/2013 Financial Profile, February 2013**

**Budget Status Report, February 2013**

**MTD General Ledger Detail Report, February 2013**

**Fund Summary Report, February 2013**

ED Wilbeck reviewed February financial reports with the Board. It was noted that license renewals were up from the previous year.

**Approval of Financial Matters**

**Action** Motion by Helgoth, second by Krejci to approve the financial matters. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

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**C Applications**

**Licensure/Examination**

**Applications for licensure of Engineers by Comity**

**Approved:** Allan Lee Caspe, Electrical and Computer, CO; Michael David Tull, Civil, CO; Krista Kay Wassenaar, Civil, IA; Michael Todd Wheatley, Mechanical, NC.

**Applications for licensure of Engineers by Experience**

**Approved:** Mahendrakumar Hargovinddas Sheth, Fire Protection, KS.

**Defer:** Joel Douglas Ray, Structural, MN – Does not have 15 years licensed experience or an ABET-accredited engineering degree. Applicant will need to obtain an NCEES Credentials Evaluation to see if the education standard is met.

**Applications for licensure of Architects by Experience - None**

**Applications for licensure by Reinstatement - None**

**Applications to take the ARE Exam**

Lindsay Ann Colwell, CA; Corey Randall Hess, NE; April Marie Kick, NE.

**Applications to take the PPE Exam**

Daniel Alan Karnes, Mechanical, NE; Jennifer Lynn Pohlman, Architectural, NE.

**Special Cases – Applications to take the ARE Exam**

**Approved:** Bradley Behne, NE.

**Approval of Licensure/Examination Applications**

**Action** Motion by Conzett, second by Kester to approve or defer licensure and examination application requests as discussed. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

**Licensing Information**

Comparison of ABET-EAC Accredited Programs and NCEES Education Standard provided.

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**D Compliance**

**Logs**

Current complaints presented.

History of closed complaints for Board review only.

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2013**

**Executive Session – Commenced at 8:35 a.m.**

**Action** Motion by Kester, second by Klein to enter into executive session for discussion of pending Compliance Case 11.04 not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

Special Assistant Attorney General Bartle left the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

**Executive Session – Concluded at 9:20 a.m.**

**Action** Motion by Helgoth, second by Krejci to close executive session for discussion of pending Compliance Case 11.04 not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. The limitation for going into executive session was restated by Chair Laging. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

**Pending Case**

**11.04 – Summary**

Reviewed in executive session. Investigation will be continued.

**Executive Session – Commenced at 9:44 a.m.**

**Action** Motion by Helgoth, second by Kester to enter into executive session for discussion of pending Compliance Cases 12.10, 12.11 and 12.12 not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

**Executive Session – Concluded at 10:03 a.m.**

**Action** Motion by Krejci, second by Conzett to close executive session for discussion of pending Compliance Cases 12.10, 12.11 and 12.12 not a matter of public information to prevent needless injury to the reputation of those involved. The limitation for going into executive session was restated by Chair Laging. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

**12.10 – Summary**

Reviewed in executive session. Investigation ongoing.

**12.11 – Summary**

Reviewed in executive session. Investigation ongoing.

**12.12 – Summary**

Reviewed in executive session.

**New Cases – None at this time.**

**Approval of Compliance Case Disposition Case 12.12**

**Action** Motion by Kester, second by Krejci to dismiss Compliance Case 12.12 without prejudice. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Conzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

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**E Committee Reports**

**Board committee appointments and assignments**

Committee appointments as implemented in the 2012 Strategic Planning Session and 2012-2013 committee assignments.

**Executive Committee Report**

It was noted Executive Committee members would change with the election of the new Board officers.

**Education and Communication Committee Report**

An updated activity report for the Board's Facebook account was presented by PIO Fetterman.

**Enforcement Committee Report**

*No report at this time.*

**2014 NCEES Zone Meeting Planning Committee Report**

PIO Fetterman presented a preview of the video being created to promote the 2014 NCEES Zone Meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska. Lincoln Visitor Guides and lapel pins have been received from the Lincoln Convention and Visitors Bureau for distribution. This year's zone meeting attendees were asked to take cues to provide feedback for 2014 planning. A spokesperson to talk about the State of Nebraska will be sought for the opening of the meeting.

**Legislative Committee Report**

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2013**

Rich Lombardi distributed a legislative bill tracking document and reviewed it with the Board. The first session of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Legislature is approximately at the half-way mark. The Speaker, Committees, and Senators will be designating their priority bills. Committee hearings will end soon and the Legislature will begin day-long debate. The legislative draft of the February 8, 2013 floor debate for LB 7 was reviewed by the Board. The final reading of the bill advanced without any opposition and was signed by the Governor on March 7, 2013. Lombardi left the meeting at 9:36 a.m. Committee Chair Kester reported the rewriting of provisions of the Act was underway to clarify order and make it easier for users to follow. A strategic planning session devoted to rewriting the Act will be planned.

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**F Old Business**

**Notice of initiation of computer-based testing**

NCEES is scheduled to complete the transition of the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exams to computer-based testing (CBT) at approved Pearson VUE testing centers on January 1, 2014. Registration for all exams will open Monday, November 4, 2013. The first available seating at a Pearson VUE testing center will be Tuesday, January 2, 2014. Registration for the PE exams in pencil-and-paper format will be for the April 2014 administration. Candidates for a CBT exam may take the exam only one time per testing window and no more than three times in a 12-month period. Licensing boards will be able to choose between two approval models - Option 1: Automatic Approval or Option 2: Manual Approval to register candidates for the FE exam. The Board discussed the need for revising model law and creating an efficient process for the FE Exam in Nebraska.

**CBT Examinee approval models update**

Based on feedback from the BPA, small modifications were made to the approval models. Boards may still choose the unrestricted automatic approval model or choose an education restriction sub-option indicating they want EAC or ETAC or ASAC educated examinees to be automatically approved and examinees not meeting the requirement would fall back to a manual approval. Both automatic and manual approval will have the examinees selecting a board from a drop-down as part of exam registration.

**Email concerning Board's FE exam approval model decision**

At the last meeting, the Board agreed to use the automatic approval model for the FE exam if NCEES could verify they would meet education requirements for taking the FE exam. ED Wilbeck reported NCEES could not provide verification of this. A document submitted by the Florida Board of Professional Engineers and Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers concerning the potential problems with disassociation of the FE and FS from its original purpose of being part of the licensure process within an individual state was handed out to the Board.

**2013 strategic planning discussion topics**

A tentative 2013 strategic planning discussion list was provided by ED Wilbeck. A separate meeting will be scheduled for legislative item discussions. Ideas offered for the strategic planning session were education, criteria for enforcement evaluation, and the Cash Fund balance in relation to expenditures in alignment with the Board's mission. A Board policy will be created on guidelines for electronic seals until new statute is passed. The executive committee will create a Strategic Planning agenda. The session will be held in conjunction with the May 10<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Finding another location was suggested.

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**G New Business**

**Engineering Items - None at this time**

**Architecture Items**

**2013 NCARB Joint Regional Meeting agenda – March 7-9, 2013**

The 2013 NCARB Joint Regional Meeting for Region 3, 4 and 5 was held March 7-9, 2013, in Charleston, South Carolina. Champion reported the 2014 NCARB regional meetings and the NCARB Member Board Executive (MBE) meeting (usually scheduled in November) will all be held at one location and time to ease planning and lower expenditures. NCARB will sign the contracts and possibly fund the MBE and one or two attendees from each state board. The Board discussed inviting the NCARB director to come to Nebraska to attend a Board meeting.

**Draft of resolutions to be acted upon at NCARB 2013 Annual Meeting**

A March 2013 draft of resolutions to be acted on at the NCARB Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, on June 19-22, 2013, was provided for review.

**Other Items**

**APA entrance memo for audit of 2012 calendar year**

An entrance conference memo-attestation from the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) was provided. The entrance conference was held on March 5, 2013, with APA representatives. Chair Helgoth, ED Wilbeck and AD Weaver

Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 15, 2013**

attended on the Board's behalf. An audit of financial schedules for the calendar year 2012 began on March 8, 2013.

**Spring 2013 Newsletter Draft**

PIO Fetterman provided a draft of the Spring 2013 Newsletter. Changes will be made as discussed.

**Term expiration of Emeritus Board Members**

The emeritus terms of former board members, Dale Sall and Albert Hamersky expire March 15, 2013.

**Action**

Motion by Helgoth, second by Klein to renew the Board Member Emeritus terms for Dale Sall and Albert Hamersky for one year if each of them desire to continue serving. Voting Yes: Kester, Klein, Krejci, Champion, Choobineh, Konzett, Helgoth, Laging. Voting No: None. Absent: None.

**2013 regional and national meeting travel authorization**

A listing of 2013 regional and national meetings with authorized board and staff members for travel was presented for review. The NCEES Board of Directors meeting will be held in Atlantic City, NJ.

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**H General Information**

**Public meeting notice publication**

A public notice request was sent to the Lincoln Journal Star for the March 15, 2013 meeting.

**Board meetings and schedule**

A current schedule was provided for board meetings and events. Members were encouraged to check the upcoming meeting schedule for conflicts at each meeting. Dates can possibly be changed to allow all members to attend.

**Roster of Board members**

The Board roster will be updated with the new officers for the next meeting.

**Travel Reimbursement Policy**

Agency travel reimbursement policy provided for review.

**Licensing and Certification Trends**

**Trends in Licensure**

**Trends in Renewals**

**Trends in Certificates of Authorization**

Database reports for licensure trends, renewal statistics, and active certificates of authorization were provided. ED Wilbeck reported language will be clarified in the "Size of Organization" section on the certificate of authorization forms to indicate "licensed" professionals.

**Other information**

Current Board policies were provided for review.

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**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

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Lori Krejci, Secretary