

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors met on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, in Conference Room 102 at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

The following Board members were present:

Michael S. Fletcher, PE, Chairman
Mark E. Chastain, LS, Vice-Chairman
Brian K. Upson, PE
Elmo A. Richardson, Jr., PE/LS
George Howroyd, PE
L.H. (Dan) Davis, PE
William Womack, PE

Board members absent:

James W. Butler, LS
Matthew W. Baxter, Consumer Member

Staff present:

Darren Mickler, Executive Director
Swan LeGrand-Fleming, Board Support Specialist
Julie Busbee, Licensure Supervisor
Annette Wimberly, Complaint Compliance Analyst

Attorney General Representative:

Amelia Baker, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Guests present:

Phillip O. Brown, SAMSOG
Michael Sullivan, Executive Director, ACEC Georgia

Call to Order

At 9:32 a.m., Chairman Fletcher established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Adopt Agenda

Chairman Fletcher asked members for any additions or deletions to the proposed agenda. Chairman Fletcher added 7.7 Discussion of NCEES President's Board assembly. Mr. Womack moved to adopt the agenda with the addition. Mr. Davis seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Fletcher presented a draft of the January 8, 2013 and February 1, 2013 teleconference meeting Open Session minutes and asked for any additions or deletions. Mr. Richardson moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Chastain seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Professional Societies and Guests

Chairman Fletcher acknowledged the presence of Michael Sullivan, Executive Director with ACEC Georgia and Phillip O. Brown with SAMSOG. No report.

Executive Director Report

Mr. Mickler informed the Board that an Affidavit Regarding Citizenship form must be submitted with the Secure & Verifiable document for new applications and renewals.

Mr. Mickler also informed the Board of the following change to the Interested Parties list:

Recently, the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State's Office updated their software regarding the Interested Parties list maintained by the Board. The Interested Parties list is a way for the Board to notify licensees, as well as interested parties and associations, of current rules being proposed by the Board. Subscribers of this list are sent electronic notifications each time a proposed rule is being considered by the Board. Any person wishing to receive these notifications must now subscribe to the updated Interested Parties list maintained by the Board. Even if you were previously subscribed to receive such notifications, you will need to complete the subscription process again in order to continue receiving notifications from the Board.

If you would like to receive such notifications in the future, please visit the following link to subscribe: <http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/subscribe.htm>

If you choose not to subscribe, you will not receive these notifications from the Board. The proposed rules may always be viewed at the Board's website: <http://sos.georgia.gov/plb/pels/>

New Business

The Board had a discussion on NCEES FE and FS exams transitioning to computer-based testing (CBT) on January 14, 2014. Mr. Richardson stated that the Board should not make it easier for people to become licensed and that the Board should tighten up on the exam. Mr. Richardson made a motion that will require applicants to take the exam first then apply for certification. Mr. Upson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed a request for clarification of Georgia Law Title 43. Mr. Mickler and Mr. Fletcher will draft a letter to send to Mr. Godfrey citing the law on behalf of the Board.

The Board reviewed an open records request for the release of records on George Buchner from Fulcher Hagler LLP. Mr. Richardson made a motion to deny the request. Mr. Davis seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board had a discussion on Randstad “Engineering” Employment Services. The Board voted to send a letter to request that Randstad Engineering Employment Services change their name to remove the word “engineering”.

The Board had a discussion on Board Policy 03-04R regarding Foreign Education requirements. The Board voted to only accept NCEES to accredit foreign degrees. Mr. Mickler will create a draft to present at the next board meeting for Board vote.

Mr. Fletcher and Mr. Mickler will attend the NCEES Southern Zone Meeting in Biloxi, MS, April 4-6, 2013.

Executive Session

At 11:17 a.m., Mr. Richardson moved to enter into Executive Session, in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h) to deliberate on applications and investigative matters and to receive an investigative report. Mr. Davis seconded. Voting in favor of the motion were those members present who included Board Chairman Michael Fletcher, Mark Chastain, George Howroyd, Dan Davis, Bill Womack, Elmo Richardson, and Brian Upson.

The Executive Session of the Georgia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors meeting was closed at 12:06 p.m. and Chairman Fletcher declared the Georgia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to be “open” pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq. The following Board Members were present – Chairman Michael Fletcher, Elmo Richardson, James Butler, George Howroyd, Mark Chastain, Bill Womack, Bill Upson, and Dan Davis. No votes were taken in Executive Session.

Approval of Executive Session Minutes

Chairman Fletcher presented a draft of the January 8, 2013 Executive Session meeting minutes and asked for any additions or deletions. Mr. Richardson moved to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Womack seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Licenses Issued Since Last Meeting

The Board reviewed a list of applicants that have been previously reviewed and approved. Mr. Richardson made a motion to ratify licenses issued from January 8, 2013 – March 11, 2013. Mr. Davis seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Board Office/Investigations:

Mr. Chastain moved to adopt the following recommendations regarding complaint cases considered by the Board during the Executive Session:

PELS130007 – As a result of investigative interview conducted, the Board voted to send to the Attorney General’s Office for a Consent Order assessing a fine of \$500.00 for violations of two technical standards.

PELS130030 – As a result of investigative interview conducted, the Board voted to send to the Attorney General’s Office for a Consent Order assessing a fine of \$500 for advertising Professional Engineer services and that licensee submit application for reinstatement of Land Surveyor Firm license and pay the \$500.00 penalty.

Donald Cochran, Chelsea, Alabama - The Board approved the request to terminate probation status and return the license to active status.

Adolph Michelis, Sylvania – The Board approved the request to terminate probation status and return the license to active status.

Steven Head, Buford – The Board denied the request to remove the Consent Order from the website.

James Burch, Donaldsonville – The Board approved the request to terminate probation status and return the license to active status.

PELS110064 - The Board voted to close case no action.

PELS100045 – The Board voted to renew PE license with no sanctions.

PELS130023 – The Board voted to close case with no sanctions.

PELS130024 – The Board voted to renew PE license with no sanctions.

PELS130026 – The Board voted to renew PE license with no sanctions.

PELS120044 – The Board voted to close with a letter of concern.

PELS130003 – The Board voted to send to the Attorney General’s Office for a Consent Order assessing a fine of \$500.00 for violation of Board Rule 180-12-.02.

PELS120052 – The Board voted to close due to no violations.

PELS110041 – The Board voted to refer respondent to the South Carolina Board and close.

PELS120027 – The Board voted to refer to the District Attorney’s Office for criminal prosecution.

PELS120011 – The Board voted to close with no action.

PELS120014 – The Board voted to close with no action.

PELS120021 – The Board voted to close with no action.

PELS120024 – The Board voted to close with no action.

Mr. Richardson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Attorney General:

Mr. Richardson moved to adopt the recommendations of the report of the Senior Assistant Attorney General.

PELS120056 – The Board made a recommendation to accept private consent order assessing a \$500 fine and close.

PELS13009 – The Board made a recommendation to close with a letter of concern.

Mr. Womack seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Reinstatements:

Mr. Chastain moved to approve the following reinstatement of licensure upon payment of a \$1,000 reinstatement fee. Mr. Davis seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- Arnold Cobb, PE014295
- Robert Mattox, PE014348
- Deron McIntosh, PE026564
- Frank Skipper, PE021971
- George Stock, PE020759

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Richardson moved to adjourn. Mr. Upson seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Michael Fletcher, Board Chairman

Darren Mickler, Executive Director

These minutes were adopted at the Tuesday, May 14, 2013 meeting. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, August 13, 2013.