

MINUTES

March 8, 2005

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors met on March 8, 2005 in Conference Room 102 at the office of the Professional Licensing Boards, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

E. Charles Vickery, PE - Chairman
William W. Dean, PE
Guy F. Ritter, PE
John H. Sweitzer, PE
Theodore W. Waddle, LS, PE
Mark E. Chastain, LS
Doris I. Willmer, PE
Gloria B. Ransom, Ph.D., Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Richard K. Little, PE

STAFF PRESENT:

J. Darren Mickler – Board Executive Director
Julie Busbee – Board Secretary
Vivian Stephens – Board Application Specialist
Sharon Harrison – Compliance Secretary

ATTORNEY GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE:

Patricia Downing

GUESTS PRESENT:

Major Thompson, representing American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
Phillip Brown, representing Surveyors and Mapping Society of Georgia (SAMSOG)
Hardwick Butler, Professor at Middle Georgia College, representing Surveyors and Mapping Society of Georgia (SAMSOG)

Call to order:

Chairman Vickery called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and presented a proposed agenda. Ms. Willmer requested to remove “PE Application” from Old Business, and add “Memo of Agreement with EPD” and “Board Rule 180-3-02(b) to Old Business. Mr. Vickery requested to add “June Board Meeting at Calloway Gardens” to Old Business

and “Board Presidents Assembly to New Business. Mr. Ritter requested to add “Renewals” to Executive Session. Mr. Ritter moved to add and remove the requested items and adopt the agenda as amended. Mr. Waddle seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Chairman Vickery asked for any additions or deletions to the minutes of the February 8, 2005 Board Meeting. Mr. Ritter moved to adopt the minutes as written. Ms. Willmer seconded. Motion carried.

Professional Societies and Guests

Chairman Vickery recognized the guests present: Major Thompson, representing American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Phillip Brown, representing Surveyors and Mapping Society of Georgia (SAMSOG) and Hardwick Butler, Professor at Middle Georgia College, also representing Surveyors and Mapping Society of Georgia (SAMSOG).

Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Mickler presented a bar graph showing the numbers of complaint cases open with the Board at this time. The number of open cases by year is as follows:

6 cases opened in 1998
3 cases opened in 1999
2 cases opened in 2000
13 cases opened in 2001
18 cases opened in 2002
23 cases opened in 2003
36 cases opened in 2004
4 cases opened in 2005
105 total open cases

Mr. Ritter requested Mr. Mickler to report the numbers by distinguishing between Professional Engineering and Land Surveying cases. Mr. Dean asked if the numbers could be distinguished by the Board member assigned to the case. Chairman Vickery instructed Mr. Mickler to give a full list of open complaint cases to each Board member at each Board meeting with the names extracted.

Old Business:

2006 NCEES Southern Zone Meeting:

Mr. Mickler presented a video marketing Savannah that will be shown at the 2005 NCEES Southern Zone Meeting in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma during the morning session of the awards presentation.

Task Force Assignment Reports:

Mr. Dean reported that he had talked to the editor of the Georgia Engineer magazine and the magazine has agreed to publish the dates and locations of the regular Board meetings.

Mr. Vickery reported that Mr. Little had been the guest speaker at a meeting of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) on February 22, 2005 at the Georgia Power Distribution Office in Tucker, Georgia.

Ms. Willmer reported that she had been invited to speak at the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) meeting in Warner Robins, Georgia on April 13, 2005. Mr. Waddle agreed to also attend the meeting.

Mr. Vickery reported that he would have the information on “design build” by the next Board meeting on April 12, 2005.

Ms. Willmer reported that she and Mr. Chastain met with the Governor’s staff about the Task Force recommendations. Both reported that the Governor’s staff seemed very responsive to the report submitted and indicated that funding may be available if fees were raised and data was collected to show a need for additional funding.

Ms. Willmer reported that a coalition of fifteen professional societies will meet on a regular basis with the first meeting being on March 9, 2005 to compare Georgia’s Board with neighboring states’ Boards. Mr. Sweitzer moved for the Chairman to appoint Ms. Willmer as a Board representative to the coalition. Mr. Ritter seconded. Motion carried.

Memo of Agreement with Environmental Protection Division (EPD)

Ms. Willmer reported that she had drafted a memo of agreement between the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors and the Environmental Protection Division (EPD.) Ms. Downing commented that she had looked over the agreement and had a few minor suggestions for editing. Mr. Sweitzer moved to accept the agreement when Ms. Willmer and Ms. Downing have finished editing. Mr. Waddle seconded. Motion carried.

June 2, 2005 Board Meeting in Calloway Gardens, Georgia

Chairman Vickery stated that the Board meeting for June 2, 2005 will be held in conjunction with the ACEC annual meeting in Calloway Gardens, Georgia beginning at 9:30 am. Ms. Willmer and Mr. Vickery have been invited to participate in a forum to be held on June 3, 2005 as part of the ACEC annual meeting.

Board Rule 180-3-02(b)

Ms. Willmer asked for a status report on Board Rule 180-3-02(b) regarding Experience Qualifications for Professional Engineer and Engineer-In-Training. Mr. Mickler reported that he will post this Rule and have it ready for adoption at the June 2, 2005 Board meeting.

New Business:

2006 Renewal Late Fees

Mr. Mickler asked for the Board to consider changing the late fees for renewals to be graduated over the four years of late renewal period instead of one fee covering the entire time period. He will research what options the Board may have and report back at a later date.

Board Presidents Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri

Chairman Vickery reported that he and Mr. Mickler had attended the Board Presidents Assembly in Kansas City, Missouri, February 10 – 12, 2005. Mr. Mickler has speaker's kits for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, including notebooks, tapes and videos. Mr. Vickery suggested showing the video at the June 2, 2005 Board meeting in Calloway Gardens. He said that some of the topics discussed at the three-day meeting were exam security, calculator policy, pass rates and curriculum of ABET schools.

Executive Session:

At 11:00 pm, Mr. Ritter moved for the Board to enter into Executive Session to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on complaints and investigative reports. Ms. Willmer seconded. Motion carried.

The following Board members were present during Executive Session – Chairman Vickery, Mr. Sweitzer, Mr. Dean, Ms. Willmer, Mr. Ritter, Mr. Chastain, Dr. Ransom and Mr. Waddle.

Reconvened Open Session at 3:30 pm with the following Board members present - Chairman Vickery, Mr. Sweitzer, Mr. Dean, Ms. Willmer, Mr. Ritter, Mr. Chastain and Mr. Waddle.

Investigations and Complaints:

PELS050078 – This case involved a Land Surveyor with allegations of substandard practice. Mr. Dean moved to close with no violations. Ms. Willmer seconded. Motion carried.

PELS050079 – This case involved a Land Surveyor with allegations of unprofessional conduct. Mr. Dean moved to close with no violations. Ms. Willmer seconded. Motion carried.

PELS050080 – This case involved a Professional Engineering firm with allegations of substandard practice. Mr. Ritter moved to close with no violations. Mr. Chastain seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Chastain moved to send all investigative file data on any employee of Whitfield County to the Whitfield County Sheriff. Mr. Waddle seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Ritter moved to renew the Professional Engineer's licenses of twelve registrants under Consent Order. Mr. Waddle seconded. Motion carried.

Board Memo Comity Model Law Applicants:

Applicants for registration as Professional Engineers by comity, who have an ABET engineering degree, who have taken and passed an 8-hour fundamentals of engineering (EIT/FE) exam, who have a minimum of 48 months post graduation engineering experience as determined by a staff evaluation using the present Board guidelines, who have taken and passed an 8-hour principles and practice of engineering exam (PE Exam-taken at least 4 years after BS degree), and who comply in every way with the provisions of the appropriate law are as follows:

30150 Austin, Larry K	30151 Keith, Richard K.	30152 Vandergrift, Jon R.
30155 Dodd, Joan M.	30157 Boatwright, Donald J.	30158 Mitchell, John G.
30159 Cavanagh, Terence J	30160 Walls, Richard J.	30161 Craig, Gail A.
30162 Brown, Jeffrey S	30163 Clements, Barbara B	30164 Hartley, Darrell G.
30165 Maue, Ross D.	30166 Beaver, Chris D.	30169 Wingate, William G. III
30171 Lockyear, Scott A.		

Motion was made by Mr. Dean to approve these applicants for PE registration by comity @ 43-15-16(a), via 43-15-8(1) and 43-15-9(1). The motion was seconded by Mr. Ritter. The motion carried.

Applications for Senior Applicants seeking certification as an Engineer-in-Training by Exam

Applicants for certification as Engineers-in-Training by examination who are currently enrolled as seniors in ABET approved programs in schools, colleges or universities in Georgia, who have filed with the Board five acceptable references, who have had no convictions for moral turpitude or other substantive reasons, and in every way comply with the provisions of the appropriate law(s) are as follows:

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Chance, Christopher Joel

LaHatte, Kevin Patrick

Olson, Erik David

SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Sturgess Jr., Donald Lee

Motion was made by Mr. Dean to approve these applicants for EIT certification @ 43-15-8(1) or 43-15-8(2). The motion was seconded by Mr. Ritter. The motion carried.

Reinstatements:

Mr. Ritter moved to reinstate the Professional Engineer's license of William Randall Still, PE012120. Ms. Willmer seconded. Motion carried.

There being no further business, at 4:00 pm, Mr. Waddle moved to adjourn. Mr. Dean seconded. Motion carried. The Board members remained to review applications until they were finished.

Board Chairman

Division Director

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