

**MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**Date:** December 14, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Place:** 1100 N. Eutaw Street  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
Access Using Video Conferencing  
Meet.google.com/ipm-pxny-hej  
Phone: 1-484-416-2276  
PIN: 201 307 165#

**Present:** Sallye Perrin, P.E., Chairman  
Howard (Skip) Harclerode, P.E., Vice Chairman  
Edward Hubner, Secretary, P.E.  
Pastor Farinas, P.E.  
Karl Rickert, P.E.  
Dhrubajyoti Biswas, P.E.  
Judi Miller, R.A.

**Others Present:** Zevi Thomas, Executive Director  
Matthew Venuti, AAG, Board Counsel  
Ruby Courtney, Board Administrator  
Dorian Price, Administrative Specialist  
Dara Moore, Audit Specialist  
Bob Frances  
Annaliese Long  
Killian Baptiste

**Absent:** None

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board Chair, Ms. Perrin, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

Motion (I) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Hubner and unanimously carried to approve 25 applications for reciprocity and 19 applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination and to deny one application for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam due to insufficient engineering work experience. The same motion requested additional information from three exam applicants and one Transfer of Grades applicant.

**Applications for PE Licensure by Reciprocity are as follows:**

Alim, MD Rafid (54822)	Khader, Syed Adnan (62126)
Amini, Amin (62114)	Mertsching, Gerry C. (62127)
Ashfaqque, Khandaker (62115)	Nallapaneni, Prasad A. (62128)
Barigeda, Sriram (62116)	Newsome, Andrew S. (38941)
Bowens, Mayauda L. (62117)	Nguyen, Hoa X. (62129)
Bowers, Kirk A. (62118)	Sanei, Mohammad Fard (62130)
Bryant, Marty D. (62119)	Sedighi, Mahmoud (62131)
Byers Jr., Kenneth G. (62120)	Shi, Lijun (62132)
Cao. Yang (62121)	Siraj, Nasir B. (62133)
Feng, Dehua (62122)	Wassef, Mena M. 62134)
Francis, Mark D. (62123)	Yadav, Deependra P. (62135)
Gygi, Susan (62124)	Zendek, John J. (62136)
Hemida, Mohamed (62125)	

**Applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination are as follows:**

Adams, Gareth	Harris, Helena
Aspito, Jonathan A.	Kim, Joshua N.
Behzad, Burhanuddin	Krasnoff, Gregory R.
Belay, Mengistu B.	Long, Annaliese M.
Dunn, Meridith R.	Mercado, Dario G.
Everd, Julie	Mutombo, Isaya
Fessahaie, Henok R.	O’Grady, Andrew R.
Fiasco, Karen M.	Aususi Slimankhel, Shir Khan
Giordano, Caroline D.	Tejur Solmashekarai, Nagaraj
Goodson, Zoe	

**ACTION ON MINUTES**

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Rickert, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2023 Board meeting as submitted.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Report of the November 9, 2023 Joint Chairs Meeting**

The Board Chair shared the budget report from the Joint Chairs meeting with the Board and stated there is a surplus of \$259K and explained that there will be a much smaller surplus with

the increased rent once the Department moves to the new location. She also noted that parking would be more expensive. Mr. Thomas noted that the projected 2024 expenses are equal to our current revenue. Mr. Hubner requested the residual balances from previous years noting that the net surplus did not start at zero dollars.

The Board Chair was curious what item #8 (Contract) on the budget report referred to and asked Mr. Thomas to look into this item and report at the January 11, 2024 Board meeting. Ms. Miller mentioned the length of time some of the complaints stayed on the Complaint Committee Report still under investigation. Mr. Thomas explained that the Board shares an investigator with other Boards. The Board Chair asked Mr. Thomas to check into the resources available to get another investigator specifically for the Design Boards.

### **Acceptable Course-By-Course Evaluations**

This issue will be discussed at the January 11, 2023 Board meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Overlapping Practice Guide (MD State Architect's Board Handbook for Code Officials)**

Mr. Hubner reviewed the MD State Architect's Board Handbook for Code Officials and felt that there is nothing that the Professional Engineers Board needs to add.

#### **Structure Magazine Article – Signing and Sealing Rules Survey**

The Board Chair found many of the questions in this survey were detailed and requested the Board's opinion on the responses. The Board Counsel considered that this survey is a request for legal advice. Mr. Rickert suggested that a letter be sent to them with a reference to our regulations. The Board Chair asked Ms. Courtney to respond by sending a letter referring them to the Board's laws and regulations.

#### **Approved CPC Providers**

Mr. Thomas will present this issue to the Board at the January 11, 2024 Board meeting.

### **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY (CPC) COMMITTEE REPORT**

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Hubner, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the CPC Provider application of Gillespie Precast.

### **REPORT FROM ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Harclerode stated he is working on the case studies and was asked by the Board to present those at the January 2024 Board meeting.

### **REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Thomas reported the NCEES Regional meeting is being held in Washington, DC from May 2-4, 2024 and inquired which Board members would like to be the Council's funded delegates this year. He also mentioned that the new Board members could be funded by NCEES. It was decided that Mr. Rickert, Mr. Harclerode and Mr. Farinas would be funded by NCEES and Mr. Hubner agreed to be funded by the State.

Mr. Thomas also mentioned the NCEES Annual meeting is being held in Chicago in mid-August 2024.

Mr. Thomas reported that the fee increases have been submitted to the Secretary's office.

The Board Chair asked if there is going to be parking for Board members at the new location and Mr. Harclerode asked about possibly obtaining State ID for Board members to avoid going through the security protocol. Mr. Thomas noted that there are Federal agencies in the new building which will probably lead to more security than our current location and that the issue of State ID's for Board members has been previously discussed with the Office of the Commissioner and Secretary's Office with no success.

#### **REPORT FROM BOARD COUNSEL**

Mr. Venuti reported that the fee increases are under review and should come back to the Board for final approval around March 2024.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

See above (Structure Magazine Article – Signing and Sealing Rules Survey)

#### **APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR RECIPROCITY**

There were 84 applications, supported by NCEES Model Law Engineer records that were administratively approved for licensure.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion (IV) was made by Mr. Rickert, seconded by Mr. Farinas and unanimously carried to enter Executive Session at 10:01 a.m. at Meet google.com/ipm-pxny-hej or by phone 1-484-416-2276 (PIN 201 307 165#). This session was permitted to be closed pursuant to General Provisions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, §3-305(b) (7). Upon completion of the session, the Board reconvened its public meeting at 10:20 a.m.

#### **COMPLAINT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Hubner reported on the status of complaints discussed by the Complaint Committee December 14, 2023

14-PE-23 Consent Order signed and fine paid. Recommend Close  
21-PE-23 Still under investigation

- 26-PE-23 Still under investigation
- 32-PE-23 Consent Order signed. Agreed to surrender license. Recommend Close
- 34-PE-23 Response received. Investigating
- 39-PE-23 Investigating
- 03-PE-24 In litigation. Declined to investigate
- 04-PE-24 New Complaint – Third party inspection.
- 09-PE-24 New Complaint – Confirm if this is ongoing litigation
- 45-PE-23 Complainant requested to put the case on hold.

Mr. Hubner reported on the status of complaints that are only on the report of pre-charge review:

- 13-PE-23 Remain on report as pre-charge for tracking purposes only
- 23-PE-23 Remain on report as pre-charge for tracking purposes only
- 24-PE-23 Remain on report as pre-charge for tracking purposes only
- 28-PE-23 Remain on report as pre-charge for tracking purposes only
- 29-PE-23 Remain on report as pre-charge for tracking purposes only
- 06-PE-24 Consent Order and Settlement Agreement Executed 07-PE-24 Remain on report as pre-charge for tracking purposes only
- 08-PE-24 Remain on report as pre-charge for tracking purposes only
- 10-PE-24 Remain on report as pre-charge for tracking purposes only

The Complaint Committee discussed the reinstatement of an application for reinstatement with a conduct issue. The Complaint Committee recommended approving this applicant since the licensee remains in good standing in the other jurisdictions. .

Motion (V) was made by Mr. Harclerode, seconded by Mr. Farinas, and unanimously carried to accept the recommendations of the Complaint Committee.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Farinas mentioned that since the Board has nominated him for an award, he reached out to NCEES and was provided with a listing of all the Committees he has served on. Mr. Harclerode stated he must recuse himself since he is on the NCEES Awards Committee.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2024 and may be virtual only depending upon the building HVAC system. The Board Chair stated she will be in TX at the NCEES Education Committee meeting.

Ms. Miller asked about the time for the Complaint Committee meetings in the future. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the Complaint Committee will return to its regular time, 8:30 a.m. It was also determined that the Board meeting would return to the usual time of 9:30 a.m.

The Board Chair inquired about getting another consumer Board member. Mr. Thomas informed the Board that the opening has been advertised but there is no update yet.

