# MEETING MINUTES

**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**Date:** April 11, 2024

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

**Place:** 1100 N. Eutaw Street Baltimore, MD 21201

Access Using Video Conferencing Meet..google.com/ipm-pxny-hej Phone:

PIN:

**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 Judi Miller, R.A.

Dhrubajyoti (DJ) Biswas, PE

**Others** Zevi Thomas, Executive Director

**Present:** John Dove, Commissioner, O&P

Sarah McDermott, Assistant Commissioner, O&P Matthew Venuti, AAG, Board Counsel

Dara Moore, Audit Specialist Hannah Belcher, Office Secretary Dorian Price, Office Secretary

**Absent:** Ruby Courtney, PE Board Operations Officer

# CALL TO ORDER

The Board Chair, Ms. Perrin, called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

The Executive Director, Mr. Thomas, requested to move his director’s report to the top of the meeting agenda to obtain a fiscal update from the Office of Administration. The Board Chair agreed to move the Report from the Executive Director following the vote to approve the March 2024 meeting minutes.

# REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Thomas subsequently ceded his executive director’s report time to Commissioner Dove and Assistant Commissioner McDermott to share a brief overview of the board’s budget.

Commissioner Dove stated that the individual Boards or Commissions within the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing aim to maintain a reserve of at least one-third of their operations budget. The projected increase in legal costs, and salaries/ wage increases make these fee increases necessary. The Office of the Commissioner also anticipates higher operational costs once the Division relocates to its new location in downtown Baltimore. The Board chair, Ms. Perrin, inquired how the reserved funds had performed over time. Commissioner Dove stated that he did not have those figures on hand but would work with the Office of Administration to produce this data in time for the next Board meeting for the Board's consideration before holding a vote for the fee increase.

Mr. Thomas clarified that the PE Board expenses include expenses incurred for services provided by other units within the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing Division, such as the call center, mailroom services, and investigative service, just to mention a few.

The Assistant Commissioner, Ms. McDermott mentioned that the State is projected to raise salaries. The Board chair stated that she is not against the salary raise or the fee increases, she would like to see the figures first before having the board vote on this decision.

The Board agreed to table this discussion until additional budgetary figures are presented during the next Board meeting.

# EXECUTIVE REPORT Cont.

Mr. Thomas shared with the U.S HOUSE RES. 96, which expresses support for the licensure of design professionals given the importance and implication of licensed professionals in protecting public health, safety, and welfare. RES 96 was brought to our attention by colleagues from the Maryland Society of Surveyors (MSS).

# APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Motion (II) was made by The Chair, seconded by Mr. Harclerode, and unanimously carried to approve 20 applications for PE licensure by reciprocity.

# APPLICATION FOR PE LICENSURE BY RECIPROCITY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ALAVI, SIROUS H. (62768) MCARDLE, CHRISTOPHER (62776)

AVEDESIAN, DAVID A. (62769) NARDY, MARK F. (62777) BALACHANDRAN, NANDU (62770) NAVARRO, JUAN (62778) BALTZER, KARSTEN (62739) PINTIUTA, LAVINIA M. (62779)

DHARMARAJ, VIVEK (62771) SAYED, RAMEZ (62780)

HOLLAND, MARCUS (62772) STEWART, RICHARD (62781)

HUANG, YEE (62773) THOMAS, WHITNEY (62782) KANELLIS, GREGORY P. (62741) XIE, ZHAOXING (62784) MAGSAM, KENNETH J. (62774) YANG, ZEYU (62783)

MAO, SHAOHUI (62775) ZHU, GANG (62785)

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Harclerode, seconded by Mr. Biswas, and was unanimously carried to approve two applications for PE licensure by Transfer of Grades and 6 applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam and to hold this decision.

# APPLICATION FOR PE LICENSURE BY TRANSFER OF GRADES:

MAN LIANG (18287) ATOLAGBE, BABATUNDE (18279)

**APPLICATION FOR PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING EXAMINATION:**

ALI, DHARGHAM (17388) EVANS, DANIEL J. (18261) GETANEH, SHRIELIS T. (18274) FARZAMPOUR, ALIREZA (18294) BARRETO VALE, CESAR (18199) TOPUZ, SENGUL (18246)

OKAI, NAOKI (18211) HENNINGER, EDWARD J. (18273)

WARD, PATRICK (17706) MCKNIGHT, NICHOLAS (18096)

# NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Hubner mentioned he met with the NCEES Finance Committee in Kansas City. He also mentioned that he will be presenting at the NCEES annual meeting in Chicago, IL, later this summer.

# Approved CPC Providers

None

# REPORT FROM THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Hubner is working with a member of his staff to update the final draft of the ethics course.

# REPORT FROM BOARD COUNSEL

Mr. Venuti reported that the proposed bill to amend the number of years of professional experience to qualify for board service was ratified from 12 to 10 years.

Counsel also shared that there are proposals to replace the traditional 10-year sunset extension for boards and commissions with a more frequent legislative report, possibly every 4 years.

# CORRESPONDENCE

None

# APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR RECIPROCITY

There were 89 applications, supported by NCEES Model Law Engineer records that were administratively approved for licensure.

# EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion (IV) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Ms. Miller, and unanimously carried to enter Executive Session at 10:24 a.m. 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 10:36 a.m.

# COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

Mr. Rickert shared the Complaint Committee report. Committee April 2024.

21-PE-23 Investigating 26-PE-23 Investigating

44-PE-23 Case of incompetence.

39-PE-23 Committee needs more information 03-PE-24 Investigating

04-PE-24 Investigating 09-PE-24 Closed 05\_PE-24 Closed

13-PE-24 Unlicensed practice, preparing consent order

# OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2024

Board Chair, Ms. Perrin will confirm if she will be in attendance next meeting.

# ADJOURNMENT

Motion (V) was made by Chair Perrin, seconded by Mr. Farinas, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 am.

x With Corrections Without Corrections

Signed by: Date:

- Signature on file -

5/10/2024

H.C. Harclerode

Board Vice Chair