

## **Maryland Board of Architects Business Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** April 23, 2025

**TIME:** 11:00 AM

**LOCATION:** 100 S. Charles Street  
Tower 1, Suite 3300  
Baltimore, MD 21201

**Video conferencing via:** [meet.google.com/jzf-hyjn-wcx](https://meet.google.com/jzf-hyjn-wcx)

**By Phone:** (US) +1 470-228-0070 PIN: 831 936 121#

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair  
Paul Edmeades  
Mark Flemming, Architect  
Douglas Polt, Architect  
Casey Dawkins, Consumer Member  
Gretel Lott, Consumer Member

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kevin Sneed, Architect

**STAFF PRESENT:** Zevi Thomas, Executive Director  
Raquel Meyers, Assistant Executive Director  
Matthew Venuti, Board Counsel  
Noraida Lozano, Board Administrator  
Shavon Cooper, PE Board Administrator

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John Corkill, Architect

### **Call to Order**

Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair, called the Business Meeting of the Maryland Board of Architects to order at 11:02 a.m., virtually via [meet.google.com/jzf-hyjn-wcx](https://meet.google.com/jzf-hyjn-wcx), (US) +1 470-228-0070 PIN: 831 936 121#.

### **Approval of Minutes**

zevi.thomas@maryland.gov | 410-230-6262 | www.labor.maryland.gov

WES MOORE, GOVERNOR | ARUNA MILLER, LT. GOVERNOR | PORTIA WU, SECRETARY

The members reviewed the minutes of the Business Meeting held on March 26, 2025. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Ms. Lott, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes with corrections.

## **Complaint Committee Report**

Mr. Flemming presented the following report on behalf of the Complaint Committee:

**03-AR-25** - Pending at the OAH for actions.

**05-AR-25** - Received a letter and under review.

**06-AR-25** - Verifying corrective actions in response to the letter.

**07-AR-25** - Verifying corrective actions in response to the letter.

**09-AR-25** - Opened and a letter from the Board was being sent to the respondent.

**10-AR-25** - Opened and awaiting response from the respondent.

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Ms. Lott, and carried by the Board to accept the Complaint Committee Report.

## **Review of Applications**

### **Applications for Architectural Registration Exam (A. R. E.)**

Mr. Edmeades presented the report for the Architectural Registration Exam (A.R.E.) and reciprocity applications.

There were **four (4)** A.R.E. applications administratively approved:

**BATES, Emmanuel**  
**BROWN, Ashtin**

**KULIK, Chris**  
**SMITH, Zachary**

There were **four (4)** ARE applications approved by the Board:

**BANERJEE, Pradipta**  
**BLYE, Dylan**

**GUZMAN-NOBOA, Nicole**  
**SMITH, William**

### **Applications for Reciprocity**

There were **two (2)** reciprocal applications approved by the Board.

**DEDMON, Brandon Allen**

**KATHURIA, Hermeet**

Mr. Edmeades suggested that for reciprocal applications under NCARB's Buff Cover, it would be best to instruct applicants to include their education and work history, which could help streamline the process for candidates in this category. Mr. Thomas agreed.

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Polt, seconded by Ms. Lott, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve **eight (8)** A.R.E. applications and **two (2)** applications for reciprocity.

## **Old Business**

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Pathways to Licensure (DEI) Forum**

Mr. Dawkins reported that the Licensure Forum held at Anne Arundel Community College on April 17, 2025, was successful. He confirmed that their next host for the event will be Montgomery College. Ms. Shonaiya mentioned that she attended the forum. Mr. Edmeades and Mr. Sneed were also in attendance. She encouraged the other Board members to join future outreach events.

#### **Legislative Task Force**

Mr. Venuti presented the proposed changes to Maryland Law and Regulations for the 2026 Legislative Session. The Board modified the text under §3-303 (c)(1), (2), (3) that describe the applicant's qualifications for licensure. Ms. Shonaiya recommended discussing the item under §3-202(1) (regarding the number of Board members required to have a NAAB degree) at the next meeting.

#### **Outreach Opportunity**

Ms. Shonaiya confirmed that the AIA Maryland Future Forward Conference would be held on May 8, 2025, in Annapolis, Maryland. Newly licensed architects of Maryland will also be recognized during this event. The AIA Maryland Executive Director is in contact with Mr. Thomas and in the process of distributing invitations to the licensees. An update will be reported at the next meeting.

#### **License Verification Task Force**

Mr. Venuti reported that he was in communication with Montgomery County and Anne Arundel County to gather some information about the License Verification Task Force. He aims to have the Task Force meeting in May. The Task Force members are Mr. Flemming, Ms. Judy Miller, RA (PE Board), and TJ Frazier, Chairman of the Land Surveyors Board.

#### **NCARB Meetings 2025**

Ms. Shonaiya confirmed her attendance at the NCARB Annual Business Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona, on June 19-21, 2025. The following members also confirmed their attendance:

Lott	Yes
Thomas	Yes
Sneed	Confirmed by Ms. Shonaiya
Edmeades	Yes

Polt            Yes

Mr. Edmeades followed up on the state funding with Mr. Thomas. The Board will be notified as soon as Mr. Thomas confirms the approval of the state funding before they register for the Annual Business Meeting.

Ms. Shonaiya encouraged the Board to be on the lookout, for an email from NCARB with the list of candidates and the final copy of the resolutions to be discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Edmeades recommended George Miller of New York Board for the position of NCARB Secretary/Treasurer. Ms. Shonaiya agreed.

**New Business - None**

**Correspondence - None**

**Executive Director’s Report**

Mr. Thomas reported that he had a meeting with the Washington DC Department of Building Authorities. He informed the Board that the District DOB did implement an automated verification system. The DOB spearheaded this process not the District’s Board of Architect. This process also incorporates random reviews of expeditors requiring an in-person meeting to confirm that the interments of the service correspond to the appropriate licensee. The information will be shared with the License Verification Task Force since Mr. Thomas himself is also part of these committee meetings.

He reminded the Board that the annual financial disclosure is due to the Ethics commission by April 30, 2025.

Finally, he introduced Ms. Shavon Cooper, a new staff member who will serve as the board administrator for the State PE Board.

**Board Counsel’s Report**

Mr. Venuti announced that the Legislative Session ended on April 7, 2025. There is no specific legislation that would directly impact the MD Board of Architects. The Maryland Society of Professional Engineers proposed a legislative bill that would now require all candidates to pass both the Fundamentals and the Principles of Practice Engineering.

The proposed Maryland Law and Regulations deadline for submission would be October 2025.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Motion (VI) was made by Mr. Edmeades, seconded by Mr. Flemming, and unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

The next Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at 11:00 am.

  X   With Corrections                   Without Corrections

(Signature on File)

05/25/2028

**Cynthia Shonaiya, Chair**

**Date**