

**MINUTES
BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

Date: March 12, 2020

Place: 3rd Floor Conference Room
500 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Present: David G. Mongan, P.E, Chairman
Karl Rickert, P.E, Vice Chairman
Sallye E. Perrin, P.E., Secretary
Pastor Farinas, P.E
Steven A. Arndt, Ph.D., P.E.
Sandra Murphy
Justin Williams, Esq.

Others Present: Joseph Cullingford, Executive Director
Milena Trust, AAG, Counsel to the Board
Ruby Courtney, Board Administrator
Frazier West, Investigator
Parham Safarian Bahri

Absent: Howard C. Harclerode, P.E.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mongan called the meeting to order at 9:44 a.m.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Motion (I) was made by Mr. Farinas seconded by Mr. Rickert and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes of January 9, 2020 Board meeting with corrections

APPLICATIONS APPROVED FOR RECIPROCITY

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Rickert, seconded by Ms. Perrin, and unanimously carried to approve 54 applications for reciprocity. Approvals are as follows:

55765 Ama O. Addai	55770 Hany A. Bakheat
55766 MHD Anass Alakhrass	55771 Kaveripatinam V. Balasubramanyam
55767 John F. Amatetti	55772 Craig M. Benedict
55768 Parham Safarian Bahri	55773 Brian C. Bonner
55769 Tyler L. Bailey	55774 Kenzie Cambar

APPLICATIONS APPROVED FOR RECIPROCITY (Cont'd)

55775 Edward G. Drahos	55798 Ed Najjarine
55776 Rebecca Eiranova	55799 Arvind Narayanan
55777 Olga Filicheva	55800 Randy L. Osborne
55778 Yousef Ghaffari	39867 Ionel Petrus
55779 Meiwen Guo	55801 Nathan M. Porter
55780 John P. Harrison	55802 Wisam Rabeea
55781 Brett J. Heim	55803 Paul L. Raadt
55782 Douglas H. Humme	55804 Kundan S. risal
55783 J'Que C. Jones	55805 James M. Ruedlinger
55784 Christopher V. Kamar	55806 Rosy E. Rios
55785 Adil A. Keceli	55807 Mitchell J. Sklar
55786 Francisco R. Klein	55808 Barry N. Sladek
55787 Sara Lajoie	55809 Monica L. Smeal
55793 Lyle C. Lankford	55810 John A. Stanfield
55788 Michael Lapilusa	55811 Anthony J. Steffee
55789 Zhong Dong Li	55812 David W. Steward
55790 Charles M. Longenberger	55813 Thomas R. Stringer
55794 Chavonnia T. Martin	55814 Jason M. Taylor
55795 William J. Martin	55815 Ahmet Emre Toprak
55796 Brian F. McGuinness	55816 Dany Tremblay
49864 Drew Mundt	55817 Toan N. Vo
55797 Justin M. Mundy	55818 Stephen J. Welsh

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Arndt, and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session at 9:55 a.m. at 500 North Calvert Street, 3rd Floor Conference Room, Baltimore, Maryland, 21202. 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 10:41 a.m.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE - None

CONDUCT – None

APPEARANCE OF APPLICANT FOR PE LICENSURE BY RECIPROCITY

Parham S. Bahri appeared before the Board to discuss his application for PE licensure by reciprocity. He is currently licensed in Texas. His BS degree in Civil Engineering was evaluated by NCEES and was found to be deficient in the area of basic sciences. He needed a course in Biology or Chemistry for his degree to meet the NCEES Education Standard. He also has an MS in Civil Engineering from Southern Illinois University.

Mr. Bahri informed the Board that he had taken both chemistry and biology in high school. The Board used his MS degree as his qualifying degree. Ms. Perrin recommended that the Board approve his application, based on his overall education and experience.

Motion (IV) was made by Ms. Perrin, seconded by Mr. Farinas, and unanimously carried to use Mr. Bahri undergraduate courses as experience which allowed the Board to approve his application for PE licensure by reciprocity.

APPEARANCE OF PE EXAM APPLICANT – No Show

NEW BUSINESS

Correction to Licensing Record

A licensee requested a verification of licensure and exams to be sent to NCEES. The licensee was issued a PE license on April 21, 1998. The licensee has renewed his license timely since that date and the license will expire on September 14, 2021.

When staff began to process the verification it was found there was no basis for licensure in the record so the licensing file was ordered from the archives in Annapolis. The file could not be located. Staff searched the old exam rosters and could only find a record of a failed exam. Staff also reached out to NCEES to see if they had a record of a passed exam but NCEES only had records of exams for approximately the past 10 years.

Mr. Arndt informed the Board that back then examinees received a raw and a converted test score. The Board had the authority to issue a license based upon an interview with the examinee. After much discussion the Board decided the verification should be processed. The verification will include the test scores the exam roster reflected along with an explanation. The licensee will continue to be licensed. Ms. Trust agreed to draft a letter to accompany the verification.

NCEES Proposed Bylaw Changes - Tabled until next meeting

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Trust stated that Chairman Mongan and the Secretary of the Department, Tiffany Robinson did an excellent job explaining the proposed bill which did pass the Senate with the term “Progressive Work Experience” being removed. Ms. Trust also stated the House is very familiar with the issues and she is hopeful the bill will pass.

Ms. Trust mentioned PG County put forth legislation that construction alterations under \$50K would not need a licensed Architect to sign off. Currently the exemption is \$5K. Ms. Trust also informed the Board that the proposed legislation regarding a sales tax on professional services is no longer moving forward.

Chairman Mongan asked if a copy of the letter from Joint Chairs regarding sub-division plats was available. Ms. Trust will check for the letter.

Emeritus Status v. Retired Status

At the June 20, 2014 board meeting the Board discussed an email from Harry Conway, inquiring why retired Architects are titled “Emeritus” but retired Engineers are titled “Professional Engineer, Retired”. At that time the Board made a decision to change the wording from Retired to Emeritus when regulations are drafted to increase fees. Since regulations were never drafted to increase fees that process never happened.

Mr. Conway again reached out to the Board in February 2020 by phone to ask why this never happened. Ms. Trust stated both terms are synonymous and the Board decided that a change was not necessary.

REPORT FROM EDUCATION COMMITTEE - None

REPORT FROM ETHICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Cullingford will reach out to the Maryland Society of Professional Engineers for their input for a Board sponsored ethics course.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Cullingford reminded the Board that they needed to complete their Annual Disclosure Reports. Mr. Cullingford mentioned in anticipation of the Corona Virus he was putting procedures in place for staff to telework from home to maintain continuity with the processing of applications. He asked that all Board members who do not have a Gmail account to establish one and that all Board members inform him of their Gmail address. Mr. Cullingford noted that the State is currently using google suite for operations and having the Gmail account would make it easier for him to collaborate with board members.

Using the monitors in the Board room Mr. Cullingford demonstrated how he was going to use Google Drive to send applications to the Boards for review. Ms. Perrin said it would be helpful to review exam applications closer to the deadline to avoid coming into the office. Mr. Arndt asked if the Board members were going to be issued a maryland.gov email address. Mr. Cullingford stated he has already asked that question and will ask again. Mr. Cullingford also asked that each Board member update their contact information.

Mr. Cullngford informed the Board that the State has cancelled all out of state non-emergency travel and that he thinks NCEES will make a decision shortly regarding their meetings.

Legislative Update

Ms. Trust stated the Governor has the authority to suspend laws and regulations. She anticipated that he would likely suspend renewals to aid licensees who cannot renew or complete their continuing education on time. She also mentioned that the Open Meetings Act does allow for teleconferencing for the purpose of obtaining a quorum. Ms. Trust also mentioned that requests for information, under the Public Information Act, may not be able to be complied with in a timely manner and that things will be different for about two months and maybe even longer.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board received a letter from the Massachusetts Board of Professional Engineers endorsing the candidacy of Paul J. Tyrell, PE, PLS for Treasurer Elect of NCEES. Mr. Arndt mentioned he is considering running for treasurer as well.

Motion (V) was made by Ms. Perrin, seconded by Mr. Farinas and unanimously carried to nominate Mr. Arndt for Treasure Elect of NCEES.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR RECIPROCITY

There was a total of 129 applications, supported by NCEES Model Law Engineer records that were administratively approved for licensure. The breakdown by month is:

APPLICATIONS APPROVED FOR THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING EXAMINATION

James M. Bailey	Azim Karimi
Yonas A. Barkie	Edward Kovar
Daniel R. Barrett	Joshua E. Krebs
Julia Carroll	Charu Malhotra
Kenneith Choi	Arvin-Jester Manalaysay
Alicia N. Cooley	Pamela Mann
Mishuk Datta	Carla Moreno Cortes
Marcus Davis	Brenden T. Murphy
Brandon C. Fobeteh	Rebecca Oaks
Steven D. Halls	Joseph Patterson
Danielle M. Hankins	Elnaz Peyghaleh
John M. Harten	Jing Ping
Peter Hooper	Akbar Pirmoz
Johny Kalim	Dawn Kathryn Jo M. Reyes
Ahmad Karim	Rebecca R. Saduk
Matthew M. Karim	Siju Sebastian

