## MEETING MINUTES BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

**Date:** May 8, 2025

**Time:** 9:45 a.m.

**Place:** Access Using Video Conferencing

Meet.google.com/ipm-pxny-hej

Phone: 1-484-416-2276 PIN: 201 307 165#

**Present:** Sallye Perrin, P.E., Chair

Howard (Skip) Harclerode, P.E., Vice Chair

Edward Hubner, Secretary, P.E.

Karl Rickert, P.E.

Dhrubajyoti Biswas, P.E. Judi Miller, R.A., Consumer Tracey Clark, Consumer

Staff

**Present:** Zevi Thomas, Executive Director

Raquel Meyers, Assistant Executive Director

Matthew Venuti, AAG, Board Counsel Shavon Cooper, Board Operations Officer II Dorian Price, Administrative Specialist Hannah Belcher, Administrative Specialist

**Others** 

**Present:** John Dove, Jr, Commissioner, Occupational & Professional Licensing

**Absent:** None

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair, Sallye Perrin called the meeting to order at 9:49 a.m.

## **Review of Reciprocity and Exam Applications**

Ms. Perrin reviewed the reciprocal applications submitted. She proposed that all applications be approved. Mr. Biswas stated that one Civil application "needs more information". Mr. Hubner stated there was also one electrical exam application that "needs more information." Mr. Hubner stated there were no chemical applications to be reviewed. Ms. Perrin called a Motion (I) for approval for all reciprocal applications to be approved. Mr. Hubner moved, seconded by Ms.

Miller and unanimously carried to approve all reciprocity applications. Ms. Perrin called Motion (II) for denial of the exam applications, Mr. Hubner moved and seconded by Mr. Biswas, these denials were unanimously carried. Mr. Hubner stated the applicant failed the Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam three times and must present evidence of additional education and/or experience to the Board. Ms. Perrin suggested that instead of denying this applicant, the Board should include it in the "needs more information" category. Mr. Hubner agreed, stating this letter should include: ".... because this applicant failed the Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam multiple times, the Board is requesting the applicant send documentation demonstrating additional education and/or experience to the Board. Ms. Perrin then stated the denied application will be moved to a "needs more information" category. She requested that the staff working with the Maryland Board for Professional Engineers draft a letter to be sent to this applicant. Mr. Thomas confirmed that a draft letter will be sent to Mr. Hubner for review.

#### APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Motion (III) was made by Ms. Perrin, seconded by Ms. Miller, and unanimously carried to approve 28 applications for PE licensure by reciprocity and 16 applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam.

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

Alim, Hafizul (64887)
Al-Zoubi, Nasser R (64886)
Baer, Clark S (64888)
Ballweg, Brent P (64889)
Duren, Jared T (64891)
Early, John J (64892)
Ethier, Michael J (64893)
Ferdowsian, Espanta (64895)
Gettings, Michael J (64896)
Ghiasi, Amir (64897)
Gu, Xiaojun (64898)
Guarisma, Alonso J (64899)

Hill, Timothy A (64900)

Hoover, Michael A (64901)

Hudson, Jr., John T (64902)

Karunarathna M., Gayani S. G (64903) Dillon, Jeffrey M (64890) Makhmalbaf, Mohammad Hady (64904) McDermott, Nicole F (49865) Mukherjee, Amlan (64905) Naikkhua, Mohammad Ehsan (64906) Fairless, Bruce W (64894) Nichols, Jeffrey R (64907) Szarlej, Tomasz (64908) Tamimi, Suffian H (64909) Thakre, Gayatri (64910) Verobish, Donald R (64911)

Vig, Kashish Harish (64912)

## Applications for PE Licensure by Transfer of Grades are as follows:

Hollida, Mark S Kirkwood, Kerry R

## Applications for the Principles and Practices of Engineering Exam are as follows:

Aghajanian, Benjamin G Aqeel, Hashmatullah Bohn, Mitchel S Bowie, Tyler Carlson, Alexander B Comisac, Morgan Cui, Naizhong Durrett, Qwyn, M Guzman, Fredy A Humphrey, Shahn Hung, Stephen C Lorentson, Joshua D Margulis, Andrew McCoy, Shannon E Shayegh, Shiva N Sieber, Eric J

There are two Applications in the "Needs More Information" folder.

Beauchamp, Gary

Keene, Nicholas

There are 3 Applications that were "Denied"

Ottomaniello, Nicholas J Lucernoni, Anthony Winning, Erika L.

#### **ACTION ON MINUTES**

After review, Ms. Perrin called Motion (IV) to edit the April 9, 2025, meeting minutes. Motion moved by Mr. Hubner, seconded by Mr. Biswas, and unanimously carried to approve the meeting minutes with edits.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

# Follow up on The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Annual Meeting

Ms. Perrin inquired of Mr. Thomas which Board members were state funded. Mr. Thomas explained that Mr. Hubner, Mr. Biswas, and Ms. Miller are funded through the council (NCEES). Mr. Thomas confirmed that the NCEES registration link will be issued directly from NCEES to those being funded by the council around mid-May. Ms. Perrin asked about the date of the annual meeting. Mr. Rickert confirmed that the meeting will take place August 19-22, 2025, in New Orleans, LA.

#### **NE Zone Meeting Report**

Ms. Perrin stated that the Education Committee will remove the general education requirements from the credential's evaluation. Discussion about the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC) degrees will continue during the annual business meeting. Ms. Perrin also confirmed the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) is moving forward with an initiative for varying pathways for licensure. Mr. Hubner mentioned the finance committee discussed the overall cash-on-hand reserves. The aim is to move excess cash to the recently established foundation. There was a discussion about spending 4% of the balance, plus contributions. Mr. Thomas shared that the Member Boards Administrators (MBA) meeting, where they discussed the inconsistent continuing education requirements across the various jurisdictions.

## **Implementation of New Legislation**

Mr. Venuti stated that the Governor is scheduled to sign SB529, which will require all applicants, including those under subsection 14-305(d) to complete the Fundamental of Engineering (FE) Exam. All prospective applicants must receive proper notice of this new law.

Ms. Perrin asked when the Board staff would stop accepting applications without the FE exam. Mr. Thomas stated that the law goes into effect on October 1, 2025. According to the administrative policy, applications need to be completed within 60 days. Ms. Perrin confirmed that since Mr. Thomas proposed 60 days instead of 90 days. All documents must be submitted within 60 days. Mr. Thomas also stated that an email blast to all licensees and related professional associations will be scheduled soon, in addition to a post on the Department of Labor's PE webpage. Mr. Rickert proposed that the last day to apply under option D should be September 30th at 11:59 PM. Ms. Perrin called Motion (V), seconded by Mr. Hubner, unanimously approved with no opposition. Motion carries.

## Follow up on NCEES Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with the United Kingdom

Mr. Thomas confirmed that NCEES will confirm that requirements are met before issuing reciprocity requests to the various jurisdictions. Ms. Perrin and Mr. Rickert asked Mr. Thomas to contact NCEES to see which documents are approved. Mr. Thomas agreed.

#### **UPDATE FROM CPC COMMITTEE**

Mr. Biswas will take on the CPC Committee and will confer with Mr. Farinas on procedures. Mr. Thomas stated he will meet with Mr. Biswas to discuss these procedures.

#### **UPDATE FROM ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Rickert recommended eliminating the third-party subscription for the Maryland Professional Engineers Ethics and Law Exam. Mr. Thomas announced that the Board currently has a full year remaining on the current subscription and asked if the Board would consider other options, such as other subscriptions or in-house options. Mr. Rickert suggested to use the in-house subscription, if no subscription cost applied.

## REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Thomas reported on establishing a transition procedure for implementing the new law related to Subsection 14-305(d) requiring the FE exam. He confirmed his other report on the new legislation has already been discussed during this meeting.

## REPORT FROM BOARD COUNSEL

Mr. Venuti reported on changes regarding Subsection 14-305(d). The session ended with the General Assembly in April. Any proposed changes to the statute are due by June 1, 2025. Mr. Thomas proposed that the Board consider an amendment to the three attempts to pass the PE exam. The Board no longer hosts the exam, and this policy may not achieve the intended purpose. Mr. Thomas stated that exam candidates can only register for three exam attempts per year with NCEES. Ms. Perrin requested Mr. Thomas to inquire from NCEES about this matter and report at next month's meeting.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Perrin confirmed she reviewed the correspondence. After reviewing, she stated that if the engineer has pre-manufactured plans/designs, the engineer must get a Maryland registered PE to stamp and retain the ability to modify said drawings, if necessary. Mr. Rickert confirmed that the engineer of record must have the ability to modify plans. The PE must refer to the Maryland law

governing the practice of engineering. Mr. Hubner reminded the Board that there was a previous conversation regarding a similar scenario and that this letter should be sent to the engineer posing this question. Mr. Thomas confirmed this, stating the letter mentions responsible charge, different scenarios, and regulations. He will make the appropriate amendments and share this letter for review before issuing a response.

#### APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR RECIPROCITY

One-hundred applications supported by NCEES Model Law Engineer records were administratively approved for licensure.

## APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR ORIGINAL EXAMS

There were 16 original exam applications that were administratively approved for licensure. One application (**Bowie, Tyler**) was moved from the approved folder and put into the "need more info" folder.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Dove announced that with the move to virtual meetings, the agency will only cover parking expenses at 100 S. Charles St. for two in-person meetings per year. Ms. Miller presented her objections to the one or two in-person meetings/year, she stated her preference for in-person meetings due to the Complaint Committee reviewing important documents. Mr. Rickert asked Commissioner Dove if all Boards are self-funded, and if the Board should be in control of how the funds are spent. Commissioner Dove clarified that the agency, ultimately, makes the final fiscal determination for all Boards and Commissions within the Department of Occupational and Professional Licensing. The Boards and Commissions do not make those determinations. Mr. Rickert asked if fees could be raised. Commissioner Dove responded that raising of fees would have to be confirmed by the Legislatures.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion (VI) was moved by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Rickert; and unanimously carried to enter Executive Session at 11:27 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 the General Provisions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, §3-305(b) (8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending litigation.

#### **COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Rickert reported on the status of complaints discussed by the Complaint Committee on May 8, 2025.

16- PE-25- Waiting for signed complaint

16- PE-25- Investigating

14- PE-25- Awaiting a response

12- PE-25- Send a letter to Respondent

13- PE-24- Can not locate, out-of-country, send notification

21- PE-23- Awaiting expert report

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Motion (VII) was called by Ms. Perrin, moved by Mr. Hubner, seconded by Mr. Biswas and unanimously carried to accept the recommendations of the Complaint Committee.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- 1. Ms. Perrin confirmed the next Board meeting is June 12, 2025, at 9:45 a.m.
- **2.** MDNSPE Annual Gala takes place on May 13, 2025. Mr. Hubner, Ms. Miler, along with Ms. Raquel Meyers, will attend as State representatives.
- **3.** The Board recommended that future hearings should be scheduled during a regularly scheduled Board meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion (VIII) was made by Ms. Perrin, moved by Mr. Hubner, seconded by Ms. Miller, unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:49 a.m.	
X With Corrections	Without Corrections
Signed by: Signature on File Board Chairperson	06/17/25 Date