

**MEETING MINUTES
BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

Date: May 09, 2024

Time: 9:30 a.m.

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

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

Others John Dove, Commissioner, O&P
Zevi Thomas, Executive Director

Present: Matthew Venuti, AAG, Board Counsel
Dara Moore, Audit Specialist
Dorian Price, Office Secretary II
Hannah Belcher, Office Secretary II

Absent: Sallye Perrin, P.E., Chair
Ruby Courtney, PE Board Operations Officer

CALL TO ORDER

The Vice Chair, Mr. Harclerode, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

The Executive Director, Zevi Thomas, requested to have Commissioner John Dove use his time to share a report on the Fiscal Budget.

ACTION ON MINUTES

Mr. Harclerode called for a motion to approve the April 11 Board minutes. Mr. Farinas noted a correction where Mr. Farinas was referred to as Chairman. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Rickert, second by Ms. Miller, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2024; Board meeting with corrections.

ACTION ON THE PROPOSED FEE INCREASE

Mr. Harclerode proposed the Board consider the proposed fee increase at this time seeing that Commissioner Dove is in attendance.

Commissioner Dove introduced the FY 2024 projected budget through April 2025. It's anticipated the Design Boards will experience a projected deficit without a fee increase. Legal fees along with other ancillary costs have increased exponentially in the past years.

Mr. Harclerode inquired if other Boards increased their fees, and Commissioner Dove confirmed all boards and commissions within O&P are going through this process. Mr. Harclerode also inquired if figures presented today include the relocation of Maryland Labor to a new site.

Commissioner Dove answered yes, and added that the first year is covered, but the rent will increase over the following years. The Commissioner added that the cost goes up and we still go into a deficit by 2028 even with the fee increase.

Given these projections, Mr. Harclerode conceded that another fee increase would be likely by 2028. Ms. Miller asked if a portion of the fees levied for violations, for example, 10%, could be recovered by the PE board. Mr. Venuti, Board Counsel, suggested this may require a statutory change.

Mr. Hubner, perhaps it's appropriate to assemble a committee to work through what would be a feasible approach and share these proposals the Maryland Society for Professional Engineers. In addition, this Board may want to approach the Board of Architects and other Design Boards on this matter.

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Rickert, seconded by Mr. Hubner, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve the fee increase.

REVIEW OF RECIPROCITY AND EXAM APPS:

Mr. Hubner stated that he did not have any denials this month.

Mr. Harclerode had two reciprocity denials. One individual needed additional years of experience. Another has not practiced engineering for more than 10 years. Mr. Rickert suggested that the applicant be offered an opportunity similar to those seeking reinstatement after an extended period (5 years or more) without a PE license.

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Hubner, second by Mr. Rickert and unanimously carried by the Board to approve reciprocities and exam applications.

Motion (IV) was made by Mr. Hubner and by Mr. Rickert to approve the denials.

REPORT FROM THE CPC COMMITTEE

Mr. Thomas stated there is no report from the CPC committee, however, he wanted to mention a proposed e-blast informing licensees of the board requirements and penalties due to non-compliance.

REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Thomas inquired if board members had an opportunity to review the Mutual Recognition Agreement with the United Kingdom. Mr. Thomas mentioned that the MD Board is interested in participating in the ceremonial signing of this MRA during NCEES annual meeting in August 2024.

Mr. Thomas informed the board that a new consumer has been approved, the background check is underway and the individual is scheduled to be sworn in late June.

Those attending the annual NCEES meeting in Chicago should receive the registration information via email in the coming days. Mr. Biswas and Ms. Miller are new members and will be funded by the council. Those receiving state funding will be assisted in completing this process.

REPORT FROM BOARD COUNSEL

Mr. Venuti stated first he would send the regulation regarding the fee increase to the Office of the Secretary which should be published and go into effect by the end of the month. The Legislative session ended on April 8. The bill revised the number of years to qualify for board service from 12 years to 10 years of professional experience. Other Design Boards Sunset Extension were only granted for 4 years rather than the traditional 10 years.

In addition, Boards may be required to submit an annual report to the Joint Audit & Evaluation Committee. If there are any proposals for the next legislative session, they must be submitted to the Office of the Secretary by August 1.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence from MD-NSPE inquiring on the authority of a licensed engineer to take over the Work of another engineer who initiated the project. Based on the Board statute and regulation the response should be yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session required

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

Mr. Rickert reported the status of the Complaint Committee on April 11, 2024.

21-PE-23 Investigating
26-PE-23 Pre-charge
34-PE-23 Investigating.
39-PE-23 Moving to pre-charge.
03-PE-24 Unethical - no evidence.
04-PE-24 Waiting for Hearing from Insurance Commission
13-PE-24 Pre-charge

Motion (V) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Hubner to accept the Complaint Committee report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Rickert reported NCEES Law Enforcement Committee's recommendation on using outside consultants to assist with complaints due to challenges in recruiting Board members. Mr. Rickert added this has become a challenge nationally because it restricts the availability of a quorum.

Mr. Thomas stated that the initial idea was for Ms. Miller to shadow the Complaint Committee members to enable her to transition on the Committee, but ultimately only 2 members should be on the Complaint Committee. Ideally one license engineer and a consumer member of the Board.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

Motion (VI) was made by the Vice-Chair, second by Ed Hubner, and unanimously carried to approve 20 applications for PE licensure by reciprocity.

APPLICATIONS FOR PE LICENSURE BY RECIPROCITY ARE AS FOLLOWS;

ANDERSON, MATTHEW P (62913)
ANZALCHI, ARASH (62915)

KHRAKUN, ROMAN (62925)
KUMAR, NIRAJ (62926)

ASHOORY, MANSOOR (62916)	LAYMAN, DAVID J (62927)
CARTER, MATTHEW L (62917)	MILLION, COLIN (62928)
CHADALAPAKA, SAI C (62918)	PEINE, HAROLD W (62929)
CLARK, JR., RONALD M (62919)	PERRY, BYRON G (62930)
DEGHANI NAJVANI, MOHAMMAD AMIN (62920)	ROMBERG, MARTIN (62931)
ELAWADI, ALI I (62921)	SOULE, SCOTT A (62932)
FEGLEY, MICHAEL S (62923)	URETA, NATHANIEL P (62933)
GODONIS, THOMAS G (62924)	XIONG, RUOJUN (62934)

APPLICATION FOR PE LICENSURE BY TRANSFER OF GRADES:

NONE

APPLICATION FOR PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING EXAM:

AI ROBAE, AHMED	AMOH, TONTOH
LAKEY, ERIN T.	NICOLAS, DAMICO
GULLAPALLI, VENKATA A.	LINA, AYARI
LINN, DAVID	JAMISON, ANTHONY
ZENT, KYLE	

REPORT FROM ETHICS COMMITTEE

Mr. Hubner stated that he sent two copies of the Ethics presentation to be made available on the Board website.

APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR RECIPROCITY

62 Model Law Engineers approved and administratively approved for licensure.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The next Board meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2024.

Motion (VII) Mr. Farinas motioned to adjourn the meeting seconded by Mr. Harclerode, and unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

_____ X _____ With Corrections _____ Without Corrections

Signed by: - Signature on File -
Sallye E. Perrin, Board Chairperson

Date: 06/18/2024