

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**Date:** November 14, 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: 1-484-416-2276  
PIN: 201 307 165#

**Present:** Sallye Perrin, P.E., Chairman  
Howard (Skip) Harclerode, P.E., Vice Chairman  
Edward Hubner, Secretary, P.E  
Pastor Farinas, P.E.  
Judi Miller, R.A.  
Tracey Clark, Realtor

**Others Present:** Zevi Thomas, Executive Director  
Raquel Meyers, Assistant Executive Director  
Matthew Venuti, AAG, Board Counsel  
Ruby Courtney, Board Operations Officer  
Dorian Price, Administrative Specialist  
Hannah Belcher, Administrative Specialist  
Matthew McKinney, Director of Government Affairs  
Gregor Catto, Senior Trade Policy Advisor | British Embassy  
Gregory Morgan, MD-MSPE  
Thomas Evans, Hunt Valley Contractors, Inc.  
William Nieport, Petro-Techna International

**Absent:** Karl Rickert, P.E  
Dhrubajyoti Biswas, P.E

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

The Board Chair, Ms. Perrin, called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

The Board Chair asked the representative from the British Embassy, Mr. Gregor Catto, be allowed to address the Board first.

### **Gregor Catto - Representative from the British Embassy**

Mr. Catto stated he met with Mr. Thomas about one year ago and met with Ms. Miller and Mr. Thomas at the NCEES Annual meeting. Mr. Catto also mentioned that the British Embassy in 2023 facilitated a similar MRA (mutual recognition agreement) between the UK Architects Registration Board and the National Council of Architects Registration Boards (NCARB) in the US for reciprocal licensure.

Mr. Catto stated the requirements for licensure in Maryland were reviewed and compared to the licensing requirements for Chartered Engineers in the UK by NCEES and they wanted to create a more streamlined process to obtain licensure in US jurisdictions and inversely in the UK. NCEES and Chartered Engineers in the UK have matched the process for licensure and this was done independently by the International Engineering Alliance. Mr. Catto also mentioned he has worked closely with Marie Nebreski of NCEES who is leading the process to become an Internationally Chartered Engineer (CEng) and they have already determined that ABET accredited engineering degrees satisfy the educational requirements but sometimes CEng from the UK do not meet the general education requirements and must make up that deficiency.

Mr. Catto stated a MD PE could automatically qualify to become a CEng through this program; they would need to be on the national register for at least seven years before becoming an International Chartered Engineer. He also mentioned that Engineers in the UK are licensed by areas of expertise compared to Engineers in the US who are licensed by state.

Mr. Catto informed the Board there was a signing ceremony for this MRA at the NCEES Annual Meeting and that 26 states, including TX, NC, AZ, NV and ID have expressed an interest in the process. Some states had to review their statutes and regulations to see if any changes need to be made to accommodate this MRA. The Commonwealth of Virginia will be updating their laws to allow the licensing of UK CEng. Mr. Catto stated the MD Board will have the opportunity to sign a letter of intent to begin the process of evaluating competence with NCEES.

The Board Chair expressed interest in this agreement and asked for input from Board Counsel to see if there would need to be any changes to our statute to accommodate this agreement. Mr. Venuti informed the Board that our statute already allows for adoption of foreign engineering licenses by reciprocity but agreed to review our statutes and regulations to see if any changes are needed. The Board Chair suggested briefing the Governor on this matter. Mr. Thomas stated we would first inform the Secretary of the Department of Labor who would then forward this information to the Governor's Office.

Mr. Nieport of Petro-Techna, a multinational engineering company, encouraged the Board to adopt this agreement.

### **APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

Motion (I) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Hubner, and unanimously carried to approve 12 applications for PE licensure by reciprocity, one application for PE Licensure by Transfer of Grades, and 14 applications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam.

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

Anderson, Nicholas P. (55635)	Patki, Chaitanya H. (63915)
Badiu, Eduard C. (63910)	Ravulaparthi, Srivinas (63916)
Hidalgo-Reyes, Eduardo (63911)	Walerysiak, Matthew (63917)
Khan, Atif M. (63912)	Wang, Jun (63918)
Mehrabi, Mehdi (63913)	Wang, Yunli (63919)
Northrup, Paul J. (63914)	Yarzadeh, Mohammad Younes (60979)

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

Pfarr, Matthew G. (63920)

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

Boampong, Kwaku	Kiser, Jason
Deribe, Yonas	Lemecha, Misgana
Doeller, Nicholas	Mate, Erwin B.
Duchene, Wesley A.	Menendez, Josue D.
Hackett, Paul S.	Riley, Melika
Herrera, Henry M.	Saams, Richard
Kennedy, Wyatt	Vasquez Pastigo, Mabel R.

Motion (II) was made by Mr. Harclerode, seconded by Mr. Farinas and unanimously carried to deny one application for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam due to insufficient engineering work experience and to request additional information from two applicants for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam.

### **ACTION ON MINUTES**

Motion (III) was made by Mr. Farinas, seconded by Mr. Hubner, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2024, meeting with one correction relating to the proposed regulation by MSPE to require the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam under §14-305 (d).

Ms. Miller stated since the State of MD does not have a residency requirement for licensure, we should not eliminate the pathway for licensure based upon experience only. The Board Chair

made it clear that the Board was not eliminating licensure by experience only but MSPE wanted to modify that option to require passing of the FE exam.

### **NEW BUSINESS – Discussed at the beginning of the meeting**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Report regarding ABET Visit to the University of Maryland –Eastern Shore (UMES)**

The Board Chair stated her visit to UMES was a great learning experience. The Board Chair mentioned the Engineering building is housed in a new building. The department is focused on Aeronautics research such as working on a tool to facilitate picking up rocks on the moon surface.

The Board Chair went over the ABET review process with the Board which works on performance measures with Aviation and Aeronautics Engineering and recommends any Board members who are able to take advantage of this opportunity when it arises again.

#### **Exam Statistics Provided to MD-MSPE**

The Board members reviewed the statistics that were provided to MD-MSPE in October 2024.

The Board Chair mentioned the Education Committee of NCEES was working on finding a pathway for Engineering Technology (ETAC) degrees.

The Board Chair also mentioned the ASCE Licensure Committee of NCEES does not allow for early PE exam-takers, and the statistics support keeping it that way. The Board Chair suggested we do not consider allowing early taking of the PE exam and the Board members agreed.

Mr. Morgan, lobbyist for MD-MSPE, The Society wanted to know how many took the PE exam by experience only and the pass rate for those applicants but that information is not available.

#### **What Constitutes Evidence of Engineering Work Experience**

The Board Chair asked Ms. Belcher to explain the issues she is having with applicants who are submitting samples of work in lieu of obtaining an endorsement from a US Professional Engineer.

Ms. Belcher explained she wanted more direction from the Board members so she can better explain to applicants what types of samples of work the Board members are looking for and how much should be submitted.

Mr. Hubner mentioned that samples of work should include calculations and/or analysis which include the applicant's name and the date the calculation and/or analysis was done. Mr. Hubner mentioned he still has samples of work from when he originally got licensed and he can provide the Board with those as a guide.

## **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCY (CPC) COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Farinas stated he denied the CPC provider application of Hunt Valley Contractors, Inc. during the October 10, 2024, Board meeting but the applicant submitted a revised application and he referred these to Mr. Rickert, structural engineer on the Board. Mr. Rickert recommended the Board approve this CPC application.

Motion (IV) was made by Mr. Harclerode, seconded by Mr. Farinas, and unanimously carried to approve the CPC provider applications of Hunt Valley Contractors, Inc. and WSP USA.

## **REPORT FROM THE ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Hubner stated he is talking with Donna Sentell and that he will take the LA Board's Ethics exam on November 20, 2024.

## **REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Thomas informed the Board that the building is currently experiencing contamination of the potable water supply and the building is closed to the public, hence the reason for the short notice changing this to a virtual meeting.

Mr. Thomas also informed the Board the NCEES Zone meeting will be held April 10-12, 2025, in Cambridge, MA and the deadline to register is January 7, 2025. Since the Board is now alternating which Board members are funded by NCEES and the State of MD, he announced that Mr. Biswas, Ms. Miller and Mr. Hubner would be funded by NCEES this coming year and the other members who wished to attend would be funded by the State. Mr. Thomas stated he will be submitting the paperwork for those who wish to attend. The Board Chair, Mr. Harclerode, and Mr. Farinas expressed their interest in attending as state-funded delegates.

Ms. Courtney announced that after 16 illustrious years with this agency, she will be retiring as of January 1, 2025, and that her last day is December 24, 2024. The Board members thanked her for her tireless dedication to our customers and her service to this Board.

## **REPORT FROM BOARD COUNSEL**

Mr. Venuti just wanted to remind the Board members of the Open Meetings Act and what constitutes a Board meeting to avoid any issues at the Zone meeting.

## **CORRESPONDENCE - None**

## **APPLICATIONS APPROVED ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR RECIPROCITY**

There were 102 applications, supported by NCEES Model Law Engineer records that were administratively approved for licensure.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

