

General Session Minutes
State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers
January 22, 2008

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers met on the Evansdale Campus in the Andrews Conference Center of the WVU College of Engineering and Mineral Resources Building in Morgantown, WV on January 22, 2008. Those present for all or part of the general session were:

Leonard J. Timms, Jr.	President
Edward L. Robinson	Vice-President
Bhajan S. Saluja	Secretary
Richard E. Plymale	Member
William E. Pierson	Member
Lesley L. Rosier-Tabor	Executive Director
Don W. Johnson	Board Investigator
Debra L. Hamilton	Legal Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of Frank Gaddy who recently passed away. Mr. Gaddy was recognized for his long service on the Board, as a member, as president and as the Board's NCEES representative. The Board, NCEES and the engineering profession will miss him.

The Board meeting minutes of November 29, 2007 (both executive and general session) were reviewed and corrected. A motion to approve the corrected minutes was made by Mr. Plymale, seconded by Mr. Saluja. Motion carried.

The Board budget summary for November and December 2007 was received and reviewed. A motion to approve the expenditures and purchasing card transactions was made by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Pierson. Motion carried.

Ms. Rosier presented the Executive Director's report and addressed all Board questions and comments. Ms. Rosier discussed her participation in recent events and presentations made by her and Mr. Johnson to various groups since the last Board meeting, in addition to reviewing the office's schedule of upcoming activities. A motion was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mr. Saluja, approving attendance and travel for staff activities outlined in the Executive Director's report and updated 2008 calendar of events. Motion carried.

The October 2007 examination results were reviewed. The overall PE pass rates took a significant drop from the April exam, while overall FE pass rates were up by 1%. Both remain significantly below national averages.

The annual continuing education audit was essentially completed in December. A total of seventeen PE licenses were suspended, one person requested Retired Status and four COA's were revoked due to EIRC suspensions.

Draft copies of the 2008 edition of the Board newsletter and the 2008-2009 renewal mailer were provided to the Board for review and comment.

Mr. Pierson moved to enter into executive session, seconded by Mr. Plymale. Motion carried.

The Board recessed the executive session at 11:45 am for a luncheon meeting with the WVU Engineering Dean Eugene Cilento, along with several members of the engineering faculty, to discuss issues of interests and importance to both groups. Key topics of interest included a new WVU FE exam review session, which includes a mock examination during the final class, that is being offered to their students. Participation in this FE review is voluntary and a nominal fee is charged, which is refunded after the last class if they have a good attendance record. Results will be monitored. The BS + 30 initiative and the recent NCEES Model Law change regarding “raising the bar in engineering education” was discussed in depth.

The executive session resumed at 1:30pm, immediately following the luncheon meeting.

At the conclusion of the executive session, Mr. Saluja moved to enter into general session with a second by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried and the Board took the following actions:

1. The Board reviewed a proposed Final Order and directed staff to serve the Final Order on Complaint C2008-1. No proposed order was submitted by the respondent.
2. Mr. Pierson moved that complaint C2008-6 be dismissed. Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
3. Mr. Robinson moved that complaint C2008-5 be closed without action. Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
4. Mr. Pierson moved that Inquiry I2008-10 be received and filed as a Board complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
5. Mr. Pierson moved that Inquiry I2008-13 be received and filed as a Board complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
6. Based on a motion by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Saluja, the Board took the following actions on Special Cases for Board Action:
 - Gehan M. Elhady Elsayedm’s FE exam application was approved for the April 2008 session.
 - Rossi M. Gaudio’s FE exam application was denied.
 - Sean C. Farrell’s PE exam application was denied.
 - Courtney P. Fint’s PE exam application was approved for the April 2008 session.
 - Rebecca Y. Morris’ PE exam application was approved for the April 2008 session.
 - Brian J. Duval’s request for comity was approved.

President Timms updated the Board on his various NCEES activities, including progress on the recommended changes to the Model Rules/Model Law by the B+30 Task Force. One additional item of interest was the recent discussion of the National Board of Directors regarding excess funds in the NCEES reserve accounts. Mr. Timms indicated consideration was being made to reduce exam fees. Mr. Pierson made a motion that this Board recommend that the funds be

reserved to cover future computer based testing needs such as increasing the item bank. Motion was seconded by Mr. Robinson and carried.

Proposed revisions to the WV Code and Rules for the Board were discussed. A meeting will need to be scheduled to review the changes and begin preparation for legislative review in the 2009 session.

Preparation for the WV Equipment, Technology and Design Exposition continues. The WV Society of Professional Engineers, with assistance from the PE Board, is planning the first annual recognition ceremony for those who passed the NCEES Principles and Practice Exam or Fundamentals of Engineering Exam in WV in 2007. This recognition will take place immediately following the Board's annual EXPO presentation scheduled for Wednesday, March 19, 2008. Board attendance is encouraged and President Timms will address the group.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2008. The meeting will take place at the PE Board office located at 300 Capitol Street, Charleston, WV.

Upon motion by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mr. Saluja, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m. The Board members will be compensated one day per diem plus travel expenses.

Leonard J. Timms, Jr., P.E.
Board President

Bhajan S. Saluja, P.E.
Board Secretary