

**General Session Minutes
State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers
March 20, 2012**

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers met in their offices at 300 Capitol Street in Charleston, WV on Tuesday, March 20, 2012. Those present for all or part of the meeting were:

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

Vice-President Pierson conducted the meeting in the absence of the President. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. The Board meeting minutes for January 24, 2012 (both executive and general session) were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was made by Mr. Plymale, seconded by Mr. Timms. Motion carried.

The Board budget summaries for January and February 2012 were received and reviewed. The detailed purchasing card expenditures were also received and reviewed, in addition to the new 5-year lease agreement for our office space. The WV Real Estate Division (WVRED) negotiates new leases and addendums to extend leases for state agencies. The WVRED recommended that the Board accept the 10% increase proposed by the owner. The Board concurred. A motion to approve the current expenditures, purchasing card transactions, as well as the new lease addendum, was made by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Plymale. 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 to various groups since the last Board meeting. She also reviewed the office's schedule of upcoming activities. A motion was made by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Saluja, to approve attendance and travel for Board member and staff activities outlined in the Executive Director's report and updated 2012 calendar of events. Motion carried.

The April exam preparation was discussed. A total of 61 PE examinees have registered with NCEES, one taking the Structural 2 exam, for a total to 62 exams. One PE applicant interview was conducted. A total of 273 FE examinees were approved by the Board (143 in Morgantown, 130 Charleston) with 8 FE applicant interviews being conducted. Ms. Rosier and Ms. Davis will monitor the Charleston exams. Mr. Timms and Ms. Rubenstein will monitor the Morgantown exams.

Ms. Rosier reminded the Board of the upcoming NCEES Northeast Zone meeting from May 3-5, 2012 in Dover, DE. Currently Mr. Timms, Ms. Rosier and Mr. Johnson will be attending. The other Board members need to notify Ms. Rosier before April 2nd so that she can register them.

The Board discussed the recent trend in allowing NCEES to approve examination applications for candidates who meet the basic requirements for licensure. The Board took no action as they decided this important task must remain the responsibility of our WV PE Board members and Executive staff.

A courtesy correspondence and questionnaire are being prepared for those registrants with confusing or incomplete COA responses on their renewal forms. The upcoming 2012-13 renewal form and on-line renewal will be revised to capture a clearer picture of the engineering work being performed by the individual and under what company structure/authorization.

Personalized Status Reports and newsletters were mailed in late February to over 11,000 registrants and stakeholders. Ms. Rosier reminded all in attendance that articles are already being prepared and collected for the 2013 edition of the newsletter.

Mr. Timms moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:40 AM, seconded by Mr. Plymale. Motion carried. The meeting recessed during the Executive Session for lunch at 12:15 PM and then for a show cause hearing on Complaint C2009-12. See Record of Hearing. The Board reconvened the meeting in Executive Session at 3:00 PM.

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

1. Mr. Timms moved that complaint C2012-04 be scheduled for hearing at the March Board meeting unless resolved. Motion was seconded by Mr. Saluja and carried.
2. Mr. Timms moved to authorize staff to hire a third party engineer to review the engineering performed on complaint C2012-09. Motion was seconded by Mr. Saluja and carried.
3. Mr. Timms made a motion that inquiry I2012-10 be received and filed as a Board-initiated complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
4. Mr. Saluja made a motion that inquiry I2012-12 be received and filed as a Board-initiated complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried. A letter will be sent to the subsidiary company (I2012-11).
5. Mr. Plymale made a motion that inquiry I2012-14 be received and filed as a Board-initiated complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Saluja and carried.
6. Mr. Timms made a motion to authorize staff to find a suitable ethics course for the exam applicant involved in inquiry I2012-18 which, if agreed to by the applicant, would be reduced to writing. Motion was seconded by Mr. Saluja and carried.

Based on a motion by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Saluja, the Board took the following actions on Special Cases for Board Action:

1. Jessica R. Knight's request for comity was approved.
2. Krupakaran Kolandaivelu's request for comity was approved.
3. William S. Shiderly's request for comity was denied. The Board will reconsider his comity application upon successful completion of a NCEES credentials review and/or obtaining additional education to meet the WV Engineering Law educational requirements.

Personnel Matter: The Board approved the hiring of Anna Rubenstein as a summer intern.

Mr. Timms reported on his recent activities as NCEES Past-President which included:

- The accuracy of reporting data on FE examination provided to EAC schools was discussed at the NCEES Board meeting. NCEES will be working to revise the EMS

system to obtain more information from the examinee candidates in an attempt to make the Institutional Reports a more reliable assessment tool.

- The NCEES Board also voted to amend the NCEES Engineering Education Standard to provide for an option that NCEES will conduct reviews on non-ABET programs only at the expressed request of an NCEES Member Board and that the evaluation will duly note the circumstances under which the evaluation was completed in the event the evaluation is ever transmitted to another Member Board. In addition, the NCEES President added a charge to the new Education Committee next year to conduct a full review of the standard and provide comment.
- The launch of CBT is still on schedule for January 2014.
- Jordan, Katar and Kuwait are being considered as potential NCEES exam sites and Turkey and UAE are now approved exam sites.
- Mr. Pierson has been appointed as the NCEES alternate to the ABET Board.

Mr. Pierson reported that he will be at NCEES in Clemson April 13th and 14th to work on the FE Exam and CBT related matters.

Ms. Rosier reported that she met separately with representatives from WVU and WVU Tech to discuss the shortcomings they have been experiencing with using the FE as an assessment tool for their programs. Both schools are interested in pursuing improvements with the Institutional Reports and were intrigued by what the new CBT testing statistics may reveal in 2014.

The re-write of the Engineering Practice Act for submission to the legislature in 2013 was discussed. Ms. Hamilton has begun discussions with the legislative staff regarding our game plan, the new required format and initial proposed changes. The Board requested that a draft be available for review at the May Board meeting.

The Board discussed the upcoming 2012 WV EXPO. Over the next two days, the Board and staff will set-up the Board's new exhibitor display booth and conduct a 2-hour seminar on engineering licensure in conjunction with a joint session with the WV Society of Professional Engineers honoring our successful 2011 WV FE and PE examinees. Mr. Timms and Ms. Hamilton will be the main presenters during the seminar portion. Mr. Pierson will be one of the presenters honoring our successful examinees.

Ms. Rosier discussed the ad that the Board ran in the Engineering Outlook Section of the Charleston newspapers focusing on the importance of engineering licensure and our charge to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public. The ad and associated article covered almost a full page. The ad outlined the acceptable ABET-approved programs offered at each of the WV colleges and universities in an effort to educate the public and our stakeholders on the educational paths to licensure in this state.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 24, 2012. The meeting will take place in the Board offices at 300 Capitol Street in Charleston, WV.

Upon motion by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Plymale, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The Board members will be compensated one day per diem plus travel expenses.

William E. Pierson, P.E.
Board Vice-President

Bhajan S. Saluja, P.E.
Board Secretary