

General Session Minutes
State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers
September 20, 2022

The West Virginia State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers met at their office in Charleston on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. Those present for all or part of the meeting were:

Garth E. Thomas	President
Larry C. Nottingham	Vice-President
L.A. Gates	Secretary
Bhajan S. Saluja	Member
Edward L. Robinson	Member
Lesley L. Rosier-Tabor	Executive Director
Edward Eagloski	Board Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 10:01am. Mr. Gates participated initially by teleconference, and appeared in person at 10:35am.

The Board meeting minutes for the July 19, 2022 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Saluja, seconded by Dr. Nottingham. Motion carried.

The Board budget summaries for July and August 2022 were received and reviewed, as well as the PCard transactions for the months of July and August 2022. Ms. Rosier reported a \$1.578M balance for the end of August 2022. Ms. Rosier discussed the FY2023 budget report, noting anticipated lower revenue in the upcoming FY2023, when compared to recent years, due to implementing SB334 mandates passed during the 2022 WV Legislative Session, effectively reducing all WV PE Board collected fees by 10%.

In addition, Ms. Rosier discussed the FY2024 Appropriations Request submission filed with the WV State Budget Office before their September 1st deadline. The FY2024 Appropriation request was similar to the FY2023 Expenditure Schedule submission that was reviewed by the Board at its May 2022 Board meeting, in that it contained the same overall expenditure total, but an approximate 10% reduction in projected revenue due to SB334.

A motion to approve the budget, current expenditures, purchasing card transactions, and travel, was made by Dr. Nottingham, seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion carried.

Ms. Rosier presented the Executive Director's report and addressed all Board questions and comments:

- Ms. Rosier reported that 2 PE examinees have registered with NCEES to take 3 Structural PE exams as WV applicants for the October 2022 paper-and pencil exam administration. She also reported these exams will no longer be administered in West Virginia but at regional tests sites selected at the preference of the examinee.

- Ms. Rosier reported that she and Sue Rubenstein did not participate in the recent WV State Purchasing Card Coordinators Seminar, but rather completed the online training modules and took the necessary quizzes to document their knowledge of the required material.
- Ms. Rosier reported she, President Thomas, Board member Saluja and Counsel Eagloski attending the 2022 NCEES Annual Meeting in Carlsbad, CA.
- Ms. Rosier reported that both she and Counsel Eagloski will be providing a requested licensure presentation to approximately 150 engineering students at Marshall University in mid-October. President Thomas indicated that he conducted a similar presentation on the WVU-Beckley campus relating to the importance of PE licensure, as well as the examination process, earlier this month.
- Ms. Rosier reported that the required 2022 Annual Licensing Board Seminar conducted by the WV State Auditor will be held on Tuesday, November 1st with more details provided later in the agenda.

Prior to entering into Executive Session, the Board's Counsel provided the details of the resolution of Complaints C2022-26, C2022-34, and C2022-38. The consent orders have been posted on the Board's website.

Mr. Saluja made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 10:45am, seconded by Dr. Nottingham. Motion carried.

Mr. Robinson excused himself and exited the room, as to not be part of any discussion or decision making regarding C2022-12 and C2022-13. Mr. Saluja excused himself and exited the room, as to not be part of any discussion or decision making regarding C2022-35. Ms. Tabor excused herself and exited the room, as to not be part of any discussion or decision making regarding C2022-40.

At 12:00pm, Dr. Nottingham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Saluja, to move into General Session. The motion carried, and the Board took the following action:

- Mr. Robinson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Saluja, to dismiss Complaint C2022-37. Motion carried.
- Mr. Gates made a motion, seconded by Dr. Nottingham, to dismiss Complaint C2022-40. Motion carried.

The Board acted upon the special case files as follows:

- Dr. Nottingham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Saluja, to approve the PE comity application for Matthew R. Rosencrans. Motion carried.
- Dr. Nottingham made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gates, to approve the PE comity application for Richard A. Schlarman. Motion carried.

The Board recessed the General Session at 12:05pm for lunch and resumed the General Session at 12:45pm.

President Thomas shared a summary of recent actions taken at the 2022 NCEES Annual Meeting held in Carlsbad, CA. Ms. Rosier provided an update on the continuing education offerings, as well as the Member Board Administrator forum discussions, including the ARPL Session on recent legislative concerns. President Thomas and Ms. Rosier also reported they both participated in initial meetings with their respective NCEES committee members to discuss the 2022-2023 charges assigned by NCEES President Duhamel.

The Board reviewed the latest CBT PE exam transition schedule updates. Ms. Rosier noted that the Structural PE exams will be the only remaining paper and pencil exams offered in April and October until their anticipated transition date of 2024. The Board also reviewed the regional testing site map for the Structural PE examinees.

Mr. Saluja provided the Board with a detailed update regarding his recent requests for exam information and his discussions with NCEES leadership at the 2022 Annual Meeting. Mr. Saluja also updated the Board with his personal research efforts to date and his continued plan to address his concerns regarding exam pass rates.

Ms. Rosier shared correspondence dated August 2, 2022, from Governor Jim Justice outlining the reappointment of Dr. Larry Nottingham to serve on the Board until June 30, 2027. President Thomas congratulated Dr. Nottingham on his reappointment and thanked him for his service to date.

Mr. Saluja reported that he will be attending an on-campus ABET visit as a Board observer from September 25 – 27, 2022. Mr. Saluja indicated he has been in contact with the team chair and will report back to the Board at their November Board meeting.

Ms. Rosier discussed the staff and database vendor efforts to date in preparing for the biennial PE license renewal. All current PE licenses are set to expire on December 31, 2022 and will be required to be renewed. All new PE licenses processed and activated on October 1 and after will not be required to renew in this upcoming renewal cycle as their newly issued license will not expire until December 31, 2024.

Ms. Rosier reported that the required 2022 Annual Licensing Board Seminar conducted by the WV State Auditor will be held on Tuesday, November 1st in Charleston. Ms. Rosier, Ms. Rubenstein, and Counsel Eagloski are scheduled to participate and all other Board members were encouraged to check their calendars and plan to attend if possible. Ms. Rosier also provided a reminder that all Board members are required to attend at least one time during each appointed term.

The Board was presented with the most recent issue of the Professional Licensing Report (PLR).

The Board was presented with a draft version of the Fall 2022 InterChange newsletter publication. Ms. Rosier requested all staff and Board members submit final proofing comments no later than Friday, September 23rd, noting she will be working with the newsletter editor on Monday, September 26th to finalize the content. The annual newsletter is scheduled to be printed in October and disseminated in late November. As usual, copies will be mailed to all licensed PEs and Retired PEs as an enclosure within

their PE renewal notifications, followed by individual copies being subsequently disseminated to all firms with an active COA as well.

Upon motion by Dr. Nottingham, seconded by Mr. Gates, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 2:31pm. The next Board meeting will be held on November 16, 2022, in Charleston. The Board members will be compensated one day per diem plus travel expenses.

Garth E. Thomas, Jr., P.E.
Board President

Leslie A. Gates, P.E.
Board Secretary