

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
ILLINOIS STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING BOARD MINUTES

Open Minutes

Structural Engineering Board

Date: January 24, 2024
Convened: 10:12 am
Adjourned: 12:03 pm
Location: Springfield/Chicago/WEBEX

Members Present: Chad Hodel, Chair
Christine Freisinger, Vice-Chair
Salvatore Di Bernardo, Member
John Huff, Public Member
Alicia Kamischke, Member
Dan Lutz, Member

Member(s) Absent: David J. Carroll, Member

Staff Present: Kyle Lazell, Design Licensing Manager
Roy Cepero, IDFPR Investigator
Ron Almiron, IDFPR General Counsel
Gwendolyn Payton, IDFPR General Counsel
Ann Erickson, IDFPR General Counsel

Guests Present: Stephanie Crain, SEAOL
John McLean, SEAOL
Inam Rehman, SE applicant

Open Session: The Meeting was called to order at 10:12 am.
Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**I. Board Member
Announcements,
comments**

Mr. Hodel welcomed everyone for attending and asked if any member had an announcement or comment to share.

Hearing none, he asked the new members to introduce themselves.

Ms. Kamischke shared that she has a bachelor's and master's degree in engineering from SIU-Carbondale and Bradley University, has been practicing for about 15 years, works in the Peoria area for Prairie Engineers and volunteers on the NCEES SE Exam review panel.

Mr. Huff stated he retired from state government four years ago and has served on the Land Surveyor and Geology Boards for the previous 12 years and enjoys participating on the DPR Boards.

The Board welcomed the new members.

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**II. Guest Announcements,
comments**

Ms. Crain shared that the young engineer symposium on January 30, 2024, is coming up as is the Bridge symposium is April 23, 2024 and hopes the members will attend. She also said that they are preparing a special panel discussion webinar to remind licensees of the existence of the Illinois Structural Engineering Practice Act, the date is yet to be determined but should be in March or April.

Mr. Almiron shared that the department was approached by a senator requesting potential statutory changes to remove unnecessary barriers of entry to the profession and noted that the Department submitted a few items for review and consideration.

**III. Licensing Manager
Report**

A. 2023 Year in Review

Mr. Lazell shared the 2023 statistics for the profession.

IV. Review of Open Minutes

The Board reviewed the open minutes of the November 15, 2023, meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Lutz) to approve the open minutes of the meeting as presented. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

V. Ongoing Business

A. Continued discussion of approved coursework

Ms. Freisinger said the subcommittee will continue working on compiling a list of approved courses and hopes to have a report at the next meeting. Mr. Hodel asked for a new member to be on the subcommittee to replace Mr. Carroll whose term on the Board has expired and may be replaced soon. Ms. Kamischke volunteered.

B. Rules Update

Mr. Lazell shared that the draft Rules packet was shared with SEAOL for their comment on the proposed changes. Once he receives their comments, DPR will review them and discuss changes with SEAOL if needed prior to finalizing the draft and submitting it for insertion unto the next available Illinois Register publication through the Illinois Secretary of State for public reviewing and comment.

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**VI. Report from
Subcommittees**

A. Complaint Review
Committee/Subcommittee

Mr. Hodel shared the Complaint Statistics based on recommendations from the November 2023 meetings for each profession:

Architect: Opened 7, Closed 7, Referred to prosecutions 1
SE: Opened 1, Closed 2, Referred to prosecutions 1
PE: Opened 6, Closed 2, Referred to prosecutions 3
LS: Opened 1, Closed 5, Referred to prosecutions 0

Complaints currently under investigation:

Architect – 20
SE – 9
PE – 28
LS – 4

Cases currently being prosecuted:

Architect - 27
Land Surveyor - 4
Professional Engineer - 18
Structural Engineer - 6

VII. New Business

A. NCEES PE
Civil/Structural Examination

Mr. Lazell shared that beginning April 1, 2024, the NCEES Civil/Structural discipline of the Principles and Practice of engineering examination will no longer be accepted toward satisfying the PE examination requirement in Illinois.

Beginning in April, the PE Civil Exams will no longer have a common (civil) breadth portion. At that time, each exam will be its own standalone discipline specific exam. For the Civil/Structural exam, that means that all 80 questions on the examination will consist of strictly Structural aspects, which is outside the scope of practice for a PE under Section 4 (o) of the PE Act and therefore unable to be accepted toward satisfying the examination for a PE license in Illinois. The other Civil sub-discipline exams (Geotechnical, Transportation, Water Resources, and Construction) will continue to be accepted as their exam contents remain within the PE scope of practice.

The Board discussed the topic and thanked Mr. Lazell for the information.

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**Motion to move into
Closed Session:**

Motion was made, seconded (Freisinger/Huff) to move into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 11:05 am. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

VIII. Closed Session:

A. Review of Closed Minutes

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the November 15, 2023, meeting.

B. Application Review/discussion

The Board reviewed three applications pursuant to Sections 1480.140, 1480.170 and 1480.185 of the Rules for the Administration of the Illinois Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989.

**Moved back into Open
Session:**

Board Chair adjourned the Closed Session and moved the meeting back into Open Session at 11:58 am.

IX. Motions:

Accept recommendations:

Motion was made, seconded (Freisinger/Di Bernardo) to accept the recommendations made in closed session. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Review closed minutes and
keep closed minutes closed:

Motion was made, seconded (Di Bernardo/Freisinger) to approve the September 27, 2023, closed minutes as presented and keep them closed. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

X. Reminders & Signatures

A. Reminders

Mr. Lazell reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2024.

B. Action Sheets

On behalf of the Board, the Chair signed action sheets 24-0027 through 24-0029

XI. Adjournment

The Board Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:03 pm.