

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION
STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Open Minutes

State Board of Professional Engineers

Date: May 30, 2024
Convened: 10:02 am
Adjourned: 11:51 am
Location: Springfield/Chicago/WEBEX

Members Present: Brian Berg Jr, Chair
Christy Crites, Vice-Chair
Kevin Burke III, Member
Gale Jamison, Member
Jennifer Kuether, Member
Sean Middleton, Member
Justan Mann, Member
Richard Rivera, Member

Member(s) Absent: Myles Alexander, Public Member
Katherine Au, Member

Staff Present: Kyle Lazell, Design Licensing Manager
Roy Cepero, IDFPR Investigator
Ronald Almiron, IDFPR General Counsel
Gwendolyn Payton, IDFPR General Counsel
Camile Lindsay, IDFPR Acting Director

Guests Present: Kim Robinson, ISPE
Ryan Roth, ISPE
Gregor Cattro, British Embassy - Senior Trade Policy Advisor

Open Session: The Meeting was called to order at 10:02 am.
Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

1. Board Member comments Mr. Berg thanked everyone for attending and asked if any of the members had any comments.

No comments presented.

2. Guest comments Mr. Roth shared that the Spring legislative session has concluded, reminded the members of the upcoming first Friday event and that the annual ISPE conference is on July 18 -19th.

3. Licensing Manager Report

A. Legislative Update

1. HB 5608

HB 5608

Mr. Lazell shared that this bill stalled in committee and no further action will happen this legislative session.

2. SB 3767

SB 3767

Mr. Lazell shared that the bill has been passed in both the House and Senate and will be sent to the Governor for signature. The effective date is January 1, 2025, and he will work on drafting Rule changes based on these changes.

B. Rules Update

Mr. Lazell shared that he is waiting to receive confirmation from the Director on how to proceed with fee increases prior to submitting the final version of the draft Rules to the associations for comment.

4. Review of Open Minutes

The Board reviewed the Minutes of the March 28, 2024, meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Burke/Jamison) to approve the open minutes of the meeting as presented. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

5. Ongoing Business

None brought before the board.

6. Report from Subcommittees

A. Complaint Review Committee/Subcommittee

Mr. Burke, shared the Complaint Statistics based on recommendations from the March 2024 meetings for each profession:

Architect: Opened 9, Closed 4, Referred to prosecutions 0
SE: Opened 2, Closed 1, Referred to prosecutions 0
PE: Opened 10, Closed 5, Referred to prosecutions 0
LS: Opened 2, Closed 0, Referred to prosecutions 0

Complaints currently under investigation:

Architect – 25

SE – 10

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PE – 33
LS – 6

Cases currently being prosecuted:

Architect - 28

Land Surveyor - 4

Professional Engineer -19

Structural Engineer – 6

Ms. Crites shared that Megan Pipolo has been appointed to serve as the IDFPR prosecuting attorney for design professions.

7. New Business

A. NCEES UK MRA

Mr. Lazell presented the board with an overview of the NCEES UK Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) program for discussion on participating in the MRA.

Mr. Cattro introduced himself and provided further details on how professional engineers are chartered (licensed) in the UK.

Mr. Lazell stated that his research indicates that the agreement would be substantially similar to a non-approved applicant applying for a license and there is insignificant risk to the public in participating in the MRA.

The Board discussed the MRA parameters and asked questions of Mr. Cattro.

Clarification was given by Mr. Cattro.

Motion was made, seconded (Burke/Jamison) to recommend to IDFPR to participate in the NCEES UK MRA. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

B. NCEES Central Zone Meeting - report

Ms. Crites shared a report.

Items of note were reported exam volumes were up since 2020, discussion of the UK MRA, profession competencies, and encouragement of licensure within each jurisdiction by developing programs to waive fees.

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Motion to move into Closed Session: Motion was made, seconded (Crites/Middleton) to move into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2C (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 10:56 am. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

8. Closed Session:

A. Review of Closed Minutes
The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the March 28, 2024, meeting.

B. Application Review/discussion
The Board reviewed nine applications pursuant to Sections 1380.242, 1380.250 and 1380.280 of the Rules for the Administration of the Illinois Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989.

Moved back into Open Session: The Board Chair moved the meeting back into Open Session at 11:47 am.

9. Motions, Reminders, and Signatures:

Accept Recommendations: Motion was made, seconded (Jamison/Burke) to accept the recommendations made in closed session. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Approve closed minutes & keep closed minutes closed: Motion was made, seconded (Crites/Burke) to approve the closed meeting minutes as presented and keep the closed minutes closed. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Reminders
Mr. Lazell reminded the Board that the next meeting scheduled is on July 24, 2024.

Action Sheets
On behalf of the Board, the Chair signed action sheets 24-0222 through 24-0230.

10. Adjournment
Motion was made, seconded (Jamison/Rivera) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with a quorum of members. Meeting adjourned at 11:51 am.