

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

Open Minutes

State Board of Professional Engineers

Date: July 24, 2024
Convened: 10:02 am
Adjourned: 11:46 am
Location: Springfield/Chicago/WEBEX

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

Member(s) Absent: Brian Berg Jr, Chair
Myles Alexander, Public Member

Staff Present: Kyle Lazell, Design Licensing Manager
Ronald Almiron, IDFPR General Counsel
Roy Cepero, IDFPR Design Professions Investigator

Guests Present: None.

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 Ms. Crites thanked everyone for attending and asked if any of the members had any comments.

No comments presented.

2. Guest comments *No comments presented.*

3. Licensing Manager Report

A. Rules Update Mr. Lazell shared that the results of the fiscal analysis concluded that fee increases were necessary for the

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profession to be fiscally sound and shared the necessary applicable fee increases, noting that the increases would ensure the profession is fiscally sound until around 2042.

He also stated that in addition to the in-depth internal fiscal analysis, the Department performed a comparative study of other states' licensing fees across the country and determined that the proposed fee increases are right in the middle of the field.

He further commented, the application and renewal fees have remained stagnant for over 20 years, although the Department has implemented multiple technology advancements over the years to streamline the review of applications. Additionally, the Department added staff to increase productivity, maintain membership in NCEES by paying yearly dues, implemented/maintain an online application & renewal system, realized a loss of revenue for processing certain change requests for professional design firms, are all just a few reasons why the fee increases are necessary.

B. FOIA protocols.

Mr. Almiron provided information on a case relevant to FOIA requests.

4. Review of Open Minutes

The Board reviewed the Minutes of the May 30, 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 May 2024 meetings for each profession:

Architect: Opened 5, Closed 2, Referred to prosecutions 0
SE: Opened 0, Closed 0, Referred to prosecutions 2

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PE: Opened 4, Closed 5, Referred to prosecutions 2
LS: Opened 3, Closed 1, Referred to prosecutions 0

Complaints currently under investigation:

Architect – 19
SE – 8
PE – 23
LS – 11

Cases currently being prosecuted:

Architect - 27
Land Surveyor - 4
Professional Engineer -20
Structural Engineer - 8

7. New Business

A. Review of motions and consent agenda items for the NCEES Annual Business Meeting

The Board discussed the motions, highlighting the NZ Motion 1 regarding ETAC/ABET programs being accepted as an approved program. Additional discussion on the topic was to refer it back to the Education Committee to review the topic on a broader scale – whether to accept ETAC courses as part of the NCEES credential evaluation review and how to determine competence for the profession.

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 11:14 am. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

8. Closed Session:

A. Review of Closed Minutes

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the May 30, 2024, meeting.

B. Application Review/discussion

The Board reviewed 5 application 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 Vice Chair moved the meeting back into Open Session at 11:47 am.

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9. Motions, Reminders, and Signatures:

Accept Recommendations: Motion was made, seconded (Jamison/Rivera) 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 (Burke/Rivera) 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 September 25, 2024.

Action Sheets On behalf of the Board, the Vice-Chair signed action sheets 24-0304 through 24-0308.

10. Adjournment Motion was made, seconded (Jamison/Rivera) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with a quorum of members. Meeting adjourned at 11:46 am.