

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

Open Minutes

Structural Engineering Board

Date: May 20, 2025
Convened: 10:02 am
Adjourned: 11:42 am
Location: Springfield/Chicago/WEBEX

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

Member(s) Absent: Jerilyn Hassard, Member
Eric Wheeler, Member

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

Guests Present: Stephanie Crain, SEAOL
Jennie Traut-Todaro, SEAOL
Jacob Mengelkamp

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. Hodel welcomed everyone for attending and asked if any member had any comment to share.

No comments shared.

2. Guest comments

Ms. Crain thanked the board for the opportunity to attend.

3. Licensing Manager Report

A. Rules Update

Mr. Lazell shared that the pending Rule packet has been submitted to JCPR for second notice and adoption.

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- 4. Review of Open Minutes** The Board reviewed the open minutes of the March 25, 2025 meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Lutz) to approve the open minutes of the meeting as amended. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

5. Ongoing Business

- A. Discussion of NCEES PE Structural exam issues Mr. Hodel shared an update on the continued discussion with other states regarding this topic. He noted that while NCEES has stated there are no planned exam changes until April 2027, they will be giving examinees an additional one hour of exam time for the April 2026 exam administration.

He also noted both the Central and Western Zones submitted a request to NCEES to create a task force and examine the noted issues to provide clarity and a path forward for examinees.

- B. Digital Seals/Signature The Board requested that Mr. Almiron provide an update on his research into the requirements for other jurisdictions.
- Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Lutz) to create an Ad Hoc group devoted to research and solutions for this topic. Motion passed with a quorum of members.
- Mr. Hodel and Ms. Kamischke volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc group.

6. Report from Ad Hoc Groups

- A. Complaint Review Group Mr. Lazell shared the Complaint Statistics based on recommendations from the March 2025 meetings for each profession:
- The March CRG was cancelled.
- The Cases currently being prosecuted:
Architect - 25
Land Surveyor - 5
Professional Engineer - 23
Structural Engineer - 10

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7. New Business

A. NCEES CZ/MZ Report

Mr. Lutz shared a report, noting he enjoyed the meeting and there was a lot of discussion on the agenda topics.

Items of discussion were:

- Fraudulent use of seals
- Exam trends
- FE ambassadors
- FE/FS honor cords
- Experience reporting
- PE Structural exam issues
- Motion to reduce pre-test questions
- Structural working group
- Nuclear PE exam
- ETAC degrees

B. NCEES Annual Meeting – Motions

Mr. Lazell reminded the members that he will send an email with the motions that will be voted on at the annual meeting, once they are available from NCEES.

Motion to move into Closed Session:

Motion was made, seconded (Kamischke/Lutz) to move into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 11:00 am. Motion passed with a quorum of members voting yes via roll call.

8. Closed Session:

A. Review of Closed Minutes

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the March 25, 2025, meeting.

B. Application Review/discussion

No applications were reviewed by the Board, 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 11:32 am.

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9. Motions and Reminders

Review closed minutes and
keep closed minutes closed:

Motion was made, seconded (Lutz/Huff) to approve the closed minutes as amended and keep them closed. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Destroy Records:

Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Kamischke) to authorize destruction of closed meeting minute recordings for the years 2004 through 2023. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Reminders

Mr. Lazell reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2025 and to submit travel vouchers for reimbursement.

10. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned the meeting at 11:42 am.