

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

Open Minutes

Structural Engineering Board

Date: September 23, 2025
Convened: 10:15 am
Adjourned: 12:06 pm
Location: Springfield/Chicago/WEBEX

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

Member(s) Absent: Jerilyn Hassard, Member

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

Guests Present: Stephanie Crain, SEAOL
Melissa Cannata, AMBER Books

Open Session: The Meeting was called to order at 10:15 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 and noted that SEAOL will be having a webinar on the recent Rule changes in the fall.

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

3. Licensing Manager Report

- A. Rules Update Mr. Lazell shared that the second Rule packet is currently in first notice period and will expire mid-October. At that time, any comments received will be discussed and then the Rule packet will be sent to JCAR for review. The hope is it will be reviewed by them at their November board meeting and the then adopted by the end of November.
- B. CORE System Update Mr. Lazell noted he has been working with the vendor to build out the design profession applications in the new CORE system and should be fully implemented no later than January 2026. He also said the renewal module for the system will be comprehensive and require uploads of the CE as part of the renewal process.

- 4. Review of Open Minutes** The Board reviewed the open minutes of the July 22, 2025 meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Lutz/Wheeler) 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 Tabled as topic addressed in new business.

6. Report from Ad Hoc Groups

- A. Complaint Review Group Mr. Hodel shared the Complaint Statistics based on recommendations from the July 2025 meetings for each profession:
- Architect: Opened 3, Closed 7, Referred to prosecutions 4
SE: Opened 4, Closed 2, Referred to prosecutions 1
PE: Opened 10, Closed 5, Referred to prosecutions 0
LS: Opened 1, Closed 1, Referred to prosecutions 0
- Complaints currently under investigation:
Architect – 16

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

SE – 8
PE – 31
LS – 6

Cases currently being prosecuted:

Architect - 30
Land Surveyor - 11
Professional Engineer - 22
Structural Engineer - 5

B. Digital Seal/Signature Group

Mr. Hodel asked if members had comments or suggestions for the draft additions to the Rules.

The Board had consensus on the proposed changes.

Mr. Lazell noted he will share the draft with the other design professions to receive their feedback.

7. New Business

A. NCEES Annual Meeting – Report

Mr. Lutz presented a report to the Board.

Main topics discussed included:

- NCEES Foundation
- Central Zone update
- PE Structural exam changes & pass rates
- UK MRA updates

Mr. Wheeler added that NCEES is reducing the number of pre-test questions for the PE Structural exam and a task group was recently formed to investigate whether “significant structures” should be listed in the Model Law and Rules.

Motion to move into Closed Session:

Motion was made, seconded (Kamischke/Freisinger) to move into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 11:24 am. Motion passed with a quorum of members voting yes via roll call.

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

8. Closed Session:

A. Review of Closed Minutes

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the July 22, 2025, meeting.

B. Application Review/discussion

Two 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 12:03 pm.

9. Motions and Reminders

Review closed minutes and keep closed minutes closed:

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

Accept Recommendations:

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

1) Benigno Dizon: Exam waiver request deferred.

2) Santosh Kuruvilla: Exam waiver request approved.

Reminders

Mr. Lazell reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2025 and to submit travel vouchers for reimbursement.

10. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:06 pm.