



IDFPR

Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

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Governor

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Secretary

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Director

Illinois Land Surveyors Licensing Board: Open Meeting Minutes

Date: February 4, 2026

Location: Springfield / Chicago / WebEx

Convened: 10:03 AM | **Adjourned:** 12:05 PM

Roll Call

Members Present:

- Gale E. Hake, Chair
- Rebecca Popeck, Vice-Chair
- James W. Abbitt Jr., Member
- Kim Lyons, Member
- Jennifer Trapani, Member
- Derek Twente, Member

Staff Present:

- Kyle Lazell, Design Licensing Manager
- Ronald Almiron, IDFPR General Counsel
- Roy Cepero, IDFPR Investigator

Guests Present:

- Ryan Roth, IPLSA
- Kim Robinson, IPLSA

Open Session

1. **Board Member Comments:** Ms. Trapani introduced herself as the new board member, noting she has been licensed since 2013 and is the Surveying Lead with Prairie Engineers. The remaining members of the Board introduced themselves.
2. **Guest Comments:** Mr. Roth shared that IPLSA is kicking off the 2026 annual meeting in Springfield on February 4-6.
3. **Board Liaison Report:**
 - A. 2025 Year-in-Review
 - i. Mr. Lazell provided statistics on the profession for the previous year.
4. **Approval of Previous Open Minutes:** The Board reviewed the open minutes of the September 24, 2025 meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Lyons/Twente) to approve the open minutes of the meeting as presented. Motion passed with a quorum of members.
5. **Ongoing Business:**
 - A. NCEES PLSS Exam
 - i. The Board continued the discussion on the issue presented.
6. **Report from Ad Hoc Groups:**
 - A. Complaint Review Group
 - i. Mr. Hake shared the Complaint Statistics for each profession:
 - **Complaints reviewed at the November 2025 meetings:**
 - Architect: Opened 5, Closed 3, Referred 0
 - Structural Engineer (SE): Opened 2, Closed 1, Referred 0
 - Professional Engineer (PE): Opened 6, Closed 5, Referred 1
 - Land Surveyor (LS): Opened 0, Closed 1, Referred 0
 - **Complaints under investigation:**
 - Architect: 18
 - Structural Engineer (SE): 7
 - Professional Engineer (PE): 30
 - Land Surveyor (LS): 5
 - **Cases in prosecutions:**
 - Architect: 29
 - Structural Engineer (SE): 9

- Professional Engineer (PE): 19
- Land Surveyor (LS): 5

B. Jurisdictional Exam Group

- i. Mr. Lazell shared that he will be contacting Dr. Ron Rodgers this month to start the process of convening an exam review committee with the purpose of updating the examination based on the introduction of the NCEES PLSS Exam.
- ii. Mr. Robinson asked if there was a timeline to complete the process.
- iii. Mr. Lazell said the target date is October 2027, to coincide with the implementation of the NCEES PLSS exam administration.
- iv. Mr. Twente will be replacing Mr. Hake with the Jurisdictional Exam Group.

7. New Business:

A. Election of officers: Mr. Lazell shared the requirements for election of Board chair and vice chair.

- i. Mr. Abbitt nominated Ms. Popeck as Chair, she accepted.
- ii. Mr. Abbitt nominated Mr. Twente as Vice Chair, he accepted.
- iii. Motion was made, seconded (Abbitt/Lyons) to close the nominations. Motion passed with a quorum of members.
- iv. Motion was made, seconded (Abbitt/Lyons) to approve the nominations. Motion passed with a quorum of members.
- v. Ms. Popek was elected Chair and Mr. Twente was elected Vice Chair.

B. NCEES CZ/NE Zone Meeting – Delegate Selection: Mr. Lazell shared the 2026 NCEES Central & Northeast Zone joint interim meeting is being held on May 14-16, 2026, in Columbus, OH. NCEES will fund three members of the board to attend. Ms. Popeck, Ms. Lyons, and Mr. Hake will attend on behalf of the Board.

C. General Discussion: No further items presented.

Closed Session

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

Entered Closed Session at 11:45 AM

Review of Previous Closed Minutes: The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the September 24, 2025 meeting.

Application Review/discussion: The Board did not review applications during the meeting but will review and return recommendations in the next few weeks.

The Board Chair moved the meeting back into Open Session.

Returned to Open Session at 12:03 PM

Motions and Reminders

Approval of Previous Closed Minutes: Motion was made, seconded (Popeck/Lyons) 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 is scheduled for March 26, 2026, and to turn in a travel voucher for reimbursement.

Adjournment

Motion was made, seconded (Abbitt/Popeck) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM