



IDFPR

Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

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JB PRITZKER
Governor

MARIO TRETO, JR.
Secretary

CAMILE LINDSAY
Director

Illinois Architecture Licensing Board: Open Meeting Minutes

Date: May 13, 2026

Location: Springfield / Chicago / WebEx

Convened: 9:03 AM | **Adjourned:** 11:01 AM

Roll Call

Members Present:

- Kimberly Kurtenbach, Chair
- Belinda O'Kelly, Vice-Chair
- Robert Anderson, Member
- Kimshasa Baldwin, Member
- Norman Lach, Member
- Robert Lyons, Public Member

Members Absent:

- Michelle Gillette-Murphy, Member

Staff Present:

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

Guests Present:

- Eric Klinner, AIA IL
- Jared Zurn, NCARB
- Josh Batkin, NCARB

Open Session

1. Board Member Comments: No comments.

2. Guest Comments:

- A. Mr. Klinner stated AIA-IL continues to monitor the 2026 Spring legislative session, noting he testified in a house committee meeting on HR678.
- B. Mr. Zurn provided a current outline on the NCARB “Pathways to Practice” educational changes that are in the pipeline and scheduled to be launched in Fall 2028.
 - i. He noted that this process began in 2022 as part of their *Analysis of Practice survey*.
 - ii. Using the compiled answers to the survey, over 100 points of competence were identified within the education, AXP (experience) and ARE (examination) categories.
 - iii. After several committees reviewed the information, they worked toward developing a more robust process to verify that every licensure candidate has satisfied the competencies necessary.
 - iv. Many of the competence points have been combined and the final product lists 16 core competencies that are required for licensure.
 - v. He also stated that a minimum of 2/3rds of the total jurisdictions adopting the changes are necessary.
 - vi. He also shared that the ARE 5.0 will remain in effect until at least 2030.
 - vii. The Board thanked NCARB for attending, providing the information and being available for future discussions as necessary.

3. Board Liaison Report:

- A. Licensing System Update
 - i. Mr. Lazell shared the Design Firm application was scheduled to be built and launched within CORE back in March; however, there were several issues that were present during the initial walk-through of the draft. A tentative go-live date is not available but he hopes to have it completed in June.

4. Approval of Previous Open Minutes: The Board reviewed the open minutes of the March 11, 2026 meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Lach/Anderson) to approve the open minutes of the meeting as presented. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

5. Ongoing Business:

- A. CE Infographic.

- i. Mr. Lazell shared that Mr. Almiron noted that all items for public dispersal must be developed by DPR. He shared a draft infographic that was created by DPR.
- ii. Ms. Baldwin noted the intent of the graphic was to include information on where licensees can obtain the required hours.
- iii. Mr. Lazell agreed and will add info to the image and share at the July meeting.

6. Ad Hoc Group Reports:

A. Complaint Review Group

- i. Ms. Kurtenbach shared the Complaint Statistics for each profession:

• Complaints reviewed at the March 2026 meetings:

- Architect: Opened 9, Closed 8, Referred 1
- Structural Engineer (SE): Opened 3, Closed 3, Referred 0
- Professional Engineer (PE): Opened 13, Closed 9, Referred 1
- Land Surveyor (LS): Opened 1, Closed 1, Referred 1

• Complaints under investigation:

- Architect: 20
- Structural Engineer (SE): 11
- Professional Engineer (PE): 35
- Land Surveyor (LS): 5

• Cases in prosecutions:

- Architect: 34
- Structural Engineer (SE): 10
- Professional Engineer (PE): 26
- Land Surveyor (LS): 7

B. NCARB Information Review Group

- i. Ms. Kurtenbach shared that she was reappointed to NCARBs Education Committee. Ms. O'Kelly shared a report, noting that many of the items are being discussed in other agenda items.

C. Continuing Education Group

- i. Ms. Baldwin said she believes this group should go inactive at this time, given the infographic is being developed.

7. New Business:

A. NCARB Regional Meeting – Report.

- i. Ms. O’Kelly shared a report, noting it was a great meeting, and she found it very interesting how different each jurisdiction is in how they regulate the architect profession.

B. General Discussion: No further items presented.

Closed Session

Motion to move into Closed Session: Motion was made, seconded (Anderson/Lach) 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 10:50 AM

Review of Previous Closed Minutes: The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the March 11, 2026 meeting.

Application Review/discussion: The Board reviewed one application during this meeting.

The Board Chair moved the meeting back into Open Session.

Returned to Open Session at 10:54 AM

Motions and Reminders

Approval of Previous Closed Minutes: Motion was made, seconded (Lach/Baldwin) to approve the closed meeting minutes as presented, and keep the closed minutes closed. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

Approval of Recommendations: Motion was made, seconded (Lach/Baldwin) to approve the recommendations made in closed session. Motion passed with a quorum of members.

- 1) Nathaniel Stark – Education review, OK to approve licensure.

Reminders: Mr. Lazell reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2026, and to turn in a travel voucher for reimbursement.

Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 AM