

## PRACTICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 22, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.

### The Heathman Lodge-Vancouver, WA & Microsoft Teams (Virtual)

#### Committee

Dave Peden, PE, SE, Chair

Doug Hendrickson, PE

James Wengler, PLS, CFedS

#### Guest(s)

Ivan VanDeWege, PE

Anne Anderson, PE, SE

Corina Murtean

Sharon Zimmerman, PE

Robert Wallis, PE

#### Staff

Ken Fuller, PE, Director

Rich Larson, PLS, Deputy Director

Shanan Gillespie, Regulatory Program Manager

Greg Schieferstein, Communications Manager

Vonna Cramer, Licensing Lead

Mackenzie Wherrett, Executive Assistant

Jill Short, Investigations Manager

Elizabeth Lagerberg, Advising AAG

### 1. Complaint Summary

<b>Total Complaints Received</b>	<b>9</b>
Engineering Complaints	4
Surveying Complaints	4
On-Site Designer Complaints	1
<b>Total Administrative Closures</b>	<b>2</b>
Engineering Closures	2
Surveying Closures	0
On-Site Designer Closures	0

### 2. Compliance Report

Mr. Peden reported there are currently 2 individuals on compliance monitoring (Ryan Hawkins and Kent Huxel). Mr. Hawkins has not responded to multiple emails about his proposed payment plan and is out of compliance with his board order and will be turned over to collections. Staff is working on obtaining a contract with a collection agency. Mr. Huxel requested the final cease & desist order be vacated. The board denied that request. Respondent filed a Notice of Appeal to Snohomish County Superior Court. Notice sent to AAG. Our AAG is filing a motion to dismiss his appeal.

### 3. Discussion Topics

- Complaint Process/Tracking  
Staff is currently working on the complaint/investigation/legal processes. The intent of this project is: improve efficiency and accountability; to break down the entire

complaint/investigation/legal process in step-by-step details and document it; create a tracking and notification system; and obtain Board agreement on suggested timelines.

Staff is working with our SharePoint contractor, Diane Gallagher, on implementing a tracking and notification system using SharePoint. Once the project is complete, training to board members will be provided.

- Law Enforcement Action for Unlicensed Practice

Staff meet with our AAG and found we would need to file a complaint with the local law enforcement agency where the unlicensed activity or fraud occurred. It would then be up to that law enforcement agency to investigate and take to their prosecution for action. As part of the complaint we file, we would include all evidence from our investigation.

- Reconsideration Requests

There is no current procedure for reconsideration requests. Staff asked the PC to review past policy. It was determined to add specific language to our closure notices to the complainants regarding submitting additional information not previously considered and the case may be reopened.

The Board may also consider adding that type of language to WAC 196-09-015.

- Wallis Tunnel Concept Assessment

Will be discussed by the Board under Agenda Item 4.3.

- Licensure Requirements for Radio System Services

Treated on a case-by-case basis when the term Engineering is used in the company title.

#### 4. Strategic Planning Items

- AIA/PE Stamping and green book resolution – the AAG did come out with an opinion on the stamping issues. That opinion was the stamping requirements should be determined by the local permitting jurisdiction. Ms. Lagerberg sent that full opinion out to members.

Ms. Lagerberg and Mr. Fuller will contact Sydney Muhle, Program Specialist Lead, for the Board's Section of the Business & Professions Division, Department of Licensing about removing BRPELS information from the Guidelines for Building Officials they currently have on their website.

Staff has removed the link to the Guidelines for Building Officials from our website.

- ~~• Determine WA States direction on decoupling exam experience while maintaining the practice emphasis of the exams. WA State law do not allow for decoupling for exams which BRPELS processes applications. Issue will be removed from monitoring.~~
- ~~• Mobility of licensing for Federal employees and spouse. Current processes in law, rule and policy allows for mobility of licenses thru an expedient process. No further action at this time.~~

#### 5. Action Items

None

## **6. Recommendations to the Board**

None