

# STATE OF WASHINGTON BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

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# SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** October 17, 2024

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** Gonzaga University

Hemmingson Center, La Sorta

702 E Desmet Ave Spokane, WA 99202

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

#### **Board Members**

Marjorie Lund, PE, SE, Chair Doug Hendrickson, PE, Vice Chair Aaron Blaisdell, PLS, (via Webex) Maureen Jackson, PE James Wengler, PLS, CFedS Dave Peden, PE, SE Mike Harney, PE

#### Guest(s)

Danitza Castleman, Prosecuting AAG (via WebEx) Pat Beehler, PLS (via WebEx) Leif Kirchoff (via WebEx) Patrick (via WebEx)

# 1. Call to Order at 9:00 am

1.1. Roll Call

Kim (via WebEx)

Ms. Lund took roll call.

1.2. Order of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Hendrickson, and seconded by Mr. Wengler, to accept the agenda as written. Motion approved.

1.3. Approval of the August 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes
A motion was made by Mr. Wengler, and seconded by Mr. Peden, to accept the August 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes as written. Motion carried.

1.4. Public Comment Opportunity

# **Staff Members**

Ken Fuller, PE, Director Kristina Horton, PLS, Deputy Director (via WebEx)

Mackenzie Wherrett, Executive Assistant Bryce Dickison, Administrative Assistant Shanan Gillespie, Regulatory Program Manager Jill Short, Investigations & Compliance Manager Vonna Cramer, Licensing Lead Greg Schieferstein, Communications Manager Elizabeth Lagerberg, Advising AAG (via WebEx) Ian Shelley, DES, Senior Financial Advisor (via WebEx) No public comment.

#### **Executive Session**

Ms. Lund, Board Chair, announced that the Board would go into closed session to consult with the board attorney to discuss matters related to enforcement, and cases in current litigation. It was estimated the Executive Session would last from 9:06 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

# Open Session Reconvened - 10:00 a.m.

# 1.4.1. Public Comment by Leif Kirchoff

Mr. Kirchoff was present to give comments when the open session was reconvened. The Board Chair allowed Mr. Kirchoff to provide comments. Mr. Kirchoff addressed a complaint he filed and his opinion on the closure of the case. Mr. Kirchoff added he'll be filing a new complaint about the same respondent. Mr. Kirchoff believed the respondent had a conflict of interest based on WAC 196-27A-020. Ms. Lund stated that the board cannot comment on the matter and thanked Mr. Kirchoff for the response.

# 2. Disciplinary Action

#### 2.1. Case Deliberation

2024-02-0418-00ENG

Ms. Lund recommended the case be closed with no further action. A motion was made by Mr. Wengler, seconded by Mr. Harney, to accept the Case Manager's recommendation for closure. Motion approved. Ms. Lund abstained.

# 2023-01-0098-00LSV

Ms. Short provided a summary of the <u>Agreed Order</u>. A motion was made by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Mr. Hendrickson, to approve the proposed agreed order. Motion approved. Mr. Wengler abstained.

The Board and the Respondent agreed to the following terms:

Effective October 17, 2024, the Respondent was assessed a \$5000 fine and will cease and desist the practice of land surveying; and will not seek licensure for a period of ten years.

#### 2.1.1. 2022-06-0883-00LSV

Ms. Short provided a summary of the <u>Agreed Order</u>. A motion was made by Mr. Hendrickson, seconded by Ms. Jackson, to accept the proposed agreed order. Motion approved. Mr. Wengler abstained.

The Board and the Respondent agreed to the following terms:

Effective October 17, 2024, the Respondent was assessed a \$5000 fine, and the survey will be corrected to meet the standards of laws/rules and filed within 90 days.

# 2.2. Disciplinary Report

Ms. Short provided a summary of the Disciplinary Report that was included in the <u>board packet</u>. Ms. Short will adjust case manager open complaints document to exclude half numbers. Mr. Blaisdell inquired why Mr. Dale had three cases. Ms. Short explained that

the three cases were the same Respondent.

# 3. Committee Reports

3.1. Exam Qualifications Committee (EQC)

The board received the committee's reports as delivered by Mr. Harney.

- o <u>10/9/2024 EQC Report</u>
- o 10/16/2024 EQC Report
- 3.2. Survey Committee (SC)

The board received the committee's report as delivered by Mr. Wengler.

- o 10/16/2024 SC Report
- 3.3. Executive Committee (EC)

The board received the committee's report as delivered by Ms. Lund.

- o <u>10/16/2024 EC Report</u>
- 3.4. Practice Committee (PC)

The board received the committee's report as delivered by Mr. Hendrickson.

o <u>10/16/2024 PC Report</u>

#### 4. New Business

4.1. Approval of CR102 for WAC 196-09-152 Indexes (NEW SECTION) (from EC) Ms. Lund recommended advancing the CR102 for WAC 196-09-152 that adds new language about public indexes. Mr. Hendrickson motioned, seconded by Mr. Peden, to file the CR102 that adds new language for public indexes. Motion carried.

#### Discussion:

The board discussed how staff will input repealed policies.

4.2. Approval of CR103 for WAC 196-16-120 (PDH for PLS) (from SC)

A motion was made by Mr. Wengler, and seconded by Mr. Harney, to file CR103 for WAC 196-16-120. Motion carried.

#### Discussion:

Mr. Peden mentioned that he's in favor of limiting certain PDH.

4.3. Recommendation to move forward with the decoupling process for PE & PLS exams (from EOC)

Mr. Harney explained that EQC needed approval from the board before moving forward with developing language. Mr. Hendrickson motioned, seconded by Mr. Harney, for the board to approve advancement of decoupling and for EQC to review RCW 18.43 and WAC provisions to support decoupling Professional Engineers.

# Discussion:

Ms. Lagerberg confirmed EQC will need direction from the board to begin drafting language. Mr. Hendrickson made a friendly amendment to his motion that the board approve advancement of decoupling and direct EQC to draft RCW 18.43 language to

support decoupling.

The board discussed how PLS are affected by decoupling. The Survey Committee previously discussed decoupling and decided to exclude it from scope. Ms. Lagerberg confirmed that decoupling should not change any rules associated with Professional Land Surveyors. Ms. Cramer added that the Structural Committee will be looking at decoupling the SE examination. Ms. Lund requested the friendly amendment be revised to consider how language will impact the professions the board regulates. Mr. Hendrickson revised his friendly amendment of the original motion to exclude PLS.

Ms. Lagerberg asked Ms. Lund to clarify the meaning of "how it would affect all of the licensees". Ms. Lund explained that if we're going to change RCW and WAC language, we need to consider how it will impact Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors, Structural Engineers and possibly On-Site licenses. Mr. Peden explained that the Exam Qualification Committee has not completed the review process. Ms. Lagerberg clarified that currently the board needs to give directions to the committees, and then the committees will consider if RCW or WAC language needs to be updated and what potential roadblocks they find.

- 4.4. Select the November meeting date to approve filing CR103 for fees (from EC)
  Ms. Lund provided the timeline for approving CR103. On November 6, 2024, public hearing.
  Ms. Lund directed we hold a Special Board meeting on Monday, November 18, 2024, from 2:00 2:30 pm.
- 4.5. Select board meeting dates for 2025

Meeting Date - 2025	Meeting Location:
February 12 & 13	SeaTac, WA
April 16 & 17	Bothel, WA
June 16 & 17	SeaTac, WA
August 6 & 7	SeaTac, WA
October 15 & 16	Pullman, WA
December 10 & 11	Olympia, WA

# Discussion:

The Annual Board Meeting is required to be in the third week of June according to WAC 196-09-120.

#### 4.6. 2025 NCEES National Service Awards Nomination

Mr. Wengler nominated Mr. Blaisdell for the NCEES National Service award. The board agreed to the nomination. A motion was made by Mr. Wengler, seconded by Mr. Hendrickson, to nominate Mr. Blaisdell for the NCEES National Service award. Motion approved.

# 5. **Director's Report**

# 5.1. Financial Report

Mr. Shelley was available for questions. The report was provided to EC and in the board

#### packet.

# 5.2. Agency Operations

Mr. Schieferstein covered the <u>Communication and Outreach Report</u> from the Executive Committee. Ms. Horton gave an update on Mr. Garcia's appointment and start date, working on the Management Analyst 4 position, and offered kudos to staff for their effort with the success of the outreach event. Mr. Fuller explained how the agency will contract a lobbying company to help with legislation.

# 6. Other Business

# 6.1. Additional Public Comment No comments provided

# 6.2. Upcoming Outreach and Events

- o October 24 & 25, 2024 WA-ACTE in Grand Mound
- o November 16, 2024 On-Site Workshop
- o January 23-24, 2025 WOSSA Septic Con in Tacoma
- o January 30-February 2, 2025 Home and Garden Show in Tacoma
- o February 26-27, 2025 LSAW conference in Tulalip
- o March 6-8 WITEA Spring Conference in Wenatchee

# 6.3. Board/Staff Affiliate Involvement

Mr. Hendrickson will begin sessions with NCEES EPP committee starting with two, 3 hour video sessions. Mr. Hendrickson will be attending a meeting with NSPE in January for the Policy and Advocacy Committee. Ms. Lund will review the EPE PAK study for Professional Engineer Architectural Engineers. Ms. Lund asked Ms. Cramer for assistance with a list of who has taken the PE Architectural exam and is licensed in Building Systems Engineering.

# 6.4. Action Items from This Meeting

- Ms. Gillespie to advance the CR102 for 196-09-152 regarding public indexing.
- o Ms. Gillespie to file CR103 for WAC 196-16-120.
- EQC to prepare revisions to RCW 18.43 and WAC provisions to support decoupling for Professional Engineers.
- Ms. Wherrett to schedule a special board meeting for November 18, 2024, via WebEx and the Olympia office.
- Mr. Wengler and board staff to work on and submit a nomination for Mr. Blaisdell for the NCEES National Service award.
- SC & SE to review decoupling
- Mr. Shieferstein will reach out to Washington State University and University of Washington Bothell about outreach opportunities in 2025.

# 6.5. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Select Director Review Committee members for Director's Evaluation.
- Approval of CR103 and Concise Explanatory Statement for pronoun usage.

# 7. Adjourn Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Hendrickson, and seconded by Ms. Lund, to adjourn the meeting at 1:48 p.m. Motion approved.

**Next Meeting:** November 18, 2024 – Special Board Meeting – BRPELS Office, Olympia, WA & WebEx Respectfully submitted,

Ken Fuller, PE, Director