



STATE OF WASHINGTON
BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 20, 2022

TIME: 8:00 a.m.

LOCATION: The Orcas Room, The Radisson Hotel SeaTac, Seattle, WA & WebEx

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members

Doug Hendrickson, PE, Chair
Dave Peden, PE, SE, Vice Chair
Aaron Blaisdell, PLS
Nirmala Gnanapragasam, Ph.D, PE
Marjorie Lund, PE, SE
Ivan VanDeWege, PE
James Wengler, PLS, CFedS

Guest(s)

Kai Cao (WebEx)
Dan Goldman (WebEx)

Staff Members

Elizabeth Lagerberg, Advising AAG (WebEx)
Danitza Casselman, Prosecuting AAG (WebEx)
Ken Fuller, PE, Director (WebEx)
Richard Larson, PLS, Deputy Director
Mackenzie Wherrett, Executive Assistant
Vonna Cramer, Licensing Lead
Shanan Gillespie, Regulatory Program Manager
Jill Short, Investigations & Compliance Manager
Greg Schieferstein, Outreach & Communication Manager

1. Call to Order at 8:01 am

1.1. Roll Call

Mr. Hendrickson took roll call.

1.2. Order of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Blaisdell, and seconded by Mr. VanDeWege, to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

1.3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Gnanapragasam, and seconded by Mr. Blaisdell, to accept the August 11, 2022 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

1.4. Review Correspondence & Communications

The board reviewed Mr. Fuller's response to an email from Mr. Welsh regarding engineering licensing exemptions. Mr. Welsh provided an article he authored titled, 'Boeing's Licensure-Exemption Culture'.

1.5. Public Comment Opportunity

None provided.

Executive Session

Mr. Hendrickson, Board Chair, announced that the Board would go into closed session to consult with

the board attorney and discuss matters related to enforcement and cases in current litigation. It was estimated Executive Session would last from 8:12 a.m. until 8:42 a.m.

Open Session Reconvened - 8:42 a.m.

2. Disciplinary Action

2.1. Recommended Case Closures

2018-04-0004-00ENG

Mr. Blaisdell recommended the case be closed.

A motion was made by Mr. Wengler, and seconded by Mr. Peden, to accept the case manager's recommendation for closure. Motion carried. Mr. Blaisdell abstained.

2022-08-1149-00OSW

Mr. Peden recommended the case be closed.

A motion was made by Ms. Lund, and seconded by Mr. Wengler, to accept the case manager's recommendation for closure. Motion carried. Mr. Peden abstained.

2.2. Disciplinary Report

Ms. Short provided a summary of the Disciplinary Report that was included in the [board packet](#).

3. Committee Reports

3.1. Executive Committee

Mr. Hendrickson delivered the committee's report.

- [10/19/22 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Mr. Peden, and seconded by Mr. VanDeWege, to accept the Executive Committee report. Motion carried.

3.2. Practice Committee (PC)

Mr. Peden delivered the committee's report.

- [10/19/22 Practice Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Ms. Lund, and seconded by Ms. Gnanapragasam, to accept the Practice Committee report. Motion carried.

3.3. Exam Qualifications Committee (EQC)

Ms. Gnanapragasam delivered the committee's report.

- [10/19/22 Exam Qualifications Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Mr. Peden, and seconded by Mr. VanDeWege, to accept the Exam Qualifications Committee report. Motion carried.

3.4. Survey Committee

Mr. Wengler delivered the committee's report.

- [10/19/22 Survey Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

3.5. On-Site Committee

Mr. Blaisdell delivered the committee's report.

- [10/10/22 On-Site Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

4. New Business

4.1. 2022/2023 Meeting Schedule

Mr. VanDeWege made a motion to hold the December 8, 2022, Special Board Meeting and December 7, 2022, Committee Meetings as in-person hybrid meetings at the board's Olympia office.

Discussion:

Mr. Fuller explained that changing the location of the December meetings is to reduce the commute of Board Members and Board Staff during the holidays. A friendly amendment was made by Mr. Blaisdell to have the December 2022 committee meetings and board meeting in Olympia with the option of virtual attendance. The friendly amendment was accepted. The board determined the following dates for 2023 meetings:

<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Meeting Location</u>
February 22 & 23	Vancouver
April 17 - 21 & 26	Olympia
June 21 & 22	Tri-Cities
August 9 & 10	SeaTac
October 18 & 19	Spokane
December 6 & 7	Olympia

The motion made by Mr. VanDeWege was seconded by Ms. Gnanapragasam. Motion carried.

4.2. Approval of On-Site Cut Score (from EQC)

A motion was made by Ms. Lund and seconded by Mr. Wengler to approve the Exam Qualifications Committee recommendation of a cut score of 82/100 for the September 2022 State Specific On-Site Exam. Motion carried.

4.3. Approval of PLS State Specific Exam Cut Score (from EQC)

A motion was made by Ms. Gnanapragasam and seconded by Mr. Blaisdell to approve the Exam Qualifications Committee recommendation of a cut score of 28/40 for the September 2022 State Specific PLS Exam. Motion carried.

4.4. RCW 18.43 Engineers and Land Surveyors (from PC)

No action required. Mr. Fuller reported during the Practice Committee Meeting on October 19, 2022 that staff are waiting for Bill Enrollment and Agency Requests System (BEARS) with Office of Financial Management (OFM) to review proposed changes. Mr. Bitar has done a Fiscal Note and found no fiscal impacts. Mr. Fuller is hopeful we should have a response from OFM by the middle of November.

- 4.5. Approval of Filing CR102 for WAC 196-26A & WAC 196-30 (From Executive Committee)
Ms. Lund moved to approve the filing of CR102 for WAC 196-26A and WAC 196-30. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wengler. Motion carried.
- 4.6. Approval of Filing CR102 for WAC 196-32 (from EQC)
A motion was made by Ms. Gnanapragasam and seconded by Mr. VanDeWege to approve the filing of CR102 for WAC 196-32. Motion carried.
- 4.7. Approval of Monument Removal/Replacement Response to DNR (from PC)
Mr. Peden moved to approve the Monument Removal/Replacement Response to DNR and seconded by Mr. Blaisdell. Ms. Lagerberg recommended that the board review again before sending the response to DNR as she had some concerns. Mr. Hendrickson called a vote to approve the Monument Removal/Replacement Response to DNR.

Mr. Blaisdell and Mr. Wengler in favor. Ms. Lund, Ms. Gnanapragasam, Mr. VanDeWege, and Mr. Peden opposed. Mr. Hendrickson abstained.

Motion does not pass. Mr. Hendrickson directed that the monument removal/replacement response to DNR be referred to the Survey Committee.

5. Directors Report

5.1. Financial Report

Mr. Fuller provided an overview of the financial report produced by Mr. Bitar that was included in the [board packet](#). He reported the agency is in excellent financial condition and stated the agency is projected to end the biennium with about \$1.59 million in its operating account and is on track to underspend appropriation this biennium by \$555,000. He reported last fiscal year, the agency generated \$2.52 million in licensing revenue vs. \$2.11 million during the same period last biennium. This represents an increase of about 19.4% between biennia.

5.2. Agency Operations

Mr. Fuller informed the committee that Ms. Wherrett has been hired as the Executive Assistant, and Ms. Emily Weston has been hired as a temporary employee to help the licensing section.

Mr. Fuller reported that board staff have recently received compliments from internal and external customers regarding our agency as a favorite to interact with, highlighting customer service and timeliness.

5.3. Program Reports

Board Staff provided summaries of the program reports included within the [board packet](#).

5.3.1. Communications & Outreach – Mr. Schieferstein

5.3.2. Regulatory – Ms. Gillespie

5.3.3. Investigation & Compliance – Ms. Short

5.3.4. Licensing – Ms. Cramer

5.3.5. Admin – Ms. Wherrett

5.4. Other Items

5.4.1. Board SharePoint Site FAQ

Ms. Gillespie asked the board for clarification on what type of frequently asked questions and answers they would like to see on the Board Member SharePoint site. Mr. Hendrickson would like to see use of maintenance automation or a process to remove outdated FAQs. Ms. Lund and Mr. Blaisdell would like to see practice questions. Mr. Wengler would like to search and filter the FAQs using keywords.

6. Assistant Attorney General's Report

6.1. Introducing The New Prosecuting AAG

The new Prosecuting AAG, Ms. Casselman had to leave the meeting early, but plans on attending the December board meeting.

6.2. Reminder of How to Cite RCWs & WACs

Ms. Lagerberg reported how to properly cite RCWs and WACs as a reminder to board members and board staff.

If you are citing laws or rules without section references, you use the word "Title" in front of the RCW or WAC. For example: Title 18 RCW or Title 196 WAC. You use the word "Chapter" if you are citing a chapter (or section) from the Title law/rule. For example: Chapter 18.210 RCW or Chapter 196-09 WAC.

If you are citing law or rules with (exact) section references, you do not use the terms "Chapter" or "Title." They are cited with RCW or WAC put before the law/rule being cited. For example: RCW 18.210.190 or WAC 196-09-010.

6.3. Update on Tappell Case

Ms. Lagerberg reported that the Washington State Court of Appeals indicated an oral argument in December but there is currently no timeline.

Ms. Lagerberg discussed the upcoming Washington Association of Building Officials (WABO) conference on October 28, 2022. Mr. Peden and Ms. Lagerberg will be in attendance. Ms. Lagerberg will have a PowerPoint presentation for the conference.

7. Other Business

7.1. Additional Public Comment

Mr. Cao asked a licensing question regarding applying for a Professional Engineer license. Mr. Cao was directed to email all licensing questions to the board staff at engineers@brpels.wa.gov. Mr. Fuller asked Mr. Cao to provide a phone number and Mr. Fuller will call directly with a response to his question.

7.2. Upcoming Outreach and Events

- 10/28/22 | WABO, Architects Board, BRPELS | Spokane | Mr. Peden and Ms. Lagerberg
- 11/4/22 | Olympic College | Bremerton | Mr. Hendrickson
- 12/1/22 | City of Bellevue and surrounding building departments | Bellevue | Ms. Lund and Mr. Fuller

7.3. Action Items from This Meeting

- Board Staff to look at starting the rule-making process for WAC 196-29 - Professional Practices
- Board Staff to file the CR102 for WAC 196-26A & WAC 196-30 with the Code Reviser's Office.
- Mr. Schieferstein to begin planning of outreach to licensees pertaining to general information about renewals.
- Board Staff to file the CR102 for WAC 196-32 with the Code Reviser's Office.
- Mr. Schieferstein to obtain more information about who will engage in the website survey and provide it to the board.
- Ms. Cramer to provide the board with statistical data on licensing on an annual basis.
- Mr. Schieferstein to assist Ms. Lagerberg with a PowerPoint presentation for the WABO conference.
- Ms. Wherrett to clean up rolling action items list for the next board meeting.

7.4. Agenda Items for Next Meeting.

- None

8. Adjourn Meeting

A motion was made by Ms. Lund, and seconded by Mr. Wengler, to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: December 08, 2022 - Special Board Meeting - Olympia & WebEx

Respectfully submitted



Ken Fuller, PE, Director