



State of Idaho

Division Of Occupational and Professional Licenses Idaho Board of Licensure of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors

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Minutes of 02/26/2024

Board Members Present: Dick Jacobson, Chair
Ray Watkins, Vice Chair
Tom Ruby, Secretary
Wyatt Johnson
Sondra Miller
Glenn Bennett
Keith Brooks

Division Staff: Jessica Spoja, Executive Officer
Lea Kear, Legal Counsel
Mark Kubinski, Lead Counsel
MiChell Bird, Investigations Prg. Mgr.
Nicole Kenyon, Licensing Supervisor
Don Morse, Investigations Supervisor
Renee Bryant, Board Support Supervisor
Patty Sayre, Technical Records Spc. 2
Erin Einarsson, Board Support Specialist
Zack Trujillo, Board Support Specialist

Others

Present: Andrea Rosholt, Prosecution Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 AM MT by Chairman Dick Jacobson.

APPROVAL OF 01/10/2024 MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 10, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF 01/11/2024 MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 11, 2024 meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

DIVISION BUSINESS

Finance Report: Executive Officer (EO) Spoja addressed the Financial Report, “FY2023 YEAR END REVENUES and EXPENDITURES as of June 30, 2023”. A more comprehensive report will be provided at the next board meeting.

BOARD BUSINESS

Additions to Idaho Code § 50-1304: The Idaho Society of Professional Land Surveyors (ISPLS) contacted EO Spoja requesting details about [Idaho Code § 50-1304](#), including the history of the bill, who sponsored the bill and when it went into effect. EO Spoja presented the timeline of Senate Bill 1061, the Statement of Purpose and reviewed the changes. This will be included in the upcoming newsletter.

Senate Bill 1298: EO Spoja reviewed [Senate Bill 1298](#), which amends Idaho Code § 50-1304 and 55-1902 to revise the definition of “Basis of Bearing”.

Idaho State University (ISU) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC): Board Member Bennett presented a report on the ISU Surveying and Geomatics Engineering TAC meeting held on February 7, 2024. TAC is comprised of stakeholders from industry, equipment and software suppliers, and ISU educators and department heads. Various topics were covered including enrollment, scholarship opportunities, software programs, mentorships, ABET Accreditation, the FS Exam, the Future Surveyors Foundation, the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) conference in Washington D.C. and graduate job placement rates (100% for the past five years). EO Spoja requested that Board Member Bennett provide a summary of the meeting for the next newsletter.

Digital Submittals: Board Member Watkins proposed writing an article for the newsletter with regards to the various uses and the legality of digital signatures. Board Members Watkins and Ruby will collaborate on an article regarding Digital Submittals for the next newsletter.

Mechanical Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam Inquiry: DOPL Licensing Staff received an email from Dr. Bryan Lewis, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Brigham Young University – Idaho requesting the IPEPLS Board’s perspective on the following questions to which Board Member Miller answered.

1. “Which FE Exam is preferable for a mechanical engineering graduate? Why?”
 - a. The FE Mechanical exam is preferrable because the exam is in line with the Mechanical Engineering Degree curriculum. However, a student can take whichever FE exam they feel most capable of passing.
2. “Does taking the Other Disciplines exam have any impact on a student’s future path to PE licensure?”
 - a. No. Taking the Other Disciplines exam does not have an impact on the path to licensure.
3. “Do you have any comment of the comparative difficulty of the Mechanical vs. Other Disciplines exam?”
 - a. Each exam is equivalent in level of difficulty. The NCEES website provides specifics on each FE exam option.

Board Member Miller suggested that these questions and answers be included in the upcoming newsletter.

Idaho PLS Exam: Due to the proprietary information that could affect a person’s ability to take the exam, this topic was discussed during Executive Session.

NCEES Western Zone Meeting Voting: EO Spoja will reach out to NCEES to procure a full list of the candidates and invite them to present at the next IPELS Board Meeting. Board Member Brooks requested that the Board review the Proposed NCEES Bylaws Revisions at the next IPELS Board meeting.

Review of Licensure Applications: The Board reviewed applications XC-4467, XL-2471, XL-3857, XL-4546, XL-8183, XL-9488, XP-1259, XP-1452, XP-2908A, XP-3124A, XP-3388A, XP-3964, XP-4638, XP-4735, XP-4742, XP-5210, XP-5764, XP-8218, XP-8396A and XP-8772 making the following motions.

A motion was made and seconded to approve applications XC-4467, XL-2471, XL-4546, XL-8183, XP-1259, XP-1452, XP-3124A, XP-3388A, XP-3964 (civil only), XP-4638, XP-4735, XP-5210, XP-5764, XP-8218, XP-8396A and XP-8772 (civil only). The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to continue applications XL-3857, XL-9488 and XP-2908A. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to deny, with the option to withdraw, application XP-4742. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – APPLICATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

Motion to Enter into Executive Session: A motion was made and seconded for the Board to enter into executive session under Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under the Idaho Public Records Law, Idaho Code § 74-106(9). The purpose of the executive session is to discuss documents relating to the fitness of a licensee to obtain or retain a license or registration. Roll call: Chairman Jacobson-Aye, Vice Chairman Watkins-Aye; Secretary Ruby-Aye; Board Member Bennett-Aye, Board Member Brooks-Aye, Board Member Johnson-Aye and Board Member Miller-Aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion to Exit Executive Session: A motion was made and seconded to exit executive session. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion(s) re: Application(s): A motion was made and seconded to deny the COA Waiver Requests of C-4356, Herbert Engineering Corporation, Colombo Sales and Engineering, PCS Engineering and Nova Technologies: An Employee-Owned Engineering Company. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion(s) re: Discipline: A motion was made and seconded to close cases I-IPELS-2023-6, I-IPELS-2024-10, I-IPELS-2024-11, I-IPELS-2024-2, I-IPELS-2024-4, I-IPELS-2024-5, and I-IPELS-2022-4. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to extend cases I-IPELS-2023-2, I-IPELS-2024-1, I-IPELS-2024-6, I-IPELS-2024-7, I-IPELS-2024-8, and I-IPELS-2024-9. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to refile cases FY 2021.04, FY 2021.09, FY 2021.10, FY 2022.02, FY 2022.03, FY 2022.04, and I-IPELS-2022-2. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to send to prosecution cases I-IPELS-2023-1, I-IPELS-2023-3, I-IPELS-2023-4, and I-IPELS-2023.5. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Scott Sayles, PE, joined the meeting to announce that he is a candidate for the Western Zone NCEES Assistant Vice President. He will provide a handout for the board members and is available for questions. EO Spoja will reach out to all candidates and invite them to the next board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:54 PM.