

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING
AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD
9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433
October 10, 2022

At 1:18 p.m. on October 10, 2022, Christopher K. Richard, P.E. called the meeting to order at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, 201 Lafayette Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana with the following members present:

Christopher K. Richard, P.E.	Chairman
Chad C. Vosburg, P.E.	Vice Chairman
Edgar P. Benoit, P.E.	Secretary
Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S.	Treasurer

Connie P. Betts, P.E.
Reginald L. Jeter, P.E.
Linda H. Bergeron, P.E.
Byron D. Racca, P.E.
James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S.
Janice P. Williams, P.E.
Vijaya Gopu, Ph.D., P.E.

Also present: Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director
D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney
Joe Harman, P.E., Technical Advisor
Bill Tripoli, IT Director
William Hyatt, Board Investigator
Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E., Emeritus Member

The invocation was led by Mr. Jeter and the pledge was led by Mr. Benoit.

Public comment time was recognized by Chairman Richard.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to accept the October 10, 2022 proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Vosburg, to approve the minutes from the July 25, 2022 Board meeting.

Compliance and Enforcement

Case # 2021-7 – Mr. Hyatt reported on an unlicensed firm (that subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm) which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering and used the words “engineer”, “engineering” or any modification or derivative thereof in a person’s name or form of business or activity without proper licensure. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

1. Fine of \$3,000
2. Costs of \$685
3. Cease and desist
4. Publication on the Board’s website and in the Journal with name
5. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Betts, Mr. Jeter and Ms. Bergeron, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **The Integration Group of Americas, Inc.**

1 **Case # 2022-16** – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineer who was
2 convicted of a felony or of a crime of moral turpitude or entered a plea of guilty
3 or nolo contendere to a felony charge or to a crime of moral turpitude under
4 the laws of the United States or any state, territory, or district of the United
5 States. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order
6 offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order
7 contained the following sanctions:

- 8 1. Revocation of license
- 9 2. Prohibition on requesting the reissuance of revoked license for at least 10
10 years
- 11 3. Costs of \$1,433.67
- 12 4. Publication on the Board’s website and in the Journal with name
- 13 5. Report to NCEES with name

14 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
15 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Betts, Mr. Jeter and Ms.
16 Bergeron, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is
17 **Jan J. Hartman, P.E. Inactive.**

18
19 **Case # 2021-42** – Mr. Hyatt reported on an unlicensed firm (that subsequently
20 became licensed as a professional engineering firm) which committed fraud,
21 deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged
22 evidence, in applying for a license with the Board. The respondent has signed
23 and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review
24 Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 25 1. Fine of \$750
- 26 2. Costs of \$910.40
- 27 3. Cease and desist
- 28 4. Publication on the Board’s website and in the Journal with name
- 29 5. Report to NCEES with name

30 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
31 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Betts, Mr. Jeter and Ms.
32 Bergeron, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is
33 **J-M Matkin & Associates, Ltd.**

34
35 **Case # 2021-73** – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineer who
36 committed fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any
37 false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board. The
38 respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the
39 Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the
40 following sanctions:

- 41 1. Fine of \$1,000
- 42 2. Costs of \$910.40
- 43 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 44 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 45 5. Publication on the Board’s website and in the Journal with name
- 46 6. Report to NCEES with name

47 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
48 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Betts, Mr. Jeter and Ms.
49 Bergeron, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is
50 **John-Mark Matkin, P.E.**

51
52 **Case # 2021-80** – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineer who **(a)**
53 practiced and/or offered to practice engineering with an expired license, **(b)**
54 failed, as the supervising professional of a professional engineering firm, to
55 ensure the renewal of the firm’s license, **(c)** approved and sealed design
56 documents which were not safe for public health, property and welfare, which
57 were not complete and accurate, which were not in conformity with accepted
58 engineering standards or practice and/or which did not conform to applicable
59 laws and ordinances and **(d)** aided or assisted another person in violating the
60 laws and/or rules of the Board. The respondent has signed and returned the

1 proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The
2 proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 3 1. Permanent surrender of license
- 4 2. Return of certificate of licensure and seals
- 5 3. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6 4. Report to NCEES with name

7 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
8 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Betts, Mr. Jeter and Ms.
9 Bergeron, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is
10 **Elmer Jones, P.E.**

11
12 **Case # 2021-81** – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineering firm which
13 (a) practiced and/or offered practice engineering with an expired license and
14 (b) had a firm representative who approved and sealed design documents
15 which were not safe for public health, property and welfare, which were not
16 complete and accurate, which were not in conformity with accepted
17 engineering standards or practice, and/or which did not conform to applicable
18 laws and ordinances. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed
19 consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed
20 consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 21 1. Permanent surrender of license
- 22 2. Return of certificate of licensure
- 23 3. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 24 4. Report to NCEES with name

25 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
26 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Betts, Mr. Jeter and Ms.
27 Bergeron, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is
28 **EJA Partners, LLC.**

29
30 **Case # 2022-17** – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineer who
31 committed fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any
32 false or forged evidence, in applying for a renewal license with the Board. The
33 respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the
34 Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the
35 following sanctions:

- 36 1. Fine of \$1,000
- 37 2. Costs of \$718.55
- 38 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 39 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 40 5. Immediate suspension of license if fail to comply with any portion of consent
41 order, with suspension continuing until compliance
- 42 6. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 43 7. Report to NCEES with name

44 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
45 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Betts, Mr. Jeter and Ms.
46 Bergeron, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is
47 **James B. Heaslip, II, P.E.**

48
49 Mr. Hyatt exited the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

50
51 Janet Lindsey, Board applications and licensing manager, entered the meeting at 1:57
52 p.m.

53

1 **Committee Reports**

2
3 **Laws and Rules Committee**

4
5 Ms. Betts presented the report for the Laws and Rules Committee.

6
7 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Laws and
8 Rules Committee to amend Rules 105, 1505 and 1527 as follows:

9
10 **§105. Definitions**

11
12 A. The words and phrases defined in R.S. 37:682 shall apply to these rules.
13 In addition, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings,
14 unless the content of the rules clearly states otherwise.

15
16 * * *

17
18 *Practice of Engineering—*

19
20 a. practice of engineering is defined in R.S. 37:682. The board
21 recognizes that an architect as defined in R.S. 37:141(B)(1) has a right to
22 engage in certain activities that fall within the definition of the practice of
23 engineering, but only to the extent such activities are necessarily incidental to
24 the architect's practice of architecture as defined in R.S. 37:141(B)(3). Such
25 incidental engineering work is limited to minor mechanical, electrical, or civil-
26 structural engineering work necessarily incidental to the architect's practice of
27 architecture. The incidental engineering work shall be of a secondary nature
28 and shall be substantially less in scope and magnitude when compared to the
29 architectural portion of the work. Incidental engineering work includes
30 additions, renovations, or alterations that do not require significant
31 adjustments to the engineering calculations for the changes to the engineering
32 systems or components. The incidental engineering work shall be safely and
33 competently performed by the architect without jeopardizing the life, health,
34 property, or welfare of the public. The incidental engineering work shall also
35 satisfy all of the following conditions for new construction or additions:

36
37 i. For new construction, the total proposed occupant load for the new
38 construction shall not exceed 299 individuals for assembly occupancy and 49
39 individuals for all other occupancies. The occupant load shall be defined and
40 determined by the method set forth in the currently enforced building code;

41
42 ii. For additions, the total proposed occupant load for the addition
43 shall not exceed 299 individuals for assembly occupancy and 49 individuals for
44 all other occupancies. The occupant load shall be defined and determined by
45 the method set forth in the currently enforced building code.

46
47 b. ...

48
49 * * *

50
51 **1505. Work Experience**

52
53 A. ...

54
55 **B. Engineering Work Experience**

56
57 1. For any required engineering work experience obtained in a state,
58 territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, it
59 should be obtained under the supervision of a professional engineer holding a
60 valid license to engage in the practice of engineering issued to him/her by
61 proper authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the
62 District of Columbia, or, if not, an explanation shall be made showing why such
63 experience should be considered acceptable.

64
65 2. At least two years of any required engineering work experience
66 obtained outside of a state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the
67 District of Columbia, shall be obtained under the supervision of a professional

1 engineer holding a valid license to engage in the practice of engineering issued
2 to him/her by proper authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United
3 States, or the District of Columbia. The remainder of such experience should
4 also be obtained under the supervision of a professional engineer holding a
5 valid license to engage in the practice of engineering issued to him/her by
6 proper authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the
7 District of Columbia, or, if not, an explanation shall be made showing why the
8 remainder of such experience should be considered acceptable.
9

10 C. Land Surveying Work Experience

11
12 1. For any required land surveying work experience obtained in a state,
13 territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, it
14 should be obtained under the supervision of a professional land surveyor
15 holding a valid license to engage in the practice of land surveying issued to
16 him/her by proper authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United
17 States, or the District of Columbia, or, if not, an explanation shall be made
18 showing why such experience should be considered acceptable.
19

20 2. At least two years of any required land surveying work experience
21 obtained outside of a state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the
22 District of Columbia, shall be obtained under the supervision of a professional
23 land surveyor holding a valid license to engage in the practice of land surveying
24 issued to him/her by proper authority of a state, territory, or possession of the
25 United States, or the District of Columbia. The remainder of such experience
26 should also be obtained under the supervision of a professional land surveyor
27 holding a valid license to engage in the practice of land surveying issued to
28 him/her by proper authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United
29 States, or the District of Columbia, or, if not, an explanation shall be made
30 showing why the remainder of such experience should be considered
31 acceptable.
32

33 **§1527. Supervision by Licensed Professional**

34 Repealed.
35
36

37 **Applications**

38 **Application Appeals**

39
40 After discussion of the application of John E. **Thompson, Jr.** for licensure as a
41 professional engineer, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms.
42 Bergeron, seconded by Ms. Betts, to request that the applicant obtain an NCEES
43 credential evaluation and submit it to the Board by January 31, 2023. The Board will
44 then use the credential evaluation to help determine whether the applicant has
45 satisfied the educational requirements of the Board.
46
47

48 Mr. Landry and Ms. Lindsey exited the meeting at 2:45 p.m.
49

50 **Committee Reports (continued)**

51 **Finance Committee**

52 Mr. Fontenot presented the report for the Finance Committee.
53

54 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
55 authorize the Executive Director to purchase a new office telephone system at a cost
56 of \$7,200.
57

58 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
59 authorize the Executive Director to hire an IT assistant.
60

61 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
62 amend GL account #5336 to \$10,000 for the current fiscal year 2022-23.
63
64
65

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to authorize the Executive Director to obtain bids for a new office sign and present a recommendation at the next Board meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to accept the year-to-date finance report for FY 22-23 as presented.

Nominations and Awards Committee

Chairman Richard, on behalf of the Nominations and Awards Committee, presented the following nominations for election as Board officers for 2023-24, to be voted on at the January 2023 Board meeting:

Edgar P. Benoit, P.E – Co-Chairman
Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S. – Co-Chairman
Reggie Jeter, P. E. – Secretary
Connie Betts, P.E. – Treasurer

Old Business/New Business

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Ms. Bergeron, to schedule the next Board meeting for January 23, 2023.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Dr. Gopu, to approve Board members to attend the JESC Conference in Lafayette, LA on February 23-24, 2023.

Closing Business

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Betts, seconded by Mr. Vosburg, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.


The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Bergeron, seconded by Mr. Chustz, to acknowledge and confirm all licenses and certificates issued and renewed since the last Board meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Gopu, seconded by Ms. Betts, to approve all Board expenses.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Racca, seconded by Mr. Chustz, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 3:36 p.m. on October 10, 2022.


Christopher K. Richard, P.E.
Chairman


Edgar P. Benoit, P.E.
Secretary