

LOUISIANA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS
1800 City Farm Drive, Building 5B, Baton Rouge, LA 70806



REGULAR MEETING OF LBOPG

Wednesday, November 12, 2025, 1:00 P.M.

Physical meeting at
GEC, Inc. Building
8282 Goodwood Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
and
Virtual Public Meeting Hosted on Zoom

MINUTES

Chair David Ray Williamson called the meeting to order at 1:17 p.m., Wednesday, November 12, 2025, and commenced roll call.

Present: David Ray Williamson, Elizabeth McDade, William Schramm, Michael Simms, and Melanie Stiegler, Board Members; David Peterson, Legal Counsel; Brenda Macon, Executive Secretary; Sadé Dennis and Seija Meaux, Project Coordinators.

Absent: David Culpepper (attended virtually), William R. Finley, Board Members; Chantel McCreary, Assistant Executive Secretary.

Guest: D. Scott Landry of Chaffe McCall, L.L.P.

Quorum was established.

Public Comment Period

Attorney D. Scott Landry introduced himself to the board.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the September 10, 2025, regular board meeting were reviewed. Stiegler moved to accept the minutes as presented; Schramm seconded the motion. Williamson called for discussion; none was forthcoming. He then called for a vote, and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

The board reviewed the treasurer's report, which showed the organization is operating slightly below budget on income but slightly over budget on expenses, with interest rates on certificates of deposit

ranging from 3.52% to 4.18%. Schramm moved to accept the treasurer's report; Simms seconded the motion. Williamson called for discussion; when none was forthcoming, he called for a vote. The motion passed.

Standing Committees

Application Review Committee: Committee Chair Melanie Stiegler reported that the committee had reviewed three applications for license and three ASBOG testing requests. On behalf of the committee, Stiegler recommended license applications 1, 2, and 3 be approved. She further recommended that ASBOG testing candidates 1, 2, and 3 be approved. Stiegler then moved to accept the recommendations; Simms seconded. Williamson called for discussion; with none forthcoming, he called for a vote. The motion passed.

License Examination Committee: Williamson presented data from the March 2025 testing session that showed the pass/fail rates for both the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and Practice of Geology (PG) exams overall nationally and in Texas and Louisiana specifically. He also reported on his discussion with the director of the Mississippi Board of Registered Geologists about that state's pass/fail rate for the same period. Mississippi, though slightly lower than the national average, is performing better than Louisiana and Texas, especially for those candidates taking the ASBOG FG.

Williamson and Schramm reported that they intend to offer a presentation to potential examination candidates early in 2026. After discussion, they selected January 28 at 6 pm as the date and time for the presentation.

Compliance Committee: Schramm reported on the progress of both the 2025 and 2026 continuing education audits. He reported that submissions from licensees in the 2025 audit have slowed dramatically but that the committee has received several submissions from licensees selected for the 2026 audit. Three of those submissions were approved at the meeting held earlier in the day.

Outreach Committee: Culpepper reported that he has been working with Macon on materials for the upcoming journal issue. He also said he has been continuing to work on the suggested survey of licensees regarding their experiences in the field of geoscience. He said he would provide a report on his participation at the annual ASBOG meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, in January.

Strategic Five-year Plan & Rules Review Ad Hoc: McDade reported that she and her committee members are still working on changes to the rules and are making good progress. Discussion ensued.

Office Committee:

Macon reported that she is working with David Culpepper on an advertisement for the position of executive secretary for the board and that they have created a draft ad. Board members made suggestions for changes to the draft ad and recommended putting the ad in the journal issue.

Macon also reported that she had contacted Comit Developers about creating a kind of "bulletin board" page on the board's website. Discussion ensued.

New Business

David Williamson reiterated his intention to step down from the role of board chair and called for nominations for this position. Michael Simms volunteered to serve and was unanimously confirmed by vote, as he was the only candidate. William Schramm volunteered to serve as vice-chair; Melanie Stiegler agreed to continue to serve as board secretary. Williamson called for a vote for Schramm as vice-chair

and for Stiegler as secretary; both were unanimously elected. Williamson nominated William Finley for treasurer, and Simms seconded that nomination. Williamson said he would contact Finley to determine if he would be willing to serve again. The board agreed to revisit Finley's election in January.

Old Business

Williamson reported that the resolution of appreciation for Lloyd G. Hoover has been printed and that he plans to present it to Mrs. Hoover. Board members discussed the logistics of that presentation, including upcoming events of the Shreveport Geological Society.

Schramm suggested mentioning to Mrs. Hoover that the board has created an award in Lloyd's honor, and discussion turned to the need to announce the award and to identify potential award nominations.

Williamson asked the board if they would like to add the discussion and decision regarding the Louisiana Department of Justice's Occupational Licensing Review Program (OLRP) to the current meeting's agenda. Board members voted unanimously to add this agenda item. Schramm asked about the contract agreement and the cost of participating. Macon pointed out that a draft of the agreement was in the board members' folders. She explained that each fiscal year, a new OLRP agreement would be negotiated based on the number of active licensees at the beginning of that fiscal year. She further explained that, for this fiscal year, the agreement would be prorated from the date of the initial signing through June 30, 2026. At that time, a full fiscal year's agreement would be renegotiated using the number of active licensees on July 1, 2026 and the cost per licensee as determined by LDOJ. McDade asked what the cost per licensee is at present; Macon told her that the OLRP director had said the current cost per licensee is \$1.70 and that the final count of licensees was 770.

Williamson then asked Scott Landry to talk more about his experience with boards and what the board needs to do to secure his services. Landry explained that he has had extensive experience with the engineering board (LAPELS) and that the issues he would be covering for LBOPG would be very similar to those he covers for LAPELS. Peterson explained that the board would need to approve a resolution and then would need to draft a contract with Landry's office. Macon said she is familiar with the contract process but was unaware of the need for a formal resolution but that she would work with all parties to draft a resolution for the board to consider at the January meeting. Williamson asked about the time frame for this contract. Macon expressed urgency because she was concerned about an issue that she needed to discuss with legal counsel. Discussion continued.

Williamson then asked Macon if there were any updates from the Office of Boards and Commissions. She said she was told that there was no news.

Adjournment

The date of the next regular meeting of the board was scheduled for Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 1:00 pm, with the location to be determined later. Meetings for the Compliance Committee and Ad Hoc Rules Committee were also scheduled for that date at 10 am and 11 am, respectively. Schramm then moved to adjourn; McDade seconded the motion. The motion passed, and the meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.