

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING
AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD
8550 UNITED PLAZA BOULEVARD, SUITE 903
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433
September 29, 2025

At 9:00 a.m. on September 29, 2025, Byron D. Racca, P.E. called the meeting to order at the Board’s office in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the following members present:

Linda H. Bergeron, P.E.	Chairman
Byron D. Racca, P.E.	Vice Chairman
James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S.	Secretary
Janice P. Williams, P.E.	Treasurer
Vijaya Gopu, Ph.D., P.E.	
Gordon E. Nelson, P.E.	
Susan H. Richard, P.E.	
Byron E. Trust, P.E.	
Robert L. Wolfe, P.E., P.L.S.	
Reginald L. Jeter, P.E.	

Absent: Connie P. Betts, P.E.

Also present: Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director
Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director
Chantel McCreary, Staff
Bill Tripoli, IT Director
Carlos Morgan, Staff
Morgan Georgetown, Staff
Keri Caines, Staff
Darcie Holliday, Staff
Joe Harman, P.E., Technical Advisor
David Patterson, P.L.S., Technical Advisor
D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney

Dr. Gopu led the invocation, and the pledge was led by Ms. Williams.

Mr. Racca presented Linda H. Bergeron, P.E. the chairman gavel.

Chairman Bergeron acknowledged public comment time. Ms. Bergeron, along with many Board and staff members present, reflected on the recent passing of Emeritus Board Member Mr. Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S., and recognized his significant contributions to the Board and the land surveying profession.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Racca, seconded by Mr. Chustz, to approve the September 29, 2025 proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Dr. Gopu, to approve the minutes from the August 4, 2025 Board meeting.

Compliance and Enforcement

Case # 2024-98 – Ms. Georgetown reported on an unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering 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 \$472.58;
3. Publication on the Board’s website and in the Board’s official Journal identifying respondent by name; and
4. Report to NCEES identifying Respondent by name.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Richard, Mr. Trust and Mr. Wolfe, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Taylor & Viola Structural Engineers, P.C., Corp**

Case # 2024-99 – Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional engineer who aided and assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board. 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 \$2,000;
2. Costs of 472.58;
3. Completion of the Louisiana Laws & rules Quiz, with a score of 90% or higher;
4. Completion of the Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz, with a score of 90% or higher;
5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Board's official Journal identifying Respondent by name; and
6. Report to NCEES identifying Respondent by name.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Richard, Mr. Trust and Mr. Wolfe, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **James S. Tate, P.E.**

Case # 2025-15 – Ms. Georgetown reported on an unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered to practice of land surveying 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 \$2,500;
2. Costs of \$422.01;
3. Publication on the Board's website and in the Board's official Journal identifying Respondent by name; and
4. Report to NCEES identifying Respondent by name.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Richard, Mr. Trust and Mr. Wolfe, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Twin G Consulting, LLC**

Case # 2025-19 – Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional engineer who (a) committed fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a renewal license with the Board and (b) was disciplined by the licensing authority of another jurisdiction for matters recognized as grounds for disciplinary action in Louisiana at the time the action was taken. The respondent signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

1. Fine of \$5,000;
2. Costs of \$1,521.44;
3. Louisiana Laws & rules Quiz;
4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz;
5. Immediate suspension of license if fail to comply with any portion of consent order, with suspension continuing until compliance;
6. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name;
7. Report to NCEES with name.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Richard, Mr. Trust and Mr. Wolfe, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Berry L. Veney, Jr., P.E.**

Case # 2025-21 – Ms. Caines reported on an unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering 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 \$7,500;
2. Costs of \$302.92;
3. Publication on the Board’s website and in the Board’s official Journal identifying Respondent by name; and
4. Report to NCEES identifying Respondent by name.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Richard, Mr. Trust and Mr. Wolfe, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Structural Design Group, Inc. – TN**

At 9:20 a.m., Carlos Morgan, Keri Caines and Darcie Holliday exited the meeting.

Applications

Application Reviews

At 9:22 a.m., Shanna Hubble, Kelly McAdams and Brittney Nuccio entered the meeting.

The Board reviewed the application of Mazda **Irani** for licensure as a professional engineer by comity. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Gopu, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to *disapprove* the application based on not satisfying the experience requirements of the Board.

Application Appeals

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Chustz, to affirm the reviewing committee’s decision to *disapprove* the application of Issa ***Tou*** for licensure as a professional engineer by comity based on not satisfying the educational requirements of the Board.

At 9:48 a.m., Shanna Hubble, Kelly McAdams and Brittney Nuccio exited the meeting.

Committee Reports

Land Surveying Committee

Mr. Chustz presented the report from the July exam administration and the upcoming November exam administration of the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying exam.

The Board recessed at 9:55 a.m. and resumed at 10:18 a.m. Mr. Landry and Mr. Patterson were not present.

Old Business/New Business

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Richard, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to schedule the next Board meeting for November 17, 2025.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Chustz, seconded by Dr. Gopu, to schedule the first Board meeting of 2026 for February 2, 2026.

1 **Committee Reports (*continued*)**

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3 **Finance Committee**

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5 At 11:00 a.m., Neal Forttenberry, CPA, with LA Champagne entered the meeting.

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7 Mr. Forttenberry explained some of the end of the year updates to the financial
8 document for FY 24-25. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the
9 motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to accept the end of the year
10 budget for FY 24-25 as presented.

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12 Ms. Williams presented the financial report for FY 25-26. After discussion, the Board
13 unanimously approved the motion made by Finance Committee to accept the year-to-
14 date budget for FY 25-26 as presented.

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17 **Old Business/New Business (*continued*)**

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19 At 11:32 a.m., the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Williams,
20 seconded by Mr. Chustz, to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

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22 At 11:48 a.m., the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson,
23 seconded by Mr. Trust, to exit the executive session.

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25 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Racca, seconded by Dr.
26 Gopu, to authorize a 7% salary increase for the Executive Director, effective
27 September 29, 2025.

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29 **Closing Business**

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31 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr.
32 Nelson, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.

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34 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr.
35 Trust, to acknowledge and confirm all licenses and certificates issued and renewed
36 since the last Board meeting.

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

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41 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr.
42 Trust, to adjourn.

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44 The meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m. on September 29, 2025.

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50 Linda H. Bergeron, P.E.
51 Chairman
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James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S.
Secretary