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 March 31, 2025

At 9:03 a.m. on March 31, 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:

Byron D. Racca, P.E. Linda H. Bergeron, P.E. Janice P. Williams, 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.	Chairman Vice Chairman Treasurer
Reginald L. Jeter, P.E. Connie P. Betts, P.E.	

Absent: James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S. Secretary Vijaya Gopu, Ph.D., P.E.

Also present: Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director
Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director
Joe Harman, P.E., Technical Advisor

David Patterson, P.L.S., Technical Advisor D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney

Bill Tripoli, IT Director Carlos Morgan, Staff Morgan Georgetown, Staff

Ms. Betts led the invocation, and the pledge was led by Mr. Jeter.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Ms. Betts, to approve the March 31, 2025, proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Bergeron, seconded by Mr. Trust, to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2025 Board Meeting

## **Compliance and Enforcement**

<u>Case # 2023-54</u> – Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional land surveyor who aided and assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board and provided land surveying services with an expired individual license. 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 \$3,000.00;
- 2. Costs of \$191.54;
- 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. Bergeron, Mr. Chustz, and Dr. Gopu, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Kenneth E. Murphy, PLS** (expired)

<u>Case # 2023-56</u> – Ms. Georgetown reported on an unlicensed firm, which practiced and/or offered to practice 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 \$1,500;
- 2. Costs of \$191.54;
- 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. Bergeron, Mr. Chustz, and Dr. Gopu, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **KEM Surveying** 

<u>Case # 2024-47</u> – 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 \$1,500;
- 2. Costs of \$389.24;
- 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. Williams. Dr. Gopu, and Mr. Nelson, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **AP Design Group, LLC.** 

<u>Case # 2024-49</u> – Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional engineer who aided or 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 \$1,500;
- 2. Costs of \$389.24;
- 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. Williams. Dr. Gopu, and Mr. Nelson, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Joshua P. Juneau, P.E.** 

<u>Case # 2024-50</u> – Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional engineer who aided or 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 \$389.24;
- 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. Williams. Dr. Gopu, and Mr. Nelson, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Alexander D. Hart, P.E.** 

<u>Case #2024-53</u> – 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 \$344.10;
- 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. Williams. Dr. Gopu, and Mr. Nelson, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Bandy & Associates, Inc.** 

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Case #2024-54 - Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional engineer who aided or 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 \$500;
- 2. Costs of \$344.10;
- 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. Williams. Dr. Gopu, and Mr. Nelson, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is Sudipta S. Bandyopadhyay, P.E.

Case # 2024-55 - Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional engineering firm, which practiced and offered to practice engineering with an expired license. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 7. Fine of \$4,000
- 8. Costs of \$5,674.369. Past unpaid renewal fees of \$120
- 10. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz by supervising professional
- 11. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz by supervising professional
- 12. Immediate suspension of license if fail to comply with any portion of consent order, with suspension continuing until compliance
- 13. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 14. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Ms. Williams, Mr. Nelson and Dr. Gopu, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is Salas O'Brien, LLC.

Case # 2024-56 - Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional engineer who aided or 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 \$500
- 2. Costs of \$1.380
- 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. Williams, Mr. Nelson and Dr. Gopu, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is David A. Bonaventure, P.E.

Case #2024-58 - 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 \$182.21:
- 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. Williams. Dr. Gopu, and Mr. Nelson, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is RBM Industries, Inc.

<u>Case #2024-59</u> – Ms. Georgetown reported on a professional engineer who aided and assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board. 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 \$500;
- 2. Costs of 182.21;
- 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. Williams. Dr. Gopu, and Mr. Nelson, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Rozbeh B. Moghaddam, P.E.** 

# **Committee Reports**

## **Laws and Rules Committee**

Mr. Landry reviewed the proposed rule revisions to Rules 701, 703, 707 and 709.

The Board recessed at 10:20 a.m. and resumed at 10:40 a.m.

## **Finance Committee**

Ms. Williams presented the financial report for FY 24-25. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to accept the year-to-date budget for FY 24-25 as presented.

After further discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to amend account 5513/Hardware from \$15,000 to \$16,000 and account 5514/Software from \$13,000 to \$19,000 for FY 24-25.

Additionally, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to amend account 5513/Hardware for the proposed FY 25-26 budget from \$20,000 to \$30,000.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to amend the FY 24-25 contract, **beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025**, with **D. Scott Landry of Chaffe McCall, L.L.P**. to serve as Board legal counsel and as a prosecuting attorney for Board disciplinary and enforcement hearings, **from \$150,000 to \$300,000**.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **D. Scott Landry of Chaffe McCall, L.L.P.** to serve as Board legal counsel and as a prosecuting attorney for Board disciplinary and enforcement matters. The term of the contract will be for one year **beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026,** in the total amount not to exceed **\$150,000**.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **Celia Cangelosi** to serve as a prosecuting attorney for Board disciplinary and enforcement matters. The term of the contract will be for one year, **beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026,** in the total amount not to exceed **\$36,000**.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **Red Stick Solutions**, **L.L.C.** to provide information technology support services for the Board. The term of the contract will be for one year, **beginning July 1**, **2025 and ending June 30**, **2026**, in the total amount not to exceed **\$21**,600.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **Tri-Core Technologies, L.L.C.** to provide maintenance and support of the LOLA information technology system. The term of the contract will be for six months, **beginning July 1**, **2025 and ending December 31**, **2025**, in the total amount not to exceed **\$72,540**.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to renew the certificate of deposit at **Neighbors Credit Union** when it matures on April 18, 2025.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to renew the certificate of deposit at **Chase Bank** when it matures on April 29, 2025.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to renew the certificate of deposit at **Hancock/Whitney Bank** when it matures on May 10, 2025.

#### **Old Business/New Business**

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Ms. Williams, to request NCEES Associate Member status for Chantel McCreary and Morgan Georgetown.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to approve Board and staff members to attend the NCEES Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA on August 19-22, 2025.

At 11:18 a.m., the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Trust, to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

At 12:06 p.m., the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Bergeron, seconded by Mr. Trust, to exit the executive session.

#### **Closing Business**

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

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

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Ms. Williams, to approve all Board expenses.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Trust, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m. on March 31, 2025.

Byron D. Bacca, P.E.

Chairman

Secretary