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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD 9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433 July 26, 2021

At 9:00 a.m. on July 26, 2021, Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E. called the meeting to order at the Board's office in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the following members present:

Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E. Christopher K. Richard, P.E. Edgar P. Benoit, P.E.

Chairman Vice Chairman Secretary

Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S. Linda H. Bergeron, P.E. Byron D. Racca, P.E. Connie P. Betts, P.E. Reginald L. Jeter, P.E. James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S. Janice P. Williams, P.E.

Also present:

Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director

Bill Tripoli, IT Director

D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney Joe Harman, P.E., Technical Advisor

Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director (via Zoom

video teleconferencing)

Janet Lindsey, Application Manager (via Zoom

video teleconferencing)

LaTasha Andrews, Board Investigator (via Zoom

video teleconferencing)

Chris Aaron, Board Investigator (via Zoom

video teleconferencing)

Absent:

Chad C. Vosburg, P.E.

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

Public comment time was recognized by Chairman Pike.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Mr. Richard, to amend the proposed Agenda for the meeting to add item 8.g. – Mask Mandates.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to amend the proposed Agenda for the meeting to add item 2.g. – Public Records.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to accept the July 26, 2021 proposed Call and Agenda (as amended) for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Chustz, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2021 Board meeting.

## **Compliance and Enforcement**

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Mr. Racca, to authorize the Executive Director to explore the options and costs of hiring a professional land surveyor as a Board technical advisor and to make a recommendation at the next Board meeting.

The Board recessed at 10:34 a.m. and resumed at 10:54 a.m.

#### **Committee Reports**

#### **Laws and Rules Committee**

Mr. Richard presented the report for the Laws and Rules Committee.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Laws and Rules Committee to amend Rule 1309 as follows:

# §1309. Approval to Take the Examinations in the Principles and Practice of Land Surveying and in the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying

- A. Except as otherwise provided in Subsection B, only an individual who meets all of the other requirements for licensure as a professional land surveyor may be permitted to take the examinations in the principles and practice of land surveying and in the Louisiana laws of land surveying.
- B. An individual who has already been duly certified as a land surveyor intern by the board may be permitted to take the examination in the principles and practice of land surveying, even though such individual has not yet met the experience requirement for licensure as a professional land surveyor.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Laws and Rules Committee to amend Rule 3105 as follows:

### §3105. Requirements

- A. Every professional engineer, including those listed in two or more disciplines, is required to earn 15 PDHs per calendar year in engineering-related acceptable activities. Professional engineers may not earn more than 8 PDHs within a single calendar day.
  - 1. ...
- 2. At least four of the PDHs per calendar year shall be earned in *Life Safety Code*, building codes and/or Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines by every professional engineer who designs buildings and/or building systems or reviews and/or approves plans for buildings and/or building systems in Louisiana during such calendar year.
  - R
- C. Each dual licensee is required to earn 15 PDHs per calendar year; however, at least one-third of the PDHs for each calendar year shall be earned separately for each profession.
  - 1. 2. ..
- 3. At least four of the PDHs per calendar year shall be earned in *Life Safety Code*, building codes and/or Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines by every professional engineer who designs buildings and/or building systems or reviews and/or approves plans for buildings and/or building systems in Louisiana during such calendar year.
  - D. E. ...
- F. As used in this Section, the phrase designs buildings and/or building systems shall mean the design of and/or specifications for any component of any building and/or building system including but not limited to architectural engineering design, site work, foundations, structural, electrical, mechanical, fire protection system, communications and associated appurtenances.

## **Applications**

### **Application Reviews**

The Board approved the motion made by Ms. Betts, seconded by Ms. Williams, with Mr. Fontenot, Mr. Chustz, Ms. Bergeron, Ms. Betts and Ms. Williams for and Mr. Jeter, Mr. Racca, Mr. Benoit and Mr. Richard against, to *disapprove* the application of **Andres Gonzalez** for licensure as a professional engineer by examination based on lack of good character and reputation.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Chustz, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to have Ms. Sentell inform **Andres Gonzalez** that he should not reapply before August 1, 2023.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and resumed at 12:50 p.m. Mr. Landry was not present.

# **Committee Reports (continued)**

#### **Finance Committee**

Ms. Sentell presented the report for the Finance Committee.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Mr. Racca, to accept the finance report for FY 21-22 as presented.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to renew the Certificate of Deposit at Home Bank when it matures on September 20, 2021.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Bergeron, seconded by Ms. Betts, to accept the amended finance report for FY 20-21 as presented.

# **Old/New Business**

Chairman Pike appointed an ad hoc committee comprised of Mr. Benoit and Ms. Betts to work with Ms. Sentell to review the laws and rules of the Board in order to find areas that make the Board unique or that may vary from the processes of similar boards in other jurisdictions.

Mr. Chustz exited the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Chairman Pike appointed Ms. Bergeron to be the Board observer for the ABET accreditation visit at LSU on September 19-21, 2021.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, to schedule the next Board meeting for October 11, 2021.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Ms. Williams, to schedule the first Board meeting of 2022 for February 1, 2022.

#### **Closing Business**

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

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

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m. on July 26, 2021.

Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E.

Chairman

Edgar P/Benoit, P.E. Secretary