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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
November 17, 2025

At 9:02 a.m. on November 17, 2025, Linda H. Bergeron 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
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: James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S. Secretary
Connie P. Betts, P.E.

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

Mr. Nelson led the invocation, and the pledge was led by Mr. Wolfe.

Chairman Bergeron acknowledged public comment time.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Racca, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve the November 17, 2025 proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Richard, seconded by Mr. Trust, to approve the minutes from the September 29, 2025 Board meeting.

At 9:05 a.m., Ms. Caines exited the meeting, and at 9:14 a.m. Shanna Hubble, Kelly McAdams and Brittney Nuccio entered the meeting.

Committee Reports

Laws and Rules Committee

The Board reviewed the requirements of Executive Order JML-25-038 with respect to reviewing Board rules 711, 721, 1515 and 1527 and submitting a report to the legislative oversight committees and the Governor's office. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, to approve the staff's review and proposed report regarding Rules 711, 721, 1515 and 1527.

The Board reviewed the requirements of La. R.S. 49:964(D) with respect to annually reviewing Board rules and submitting reports to the legislative oversight committees. For this year's annual review, the Laws and Rules Committee will review Rules 901 through 1525 and make a recommendation at the February Board meeting.

1 **Applications**

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3 **Application Reviews**

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5 The Board reviewed the application of Innocent **Ituah** for licensure as a
6 professional engineer by endorsement. After discussion, the Board unanimously
7 approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Racca, to *approve* the
8 application.
9

10 The Board reviewed the application of Leonardo **Figuera** for licensure as a
11 professional engineer by endorsement. After discussion, the Board unanimously
12 approved the motion made by Mr. Trust, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to *disapprove*
13 the application based on not satisfying the residency requirement.
14

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16 The Board recessed at 10:14 a.m. and resumed at 10:27 a.m.
17

18 The Board reviewed the application of Dr. Ripon **Hore** for licensure as a
19 professional engineer by exam. After discussion, the Board unanimously
20 approved the motion made by Mr. Racca, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to *disapprove*
21 the application based on not satisfying the experience requirements of the Board.
22

23 The Board reviewed the application Steven **Bouchareune** for licensure as a
24 professional engineer by comity. After discussion, the Board unanimously
25 approved the motion made by Mr. Trust, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to request
26 additional information from the applicant for further review and assessment.
27

28 **Application Appeals**

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30 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Trust, seconded by Mr.
31 Nelson, to affirm the reviewing committee's decision to *disapprove* the application
32 of Sanjay **Kumar** for licensure as a professional engineer by comity based on not
33 satisfying the experience requirements of the Board. After discussion, the Board
34 unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Trust, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to
35 offer the applicant the option of applying for licensure as a professional engineer
36 by endorsement.
37

38 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by
39 Ms. Richard, to affirm the reviewing committee's decision to *disapprove* the
40 application of Abdulla **Jabr** for licensure as a professional engineer by comity
41 based on not satisfying the experience requirements of the Board.
42

43 At 11:05 a.m., Ms. Hubble, Ms. McAdams, Ms. Nuccio and Mr. Landry exited the
44 meeting.
45

46 **Committee Reports (continued)**

47
48 **Finance Committee**

49
50 Ms. Williams presented the Finance Committee report.
51

52 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
53 authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **Gator T, Inc.** to
54 provide maintenance and support for the LOLA information technology system.
55 The term of the contract will be for six months, **beginning January 1, 2026 and**
56 **ending June 30, 2026**, in the total amount not to exceed **\$72,540**.
57

58 Ms. Williams presented the financial report for FY 25-26. After discussion, the
59 Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
60 accept the year-to-date budget for FY 25-26 as presented.
61

62 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
63 renew the certificate of deposit at Home Bank when it matures on January 21,
64 2026.
65

1 The Board recessed at 11:32 a.m. and resumed at 11:42 a.m.

2
3 **Artificial Intelligence Ad Hoc Committee**

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5 Mr. Trust presented the Artificial Intelligence Ad Hoc Committee report.

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7 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Trust,
8 seconded by Mr. Wolfe, to approve \$2,000 for the purchase of artificial intelligence
9 (AI) software and/or licenses.

10
11 The Board reviewed the proposed AI policy and, after discussion, unanimously
12 approved the motion made by Mr. Trust, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to approve the
13 proposed AI policy.

14
15 **Nominations and Awards Committee**

16
17 Mr. Racca, on behalf of the Nominations and Awards Committee, presented the
18 following nominations for election as Board officers for 2026-27, to be voted on at
19 the February 2, 2026 Board meeting:

- 20
21 Janice P. Williams, P.E. – Chairman/Vice Chairman
22 James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S. – Chairman/Vice Chairman
23 Gordon E. Nelson, P.E. – Secretary
24 Vijaya Gopu, Ph.D., P.E. – Treasurer
25

26 **Old Business/New Business**

27
28 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Nelson, seconded by
29 Dr. Gopu, to schedule the March 2026 Board meeting for Tuesday, March 3, 2026
30 at noon at the Hilton Garden Inn/Cajundome in Lafayette, Louisiana in
31 conjunction with the March 2026 JESC meeting in Lafayette.

32
33 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Racca, seconded by Mr.
34 Nelson, to approve Board and staff members to attend the NCEES Southern Zone
35 meeting in Carolina, Puerto Rico, on April 23-25, 2026.

36
37 **Closing Business**

38
39 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Mr.
40 Racca, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.

41
42 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Ms.
43 Williams, to acknowledge and confirm all licenses and certificates issued and
44 renewed since the last Board meeting.

45
46 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Richard, seconded by
47 Mr. Jeter, to approve all Board expenses.

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49 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Dr.
50 Gopu, to adjourn.

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52 The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m. on November 17, 2025.

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58 Linda H. Bergeron, P.E.
59 Chairman



Byron D. Racca, P.E.
Vice Chairman