



**STATE BOARD FOR ENGINEERING, LAND SURVEYING AND GEOLOGY
OFFICE OF THE PROFESSIONS**

89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234

September 7, 2023

~ 9:30am ~

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Primary Board Members Present:

- M. Noviello, P.E., L.S. (Chair)
- J. Martin, P.E. (Vice Chair)
- A. Friedman
- R. Frandina, P.E., L.S.
- B. Holbriiter, L.S.
- W. Kelly, P.G.
- J. Patota, P.G.
- T. Mitchell, P.E.
- R. Nogle, P.E.
- S. Porter, L.S.
- Richard Watt, P.G.
- D. Franzi, P.G.
- M. Rygel, P.G.

Extended Board Members Present:

- None

Primary Board Members Absent:

- D. D'Angelo, P.E.
- P. VanHaverbeke, L.S.
- L. Woods, P.E.

Department Personnel:

- E. Greppo, P.E. – Executive Secretary (ES)
- K. Fitzgerald – Associate in Professional Education
- K. Murphy – Supervisor of Higher Education Programs
- S. Maes – Assistant in Higher Education (via Webex)

Visitors:

- Mark Kriss – NYSSPE
- Roy Garfinkel – NYSAPLS
- Jim Vienna – NYSAPLS
- Kate Knight – Catalyst Government Relations, representing Rochester Institute of Technology

1. Call to Order – Open Session

Chair Noviello called the Open Session to order at 9:30 A.M.

2. NYSED Outreach Resource Presentation – Professional Connections Unit

S. Maes and K. Murphy provided a presentation on Office of Professions outreach resources listed on the Career Path section of the website, with a focus on Professional Engineering. Board input was solicited. Further suggestions and ideas from the Board can be sent to the ES, who will share with pertinent staff for follow-up.

3. Introductions and Welcome New Board Members

The ES provided a summary of professional background information for the two (2) new Board Members: S. Porter, L.S. and, R. Watt P.G.

4. Meeting Minutes

The Open Session meeting minutes from the June 8, 2023 Board meeting were reviewed.

Motion – Mitchell/Martin: Approve June 8, 2023 meeting minutes.

PASSED, with two (2) abstentions.

5. Chair and Vice Chair Reports

Chair Noviello and Vice Chair Martin reported on their attendance at the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Annual Meeting that was held August 2023 in Boston, MA. Chair Noviello noted that the conference was similar to last year. He mentioned that NCEES is in the process of creating a Foundation. He advised the board on differing licensure standards among the NCEES member Boards. Vice Chair Martin commented that increased coordination between NCEES and other member organizations would be beneficial for professionals.

5. Executive Secretary Report

- Member Holbritter and the ES were also in attendance at the NCEES Annual Meeting, with a mention of awareness, conversations, and connections that were made. The ES will monitor and may participate in future NCEES Zone and Annual Meetings.
- The Board Office report listed the number of new licenses issued through mid-August 2023, along with registered licensee statistics for professional engineers, land surveyors, and professional geologists (as of July 1, 2023). These statistics will be shared quarterly.
- R. Watt P.G. and S. Porter L.S. were appointed by the Board of Regents for a first primary term appointment as of July 18, 2023. B. Holbritter L.S. and T. Mitchell P.E. are pending reappointment by the Board of Regents (BOR) for a second primary term appointment; a determination will be made at the September 2023 BOR meeting.
- There are under 200 exam and endorsement applications in queue. Board Members were thanked for their continued efforts to make application reviews a priority.
- Information on upcoming annual conferences, legislation tracker, a public discipline case and upcoming trainings was provided.

6. Professional Engineering Committee Report

Chair Martin stated that the committee has met three (3) times and is continuing their discussion on applicant experience reviews, using current guidelines for applying credit. The committee will meet again in late September, with intention of culminating with a full Board review at the December 2023 Board Meeting.

7. Land Surveying Committee Report

Chair Holbriiter reported that the committee met on June 14th to review the April 2023 exams and select the items for the October 2023 examination. At that June meeting, similar to today, S. Maes provided a presentation on Office of Professions outreach resources listed on the Career Path section of the website, with a focus on Land Surveying. Chair Holbriiter requested that committee members review these webpages and provide comments for the next committee meeting (TBD). The committee also met on August 3rd to review challenges and finalize the October 2023 examination. The ES included that NYSAPLS is holding an exam review workshop in September 2023; Members Holbriiter, Porter, and Noviello will attend as observers.

8. Professional Geology Committee Report

Chair Patota reported that the committee will be working on application reviews with new Board Members this month. The New York State Council of Professional Geologists (NYSCPG) is hosting Geology Days in November 2023. The Board Office intends to present on practice, ethics, and licensure matters during that event. The committee will continue to focus on integrating new Board Members. The ES mentioned the intention to develop a webinar presentation on exam application preparation (TBD).

9. Access & Outreach to the Professions Committee Report

The ES reported in Chair Woods' absence. A committee meeting will be scheduled for early October. The updated STEM PowerPoint presentation will be previewed at the December 2023 Board Meeting.

10. Education Committee Report

Chair Mitchell reported that the committee has met twice since the June 2023 Board Meeting. The Department has formally approved two Master Degree programs, one in Chemical Engineering and one in Biomedical Engineering, to be offered at Rochester Institute of Technology (R.I.T.). Discussion regarding new and ongoing proposals will be covered in Executive Session.

11. Legislation Committee Report

Chair Martin referenced the state legislation tracker and mentioned that proposed bills will carry over to the next legislative session. The tracker is used as a monitoring tool. He provided a reminder that the Board does not take a formal position, unless asked by the Board of Regents / SED Commissioner. Individual opinions should be explicitly stated as such. Should detailed discussions or advisory opinions be requested by SED, the ES will formally notify the Board.

12. Project Delivery Methods Committee Report

The ES reported in Chair D'Angelo's absence. The Chair reported to the ES that there was no formal activity for this committee since the previous Board meeting.

13. New Business

The draft Architecture Practice Guidelines were reviewed, as requested by the Architecture Board Office. Limited comment was provided. The ES noted that the next Board meeting will contain a kickoff for all three Board professions practice guidelines review and/or development.

A tracking documentation for Continuing Education Committee Work is being developed for all Board Offices. Comments were provided by the Board which will be incorporated into the working draft. Documentation will be posted online once finalized.

A draft Comparative Education / Board Office policy concerning Land Surveyor Education assessments was circulated. It pertains to using non-matriculated coursework to fill degree gaps, while meeting current regulatory requirements where clarity is not provided in the current regulations. Work will continue on this draft policy within the Land Surveying committee, the Board Office, and the Comparative Education Unit. The current draft document is not included in the open session packet because it was created after packet posting.

14. Continuing Business

The ES stated the next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 7, 2023 at 9:30 A.M. in Albany. Dates and locations for 2024 Board Meetings will be discussed at that time. A list of topics for the next board meeting was provided, including 2024 Board Chair and Vice-Chair Nominations/Elections.

Roy Garfinkel inquired about the NYSAPLS Minimum Technical Standards (MTS) document that was submitted to the Board in April 2021. Chair Noviello replied that it has been discussed in the Land Surveying subcommittee and the committee is still reviewing. The draft NYSAPLS MTS will be reviewed as part of the forthcoming SED Land Surveying Practice Guidelines review.

15. Executive Session and Adjournment

Motion – Holbritter/Nogle: Move to break for fifteen (15) minutes at 12:05 P.M. and reconvene thereafter for Executive Session.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Greppo, PE
Executive Secretary