

MINUTES

**UTAH PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
LICENSING BOARD
MEETING**

July 18, 2012

**Room 474, 4th floor, 9:00 A.M.
Heber M. Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111**

CONVENED: 9:00 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 10:37 A.M.

**Bureau Manager
Board Secretary**

Richard J. Oborn
Lee Avery

Board members present

Von Hill, Vice Chairperson
Max Peterson
David Wesemann
Thomas Colvin

Board members absent

Scott Marsell
Norman Bennion
Jonathan Richards

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

MINUTES:

The minutes dated May 16, 2012 were reviewed. Mr. Hill motioned to accept the minutes with changes, seconded by Mr. Peterson. The motion carried unanimously

Mr. Oborn, compliance report

#1. R. Craig Brown is in compliance with his stipulation. He submitted his employer and supervisor reports for May. His next reports are due August 10, 2012. Mr. Brown sent a letter explaining his absence from the last meeting. He was out of compliance in May 2011 for not having a supervisor, in September 2011 due to late reports, in January 2012 due to late or missing reports and in March 2012 for not contacting DOPL when he had a doctor's appointment and was unable to keep his

appointment with the Board. Mr. Brown signed a new stipulation. The Board may want to know where he is regarding his CE requirements focusing on structural engineering.

APPOINTMENTS:

#1. R. Craig Brown, probation interview

Mr. Brown met with the Board. Mr. Hill conducted the interview. Mr. Brown stated he was unable to contact his supervisor. He did provide feedback regarding one of his projects. Mr. Brown stated he signed up for a CE course sponsored by ICC. The topic is in building codes. Mr. Brown stated he does not plan to use this course for meeting the CE requirement in his stipulation. He plans to sign up for additional CE courses that are being held at the University of Utah, scheduled for October and will provide documentation for the Board's approval. Mr. Wesemann motioned to have Mr. Brown submit a course description to Mr. Oborn by August 1, 2012 for the Board's review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Peterson and carried unanimously. Mr. Oborn noted that he will respond back to Mr. Brown within one week of receipt. The Board advised Mr. Brown to have his supervisor include in the next supervisor report feedback on what was recently submitted to him by Mr. Brown. The Board questioned if a supervisor report for June is required. The Board stated that because there was no work submitted in June and June report is not needed; however, he needs to submit a report for the work submitted in May. The Board asked to see Mr. Brown September 19, 2012. **Mr. Brown is in compliance with his stipulation.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Further definition of continuing education requirement

The Board discussed the current continuing education requirement, noting that many licensed professionals hold licenses in many states. One question is should CEs be further defined in specific and/or technical areas and standardized to make the CE hours more acceptable in other states. The Board noted that the current requirement provides that CEs be completed in one hour increments.

The Board discussed what does not count as CE hours and the possibility of including this in the rule.

The Board discussed making the following additions to the rule:

1. identifying unacceptable courses;
2. identifying a maximum for certain types of courses, such as business courses;
3. requiring a minimum of 2 or 4 hours of ethics;
4. raise total CE hour requirement to 30 hours to be consistent with the national standard; and
5. possibly requiring 10 to 12 hours of CE in technical subjects.

Mr. Oborn will consult with NCEES to obtain their input. The Board will discuss this at the September Board meeting.

2. Seal requirements

Tabled to the September Board meeting.

3. Proposed amendments to definition of unprofessional conduct

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the Director of DOPL and the Director of Commerce said they will support the Board in amendments to define unprofessional conduct in more detail than what is currently there. The Board requested time be allowed at the next Board meeting discuss this in detail.

4. Status of PE/PLS Education and Enforcement Fund and discussion about appropriate Fund uses

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that currently there is \$59,522 in the education and enforcement fund. Mr. Oborn noted that some of the funds pay part of the investigator's salary and some helps Board members attend national meetings. The Board discussed using the fund to support local CE courses. The Board discussed ways to get the word out to the industry.

5. UCLS support of Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors proposal to remove "engineering surveys" from NCEES model law

The Board reviewed the letter submitted by Mr. Brad Mortensen. Mr. Hill advised the Board that the committee report recommended to leave engineering surveys as it is currently defined in Utah statute. There could be additional discussion at the national meeting; however, the Utah Board opted to not support any changes at this time.

6. Report from Board members who attended NCEES Central/Western Zone Joint Interim Meeting, May 17-19

Mr. Peterson attended the NCEES convention and reviewed the topics discussed. Mr. Peterson noted that there was a discussion regarding raising the cost of the exam. The exams are moving to being closed book exams. The discussion regarding the bachelor's and master's degree education requirement continues.

Upcoming NCEES Annual Meeting in August

Mr. Colvin and Mr. Bennion will attend the NCEES Annual Meeting in August 2012.

Not on the agenda:

The Board reviewed a letter from Sameer Keskar regarding the criteria set for engineers with an engineering degree earned outside the U.S. Sameer Keskar believes it is unfair to make an applicant ineligible to appear for the FE exam due to a deficiency in credits in general studies determined in a NCEES foreign credentials evaluation. The Board reviewed R156-22-302b.

Qualifications for Licensure - Education Requirements.

(c) If the degree was earned in a foreign country, the engineering curriculum shall be determined by the NCEES Credentials Evaluations, formerly known as the Center for Professional Engineering Education Services (CPEES), to fulfill the required curricular content of the NCEES Engineering Education Standard. Only deficiencies in course work in the humanities, social sciences and liberal arts and no more than five semester hours in math, science or engineering, not to exceed a total of 10 semester hours noted by the credentials evaluation may be satisfied by successfully completing the deficiencies in course work at a recognized college or university approved by the Division in collaboration with the Board. Engineering course work deficiencies must be completed at an EAC/ABET approved program.

The Board noted that some state licensing boards make the applicant make up the coursework and some state licensing boards waive the deficiency if it is in general studies. If the degree is equivalent, then it needs to include specific coursework. As a professional, the licensee needs education in all areas to be well rounded. The Board noted that there is not language that can be drafted that would protect the public and be fair to U.S. educated students. The

Board opted to not make any changes at this time.

The Board noted that Mr. Richards, Mr. Hill and Mr. Wesemann's service on the Board will end soon and thanked them for their dedication to the profession and the time they served on the Board.

Next Board Meeting:

September 19, 2012

2012 Board meetings have been tentatively scheduled:
September 19, November 21

ADJOURNED:

The adjourned at 10:33 P.M.

Note: This report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript, but is intended to record the significant features of what was discussed in the meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily arranged in chronological order.

September 19, 2012
Date Approved

(ss) Norman Bennion
Chairperson, Utah Professional Engineers and
Professional Land Surveyors Board

September 19, 2012
Date Approved

(ss) Richard J. Oborn
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational and
Professional Licensing