



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



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Board of Registration for Professional
Engineers and Land Surveyors

Board Meeting – January 21, 2004

The Board held a regular meeting on January 21, 2004, in Room 111 of the Kingstree Building in Columbia, South Carolina.

It was noted for the record that official notification of the meeting had been sent to the Offices of LLR-Public Information and LLR-General Counsel; appropriate newspapers; WIS-TV; South Carolina Society of Professional Land Surveyors (SCSPLS); South Carolina Society of Professional Engineers (SCSPE); Consulting Engineers of South Carolina (CESC); and the South Carolina Council of Engineering and Surveying Societies (SCESS).

Chairman James T. McCarter, P.E., called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. Other members present were W. Kenneth Humphries, Ph.D., P.E., Vice Chairman; James O. (Pete) Gordon, P.E., Secretary; A. Cleveland Gillette, P.L.S.; Deborah J. Livingston, Public Member; Sidney C. Miller, P.L.S.; Gaye Garrison Sprague, P.E.; and Mitchell S. Tibshrary, Jr., P.E.

Also present were Jay Pitts, Board Administrator; Sharon Dantzler, Advice Counsel; Therese Elliott, Administrative Assistant; Charles Ido, Investigator; and Brian Oxendine, Administrative Assistant.

Jay Pitts, Administrator, reviewed the agenda.

Where action is recorded below, it was taken in each case on motion duly made, seconded and carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2004. The Architects Board will be present for this meeting.

The minutes from the September 23, 2003, Board meeting were approved.

Applications:

Alton H. Clark. Mr. Clark appeared before the Board to discuss his application for comity licensure. The Board Education Consultant found the applicant's educational program to be lacking ten semester hours in the area of Humanities and Social Studies. The Board voted to approve Mr. Clark's application, despite the educational deficiency, based upon his satisfactory performance as a licensee in other states, the fact that his education was apparently approved in

another state, his classes in English and because the educational deficiency is in the area of Humanities.

Todd Alexander Marshall. Mr. Marshall appeared before the Board to discuss his application to sit for the PE examination. The Board questioned whether or not the applicant's first employment engagement qualified as professional experience. Mr. Marshall did not work for a licensed Professional Engineer during this time period. The Board determined that Mr. Marshall must find a licensed PE to verify his employment for the first engagement. The PE could be either a direct or indirect supervisor. If the applicant cannot provide this information, then he will not be permitted to count the time as professional experience.

David Schlessman. Mr. Schlessman appeared before the Board to discuss his application to sit for the PE examination. The Board Education Consultant found the applicant's educational program to be lacking six semester hours in the area of Engineering Design. Mr. Schlessman distributed evidence of additional coursework that had not been evaluated. These courses were designed for military officers entering the Army Corps of Engineers. He asked the Board to consider the additional courses along with his years of experience. The Board voted to approve Mr. Schlessman for licensure based on the additional coursework.

Chairman McCarter called for a 10 minute break at 11:00 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:10 a.m.

Md. Nurul Amin. Mr. Amin has applied for a Temporary Permit in South Carolina. The Board Education Consultant has determined that, based on his entire program of study, there exists a deficiency of six semester hours in the area of Humanities and Social Sciences. Since Mr. Amin's Masters degree (MSENV, University of Michigan – May 1996) was required to meet deficiencies in the areas of Math and Science, he will need eight years of qualifying experience after the date of his approved degree (May 1996). Mr. Amin does not meet the minimum education requirement at this time. Board members discussed the Regulation (R.49-200A-2) and were reminded that a Policy cannot change a Regulation. This particular Regulation is included in the legislation redraft list. Board members voted that Mr. Amin will have to obtain the required eight years of experience before he can be considered for licensure. Messrs. Humphries and Tibshirany abstained from voting.

Barry W. Suggs. Mr. Miller brought Mr. Suggs' application up for discussion because of questionable references from his work experience section. The Board elected to allow Mr. Suggs to take the FLS examination; however, he will be required to come before the Board before any further action can be taken on his licensure application. He will be notified that his experience has not been approved.

Mark Anthony Thomey. Mr. Thomey has applied for comity licensure in South Carolina. The applicant had disciplinary action taken against his license by the Louisiana Board. The disciplinary action has been handled by the Louisiana Board and appropriate steps have been taken by Mr. Thomey to correct the situation. The Board voted to approve Mr. Thomey for licensure.

Ambassadorship:

Mr. Tibshirany and Mr. Pitts discussed the Ambassadorship Program. Mr. Tibshirany would like to schedule another meeting with the Development Officers, Deans and South Carolina State Committees.

Mr. Gordon reported that the ABET visit to South Carolina State was successful.

Report of Board Administrator:

Mr. Pitts reported on the downsizing of staff. Two staff members have been transferred to other Boards and their duties have been divided among the remaining employees. Each Board has been asked to cut travel expenses and phone expenses by 15%. Travel to out-of-state meetings has been limited to one Board member and one Administrator. The Agency has also asked that Board meetings be limited to once per quarter. The budget report was also distributed to Board members.

Mr. Pitts reminded Board members that the Licensing Ceremony would begin at 4:00 p.m. in the State House Rotunda. Board members were asked to report to the State House by 3:45 p.m.

Statistics from the October 2003 examinations were distributed.

Board meeting dates for 2004 were discussed. Meeting dates are as follows: March 15-16, June 21-22, September 21-22 and December 15-16. Meetings must be held in Columbia two times per year because of the Licensing Ceremonies. Time and travel restrictions will make campus visits more difficult to schedule.

Mr. Pitts reported that an individual in Charleston has agreed to assist the Board in writing and administering the photogrammetry examination. The North Carolina Board may be interested in sharing the cost of this test. A GIS examination is still needed.

Statement of Economic Interests forms were distributed to Board members. These forms must be returned to the State Ethics Commission no later than April 15, 2004.

Violations Report:

The Board went into executive session to discuss the Violations Report. In open session, the Board voted to close the following 27 cases:

03-200-3231; 03-200-3245; 03-200-3274; 03-200-3279; 03-200-3285; 03-185-3286;
03-185-3287; 03-185-3296; 03-185-3297; 03-200-3300; 03-200-3301; 03-180-3302;
03-180-3303; 03-200-3304; 03-200-3305; 03-200-3306; 03-180-3307; 03-185-3309;
03-180-3310; 03-185-3311; 03-200-3315; 03-185-3319; 03-185-3320; 03-200-3321;
03-180-3323; 04-180-3324; 04-185-3327.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Therese G. Elliott
Administrative Assistant