

MINUTES
SC Board of Architectural Examiners
Board Meeting/Hearing
9:30 a.m., November 16, 2021
Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive
Columbia, SC

Meeting Called to Order

Brad Smith, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Other members participating were Charles Muldrow, James Stevens, Amanda Green, and Sanders Tate.

Staff members participating in this meeting included Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator; Alice DeBorde, Program Coordinator; Tyler Livezey, LLR Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Shelby Sutusky, LLR Office of Disciplinary Counsel, and Stacey Hewson, Advice Counsel.

Statement of Public Notice

Smith announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Architectural Examiners office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Anthony Lawrence joined the meeting after the Administrators Report.

Approval of the September 29, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes as presented. Muldrow/Green/Approved.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Agenda accepted as submitted. Tate/Muldrow/Approved.

Reports

Office of Investigations and Enforcement Report

From January 1, 2021, to November 8, 2021, 18 complaints received, 2 active investigations and 4 closed. The Board accepted this as information.

Investigative Review Committee Report

The following IRC Recommendations were submitted to the Board as a result of the November 4, 2021, IRC meetings:

Case No.	Action
2021-6	Dismiss
2021-12	Formal Complaint
2021-10	Formal Complaint
2021-11	Cease & Desist
2021-8	Letter of Caution

Motion: To approve IRC recommendations. Tate/Muldrow/Approved.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report

As of November 12, 2021, six (6) cases have been opened, five (5) are pending a hearing and one (1) has been closed since the last report. The board accepted this as information.

Administrator's Report

Number of Active Credentials by Prefix and
Subcategory
Board: ARCHITECT
as of 11/8/2021

Credential	Description	Count
AR	Architect	4361
ARA	Partnership Firm	11
ARB	Business Corporation Firm	121
ARC	Professional Association Firm	62
ARD	Sole Proprietor Firm	21
ARF	Firms	1477
	Subt Total	6053

Licensure Statistics – Active licenses as of 10/6/2020

Number of Active Credentials by Prefix and
Subcategory
Board: ARCHITECT
as of 10/6/2020

Credential	Description	Count
AR	Architect	4380
ARA	Partnership Firm	10
ARB	Business Corporation Firm	124
ARC	Professional Association Firm	63
ARD	Sole Proprietor Firm	20
ARF	Firms	1390
	Subt Total	5987

Financial Reports

The board accepted as information the October 2021 Financial Reports.

Board Reports

No Board reports for this period.

New Business

Electronic Sealing of Drawings

Member Smith would like for the board to consider revising the laws/regulations as they relate to electronic sealing of drawings. Since the laws are not up-to-date with technology, the definition needs to be updated with specific requirements for signing and sealing electronic documents. Member Lawrence volunteered to research this matter with assistance from members Smith and Muldrow.

Stacey Hewson, Advice Counsel, indicated that the Sealing and Direct Supervision Policy on the board website should be revised to Sealing and Direct Supervision Guidelines.

Disciplinary Hearings

Zhi Feng – 2018-19 & 2019-12

The proceeding was recorded by a court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript should one be necessary.

Motion: To go into Execution Session for legal advice. Lawrence/Green/Approved.

Motion: To come out of Executive Session. Tate/Stevens/Approved.

No votes were taking on any matter during executive session.

Motion: The board agrees with the respondent that South Carolina law allows him to complete MEP drawings for a building under 5,000 square feet without being a registered engineer however the board finds that Mr. Feng was unprofessional and unethical and likely mislead the public and/or his client in stamping the MEP drawings with an architects seal; I further move that the Board find that Mr. Feng committed statutory violations as outlined on page 4 of the Memorandum of Agreement. My motion would thus be to include a Public Reprimand, \$2000 fine paid within 30 days, to include investigative cost and for Mr. Feng to complete 6 additional hours on top of the regulatory amount of CEU's on ethics by June 30, 2022. Muldrow/Tate/Approved.

Application Hearings

No application hearings this meeting.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business this meeting

Funding Request

No funding Request this meeting.

Other Business

No other business

Public Comments

No public comments

The next meeting of the SC Board of Architectural Examiners will be held January 26, 2022.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting. Tate/Lawrence/Approved. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Alice M. DeBorde, Program Coordinator