

MINUTES
South Carolina State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors
9:30 a.m., November 18, 2025
Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Midlands Conference Room
Columbia, SC

Call to Order

Chairperson Dinkins called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Statement of Public Notice

Chairperson Dinkins stated that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the South Carolina State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, on the Board's website, 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.

Introduction of Board Members and Other Persons Attending

Board members participating included Gene Dinkins, PE, PLS, Chairperson; Henry Dingle, PLS, Vice Chairperson; D. Mack Kelly, PE, PLS, Secretary; Jimmy Chao, PE; Timothy Rickborn, PE; Peter Strub, PE; Angela Musselwhite, PE; and Kent T. Stair.

Staff members participating included: Lenora Addison-Miles, Board Executive; Ely Grote, Esq., Office of Advice Counsel; Kenesha Wilson, Program Coordinator; Chris Elliott, Esq., Office of Disciplinary Counsel; Charles Turkal, Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Billie Chambers, Division of Operations Technology and Security.

Mary Joy (Creel Court Reporting) served as the court reporter.

Review and Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Mr. Chao made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Rickborn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Approval of Excused Absences

All members were present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes from the September 9, 2025 meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Rickborn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Reports

Office of Investigations and Enforcement

Wattie Wharton, Office of Investigations and Enforcement, presented the OIE report. From January 2, 2025 until November 18, 2025: 77 complaints received, seven active investigations, and 35 closed cases.

Investigative Review Conference Report

Mr. Wharton presented the IRC report. The IRC was held on November 4, 2025 with the following recommendations: five dismissals, and three letters of caution.

MOTION: Mr. Rickborn made a motion to approve the IRC recommendation. Mr. Dingle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report

Mr. Elliott presented the ODC report. As of November 17, 2025, there were 32 open cases, two pending hearings and agreements, 12 cases closed since the last report, and 40 cases closed since January 1, 2025.

Administrative and Financial Reports

Mrs. Miles presented the Administrative and Financial reports. As of November 6th, there were 21,258 engineers, 886 surveyors, and 100 dual licensees current through 2026. There were 3,882 firms and 1,347 branch offices active through March 31, 2027. Meeting materials also contain information regarding the number of in state and out-of-state early PE/PS exam candidates each year. According to the NCEES CBT Summary for the October thru December testing window, there were a total (including scheduled and delivered) of 324 FE, ten FS, 98 PE, six PS, and two SE exams. The Board has received 3,019 Early PE exam applications and 2,021 have passed the exam. There have been 46 Early PS applicants and 31 have passed. The September cash balance was \$4,742,587.07 and the Education and Research Fund balance was \$795,024.59.

NCEES/UK Mutual Recognition Agreement – Philipp Clarke and Marie Nebesky

Mr. Clarke, UK Consulate in Atlanta, and Marie Nebesky, NCEES International Engagement Strategist, presented an overview of the US-UK Mutual Recognition Agreement which aims to assist U.S. member boards in establishing international comity pathways. Currently, 12 states have implemented acceptance of the agreement and many other states have signed intents to participate. The Board accepted this as information and will have more discussion at a future meeting.

Funding Requests

USC Mechanical Engineering Dept. Order of the Engineer

The board considered a funding request for \$2,550 for the USC Mechanical Engineering Department's Order of the Engineer Ceremony, held on November 13th.

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Dingle seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Mr. Chao abstained from the vote.

SCSPE 2026 EPIC Conference

The board considered a request for \$15,000 for the SCSPE Environmental Policy and Infrastructure Conference to be held on February 18, 2026 in Columbia.

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Dingle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

SCSPE Fall Symposium

The board considered a request for \$7,000 for the SCSPE Fall Symposium to be held November 19th in Greenville and by virtual platform. The request was reduced to \$6,000 because there was no cost for the event space.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Chao seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Application Hearings

Rion Longfellow appeared before the board seeking licensure as an engineer by examination. He was not represented by counsel. He did not have any witnesses. This matter was recorded by a court reporter in order to provide a verbatim transcript should one be necessary. Mr. Strub was recused from the hearing.

MOTION: Mr. Kelly made a motion to enter executive session for legal advice. Mr. Rickborn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Rickborn made a motion to exit executive session. Mr. Dingle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: After exiting executive session, Mr. Kelly made a motion to deny licensure based on the applicant's inability to provide four years of qualifying, progressive work experience. Mr. Stair seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Christopher R. Clouser appeared before the board seeking licensure as a surveyor by examination. He was represented by Tracey Perlman, Esq. Chester Vaughan served as a witness. This matter was recorded by a court reporter in order to provide a verbatim transcript should one be necessary.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to enter executive session for legal advice. Mr. Rickborn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Rickborn made a motion to exit executive session. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: After exiting executive session, Mr. Dingle made a motion, based on the testimony and information presented, to approve the applicant's experience to sit for the state specific examination, subject to all other conditions being met. It was noted that his plats have not yet been approved. Mr. Stair seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Mr. Chao left the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

The Board recessed for lunch from 12:35 until 1:00 p.m.

Marvin Cavanaugh, Jr. appeared before the board seeking licensure as a surveyor by examination. He was not represented by counsel. He did not have any witnesses. This matter was recorded by a court reporter in order to provide a verbatim transcript should one be necessary.

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to enter executive session for legal advice. Mr. Dingle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Rickborn made a motion to exit executive session. Mr. Dingle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: After exiting executive session, Mr. Dingle made a motion, based on the testimony and information provided, to approve the applicant's experience to take the state specific examination, subject to all other conditions being met. It was noted that plats have not yet been approved. Mr. Rickborn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Steven Waidelich appeared before the board seeking an extension of a prior order of the board. He was not represented by counsel. He did not have any witnesses. This matter was recorded by a court reporter in order to provide a verbatim script should one be necessary.

MOTION: Mr. Rickborn made a motion to enter executive session for legal advice. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to exit executive session. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: After exiting executive session, Mr. Rickborn made a motion to grant a one-year extension to the previous order to December 31, 2026, provided the applicant submits a certificate of study that is reviewed and approved, and passes the exam in April 2026. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Disciplinary Hearing

The board heard a motion for reconsideration in Case 2025-24 (MOA). This matter was recorded by a court reporter to provide a verbatim transcript should one be necessary. Mr. Rickborn was recused from the hearing.

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to enter executive session for legal advice. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to exit executive session. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: After exiting executive session, Mr. Stair made a motion to defer action on the motion at this time pending a MOA pertaining to the company. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

S.C. Administrative Law Court Order of Remand (Case Nos. 2019-101; 2019-98)

This matter was deferred until a quorum of members that have not recused from the matter are present.

Unfinished Business

Review of Action items

The Board reviewed the action items from the September 9, 2025 meeting.

Construction Experience – This matter is still pending.

Surveyor Education – Molly Price (LLR) advised the board that justification will need to be provided in order for the agency to consider spending additional funds and administrative resources to implement a new process. This matter will be revisited during the January 2026 meeting.

New Business

Nominations for 2026 NCEES National Service Awards

NCEES is seeking nominations which are due January 31, 2026. The Board received this as information and took no action.

2026 NCEES Southern Zone Funded Delegates

NCEES will fund the member board administrator and three eligible funded delegates at no cost to the agency. The meeting will be held in Puerto Rico, April 23-25, 2026. Mr. Dinkins and Mr. Chao are also funded by NCEES.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to approve Mr. Dingle, Ms. Musselwhite, and Mr. Rickborn as the funded delegates, and request funding from LLR for Mr. Strub, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Stair, Mr. Grote, and Ms. Price. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

PDH Credit for Board Members Attending Board Meetings

The Board discussed the possibility of Board members receiving PDH credit for attending Board meetings. The Board will revisit this matter at its next meeting.

Surveyor Education Criteria

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to enter executive session for legal advice. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to exit executive session. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Rickborn made a motion to modify the current evaluation procedure. For cases where the education consultant determines education does not conform to the Board's criteria, the education will be reviewed by a surveyor member prior to informing the applicant. Mr. Dingle seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to maintain the current slate of officers. Mrs. Musselwhite seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Notice of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the SC State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors will be held on Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenesha Wilson
Administrative Coordinator I