

MINUTES
South Carolina State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors
9:30 a.m., May 12, 2026
Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Midlands Conference Room
Columbia, SC

Call to Order

Chairperson Dinkins called the meeting to order at 9:33 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; Chris Elliott, Esq., Office of Disciplinary Counsel; Wattie Wharton and Charles Turkal, Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Molly Price, Building and Environmental Boards; and Billie Chambers, Division of Operations Technology and Security.

Elizabeth Janiske (Creel Court Reporting) served as the court reporter.

Review and Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Excused Absences

All members were present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes from the March 10, 2026 meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Strub made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Dingle 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, 2026 until May 12, 2026: 35 complaints received, eight active investigations, and 11 closed cases.

Investigative Review Conference Report

Mr. Wharton presented the IRC report. The IRC was held on April 27, 2026 with the following recommendations: one dismissal, and one letter of caution.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to approve the IRC recommendation. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried. Mr. Rickborn and Mr. Chao opposed.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report

Mr. Elliott presented the ODC report. As of May 5, 2026, there were 35 open cases, four pending hearings and agreements, 11 cases closed since the last report, and 18 cases closed since January 1, 2026.

Administrative and Financial Reports

Mrs. Miles presented the Administrative and Financial reports. As of April 28th, there were 5,670 engineers, 241 surveyors, and 28 dual licensees current through 2028. There were 3,999 firms and 1,382 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 April through June testing window, there were a total (including scheduled and delivered) of 319 FE, 9 FS, 114 PE, seven PS, and two SE exams. There were 27 candidates for the May State Specific Surveying exam (16 passed and 11 failed). The Board received 3,128 Early PE exam applications and 2,093 passed the exam. There have been 51 Early PS applicants and 33 have passed. The March cash balance was \$4,622,025.90 and the Education and Research Fund balance was \$735,759.21.

Funding Requests

USC Department of Mechanical Engineering Order of the Engineer Ceremony

The Board considered a funding request for \$2,120 for the USC Mechanical Engineering department's Order of the Engineer Ceremony, held on April 10, 2026.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Mr. Chao was recused from this matter.

2026 S.C. Engineering Conference & Trade Show

The Board considered a funding request for \$55,000 for the annual conference which will provide 15 professional development hours for licensees.

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

Unfinished Business

Review of Action items

The Board reviewed the action items from the March 10, 2026 meeting.

Position Statement Opposing H.3021 and S.254 – The Board submitted a position statement opposing the legislation. Allison King advised the board that the legislation is still pending.

Construction Experience – Mr. Chao advised this matter was submitted to the NCEES Southern Zone for discussion to see how other jurisdictions are handling this issue. Discussion ensued. Mr. Chao will obtain a copy of the ASCE Construction Experience document for the Board to review, prior to the July meeting.

Surveyor Education Evaluations – Molly Price addressed the Board regarding their proposal to provide a preliminary review of surveying specific courses.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion an applicant will receive one courtesy review of their education while they are still fulfilling their education requirements and they will receive one additional evaluation upon completion of their education requirements. If they desire an additional review during that time, it would be at the discretion of the applicant to pay the additional evaluation fee. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Guidelines for Successor Engineer/Surveyor – The Board discussed this matter. Mr. Stair will provide revisions for the July meeting.

NCEES Annual Meeting Travel – Molly Price advised travel has been approved.

New Business

SCSPLS Request for Letter of Support

SCSPLS is seeking the Board’s support in efforts to establish a four-year degree program in surveying or geomatics at a university in South Carolina.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to approve a letter of support. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Mr. Grote will draft the letter.

PDH Credits for Technical Sessions at NCEES Zone Meetings

NCEES Zone Meetings include technical education sessions and engineering and surveying forums for attendees which are beneficial to professional practice. The Board discussed accepting these sessions for PDH credit. Mr. Chao will contact the NCEES Board of Directors regarding providing certificates of attendance in the future.

MOTION: Mr. Stair made a motion to accept the educational sessions with technical information, of an educational format, as PDH credits upon written statement from member certifying attendance. Mr. Dingle 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, July 14, 2026.

MOTION: Mr. Dingle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Strub seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lenora Addison-Miles, CPM, MBA
Board Executive