

**MINUTES**  
**South Carolina Board of Registration for**  
**Professional Engineers and Surveyors**  
**Board Meeting**  
9:30 a.m., July 19 and 20, 2011  
Synergy Business Park  
110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Room 108  
Columbia, South Carolina

**Call to Order**

Chairman Andy Kinghorn, P.E., called the meeting to order on July 20, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. Board Members present were Theresa Hilliard Hodge, P.E.; Thurl M. Amick, Sr., PLS; Nancy W. Cottingham; Gene L. Dinkins, P.E., PLS., and Cecil Huey, Jr., P.E. Board Members Miller L. Love, Jr., P.E., and Charles M. Joye were excused due to previous engagements.

**Statement of public notice**

Mr. Kinghorn stated public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors 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.

Introduction of Board Members and Others present – Sid Shrum, education consultant; Tim Rickborn, PE, representing Structural Engineers Association of SC (SEA).

**Request for diagnostics on State Specific Surveyor exam – Hubert McClure**

Mr. Hubert McClure requested diagnostics for the State Specific Surveyor exam. Sid Shrum, Board education consultant, gave a brief presentation on pros and cons of providing diagnostics, how the exam is administered and scored, and the purpose of this type of exam. If approved, diagnostics would be provided only to candidates who fail the exam. Mr. Shrum noted that limited diagnostics were provided in the past but were discontinued.

**Motion:** To provide, upon request, limited diagnostics on no more than six topics to persons who fail the State Specific Exam. Dinkins/Amick/Approved.

**Amended Motion:** To postpone implementation until the September Board meeting to allow Mr. Shrum to develop a report format for Board approval. Cottingham/Huey/ Approved.

**Application Hearings (Also Recorded by Court Reporter)**

- a. Daniel Hollis Williams – Reinstatement

Mr. Williams appeared before the Board for an application hearing for practicing engineering after his Professional Engineer's license lapsed on June 30, 2006. This matter was recorded by a court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript should one be necessary.

**Motion:** To enter into Executive Session. Dinkins/Hodge/Approved

**Motion:** To return to Public Session. Dinkins/Amick/Approved

**Motion:** To reinstate Mr. Williams Professional Engineer's license. Hodge/Amick/Approved.

**Topographic Surveys – Who can perform them?—Brett Rogers, Goldie Associates**

Mr. Brett Rogers was not present at the meeting to discuss this topic. After a brief discussion, the Board reaffirmed their previous decision that a licensed Professional Land Surveyor must perform topographic surveys.

**Motion:** A licensed Professional Land Surveyor must perform topographic surveys. Dinkins/Amick/Approved.

**Licensure required for work on Federal lands – Jan Simpson**

This item was carried over to the September Board Meeting.

**Potential Law changes for implementation of Computer-Based Testing (CBT) – Christa Bell**

Ms. Simpson researched the statutes and regulations in South Carolina for any issues or statements that might need to be changed for the implementation of Computer-Based Testing. Ms. Simpson reported to the Board that no changes needed to be made to the South Carolina Code of Laws and Regulations for implementation of Computer-Based Testing.

**NCEES Education Standard – Difference in Masters Degrees; Differences between NCEES Education Standard and ABET Accreditation Criteria – Andy Kinghorn**

Mr. Kinghorn discussed a letter he has drafted to NCEES expressing the Board's concerns that the new Education Standards may not demonstrate equivalence to an EAC/ABET degree. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to send it to Jerry Carter, Executive Director at NCEES.

**Possible uses of Education Research Fund for Students (CBT Fees)**

The Board discussed the possibility of using the Education Research Fund to assist examinees with the increase in fees for the computer-based FE exam and FS exam. After a brief discussion, the Board decided not to make a final decision at this time. This topic will be discussed at the NCEES Annual Meeting in August 2011.

**Inquiry regarding Surveys – elevations on topographic surveys**

Ms. Simpson presented a concern from an architect that having only a reference on a survey to a property's being in a flood zone, with no existing building finish floor elevation, is insufficient for an owner to assess the potential for building on a property. After a brief discussion, the Board decided that no change is necessary to the regulations at this time and that adding lines would make every survey a topographic survey.

**Administrator Travel – Vote on Approval or Limits – Jan Simpson**

Ms. Simpson reported that Catherine Templeton, LLR Director, asked that each Board give approval for Administrators to travel to meetings when it is in the interest of the State.

Motion: To approve travel by the Administrator to all Zone, national and other meetings of the National Council of Examiners of Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) and to participate on Committees as assigned by the Council with the understanding that such travel is in the interest of the State of South Carolina, and to events sponsored by professional societies of engineers and surveyors when Board-related discussions or topics are listed on the agenda. Dinkins/Cottingham/Approved.

**Service Providers – License required? – Christa Bell**

This item was carried over to the September Board Meeting.

**Review of Structural Exam results – Jan Simpson**

Ms. Simpson distributed the April 2011 Structural Exam results as information only. No names were included on the report.

### **NCEES Records review of available documents – Jan Simpson**

This item was carried over to the September Board Meeting.

### **Irregularity related to exam approval – Jan Simpson**

Ms. Simpson discussed an issue regarding an applicant for the Portfolio Process who was apparently mistakenly approved to take the PE exam. He passed the exam in April 2011. The issue to be considered by the Board is whether or not he is eligible for the Portfolio Process.

**Motion:** To enter into Executive Session. Dinkins/Amick/Approved

**Motion:** To return to Public Session. Amick/Hodge/Approved

**Motion:** To approve the candidate for a Category B license and notify him that he is eligible for the Portfolio process for individuals who hold engineering technology degrees. Hodge/Dinkins/Approved.

### **Acceptance of one Structural exam component for licensure**

The board addressed an inquiry raised by an exam candidate regarding whether or not the Board would grant an initial Professional Engineer license to an individual upon passing one of the two parts of the Structural Exam. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed that an examinee must pass both the vertical and horizontal sections of the NCEES Structural exam to become licensed in South Carolina.

### **Review of Resolutions for NCEES Annual Meeting – Gene Dinkins**

Mr. Dinkins gave a brief overview of the resolutions and topics at the NCEES Annual Meeting in August 2011.

### **Administrator's Report – Jan Simpson**

#### **Computer-Based Testing**

On July 12, I participated in an NCEES webinar regarding Computer-Based Testing. Three members of the NCEES staff discussed FE and FS exam conversion timelines, test center locations, security procedures, testing windows, calculator policy (unchanged), new ADA focus, exam results timelines, states' possible legislation revisions to accommodate computer-based testing, institutional reports, and other related issues. There will be workshops at the upcoming Annual Meeting as well as a PearsonVue kiosk for demonstrations and mock exams (not related to engineering or surveying) that will simulate the candidates' experience. Forty-seven people participated in the webinar.

The last paper-and-pencil FE and FS exams will be offered in October 2013. Computer-based exams will begin in January 2014. The exams will be Linear-on-the-Fly (LOFT); each exam candidate will get the same number of questions, but each exam will be unique. Retests are based on questions included in previous tests. NCEES anticipates offering these exams in four "windows" per year; the length of the testing windows and testing dates have not been established. Tim Miller, Director of Exams for NCEES, suggested the change be considered in the context of a change in the number of windows—exams are currently offered in two one-day windows per year. Beginning in 2014, there will be four windows annually.

#### **Office of General Counsel**

LLR's Office of General Counsel has been reorganized; Jamie Saxon has been assigned as this Board's advice counsel, and Suzanne Hawkins will be the litigating counsel. From time to time, other LLR attorneys may substitute for them as needed. Mr. Saxon will preview all meeting agendas in the future prior to dissemination.

**Office of Investigations and Enforcement**

Todd Bond has accepted a position within OIE as supervisor of investigations for the Residential Builders Commission and other boards. He will no longer be assigned to investigate cases for this Board. Steve Freshley will assume Mr. Bond's cases until a new investigator has been hired.

**Websites**

Licensing Boards' websites are being revised. Please take time to see the new look at [www.llronline.com/pol/engineers](http://www.llronline.com/pol/engineers). ***End of Report***

**Administrative Disciplinary Report – Missy Jones**

The Board reviewed the Administrative Disciplinary Report regarding the number of letters of caution, Consent Agreements, and Cease and Desist Orders issued. The Board accepted the report as information.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m. to allow time to attend the Licensing Ceremony at the State House and the SCSPE-sponsored reception afterwards.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2011, at 9:30 a.m., Room 108.

Respectfully submitted,

Missy D. Jones  
Program Assistant