

**MINUTES**  
**South Carolina Board for Registration for**  
**Professional Engineers and Surveyors**  
**Board Meeting**  
9:30 a.m., September 11, 2012  
Synergy Business Park  
110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Room 204  
Columbia, South Carolina

**Call to Order**

Chairwoman Theresa Hodge, P.E., called the meeting to order on September 11, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. Board Members present were Timothy Rickborn, P.E.; Nancy W. Cottingham; M.L. Love, Jr., P.E.; Dennis Fallon, Ph.D, P.E.; Charles M. Joye, II, P.E.; and Gene Dinkins, PLS, P.E. Thurl Amick's absence was excused due to personal health issues.

Staff members included Jan Simpson, Administrator; Missy D. Jones, Program Assistant; and Sherri Moorer, Program Assistant. LLR Chief Advice Counsel Darra Coleman advised the Board. Sharon Wolfe, Investigator, also attended.

**Statement of public notice**

Mrs. Hodge stated public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of the Registration for 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.

**NOTE: These minutes are a record of the motions and official actions taken by the Board and brief summary of the meeting.**

Board Chairman Hodge introduced the Board and welcomed everyone.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes for the July 17 & 18, 2012 and August 15, 2012 Board Meeting.**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the Board meetings held on July 17 & 18, 2012, and August 15, 2012.  
Joye/Rickborn/Approved

**Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Hodge moved Item 12b from the Agenda before Item 6g.

## **Reports**

### **Investigative Review Committee Report – Sharon Wolfe**

There are thirteen active investigations in OIE, eleven of which were received this fiscal year. Two cases were closed and one was not opened. Two older cases (over 600 days) are scheduled for review at the next IRC meeting.

### **Reports on Administrative Actions (Consent Agreements, Cease and Desist Orders) – Missy Jones (Attached)**

#### **Administrator's Report**

Board staff members worked with LLR's Information Technology division to pilot test online applications for the October 12 FE exam from students at The Citadel. The information populates the Board's database directly, eliminating the need for data entry. It worked well for The Citadel; the procedure will be expanded to other universities for the April 2013 exam. Coupled with the exam results being downloaded directly into the licensee database, these technology improvements will save a lot of time for staff. The board asked that applications to take the Fundamentals of Surveying exam also be available online.

Election of Board Officers for 2013 will be held in November for terms beginning January 1, 2013.

Board staff is continuing to work with LLR's legislative staff on drafting language for exam eligibility requirements and for retaking computer-based tests.

Litigation Attorney Christa Bell and investigator Stella Hammond attended the NCEES Annual Meeting in August at the Board's request. Chairwoman Hodge extended thanks to LLR Director Pizarik and Assistant Deputy Director Charlie Ido for approving the request.

Licensure Statics (Attached)

### **Financial Report – Jan Simpson and Laura Pace**

Laura Pace, LLR Finance Director, gave an overview of state budgets and a detailed explanation of the Board's financial report. The Board requested a more detailed report in November with comparisons to other LLR boards' contributions to Immigration, OSHA, and other initiatives. Ms. Pace will provide a retroactive, historical report on expenses at the next meeting which she indicated other boards had also requested.

### **Board Member Reports – None**

### **Legislation Report – Jan Simpson**

**Referred to agenda item 12c, License for Military Spouse**

**Accreditation Process – Clemson University Bioengineering & Environmental Engineering Programs – Dr. Walter Castro**

Dr. Walt Castro gave a report on his evaluation of the bioengineering and environmental engineering programs at Clemson University. The bioengineering program was approved for ABET accreditation retroactive to 2009, making their graduates after that date eligible for EIT certification.

The environmental engineering program will begin the accreditation review process in January 2013. Dr. Castro recommended to the Board that students currently enrolled in Clemson’s environmental engineering program be allowed to sit for the Fundamentals of Engineering exam. Upon accreditation of the program and proof of graduation, they may apply for certification as an Engineer-in-Training.

The Board thanked Dr. Castro for his work and for continuing to provide licensure programs at Clemson on the board’s behalf.

**Application Hearings**

**a. Kerry Pickett -- Application Hearing**

Mr. Pickett appeared before the Board for an application hearing for reinstatement of his license as a Professional Engineer. 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. Fallon/Dinkins/Approved

**Motion:** To return to Public Session. Fallon/Love/Approved

**Motion:** To deny Mr. Pickett’s request for reinstatement of his Professional Engineer’s license. Dinkins/Love/Approved

**b. Anil Bhandari -- Application Hearing**

Mr. Bhandari was scheduled for an application hearing but did not attend the meeting. This matter was recorded by a court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript should one be necessary.

**Motion:** To deny his application until he appears before the Board. Dinkins/Love/Approved.

**Credential Evaluations – Stef Goodenow and Dr. Walter Castro**

Stef Goodenow, Director of the NCEES Credentials Evaluations program, and Marie Nebesky, Assistant Director, gave a presentation explaining how NCEES Credentials Evaluations are performed against the NCEES Education Standard.

Dr. Walt Castro gave a presentation explaining how he performs education evaluations using the EAC/ABET Standards. His evaluations determine equivalency to EAC/ABET accreditation criteria.

The Board discussed future acceptance of NCEES Credential Evaluations. Also to be considered is the Model Law that will require a Masters degree in the future or additional coursework to supplement a bachelors degree in engineering. The South Carolina Board has not adopted that portion of the Model Law. The Board took no action.

### **Engineers Technology Review Committee – Sherri Moorer**

- a. Casey Gresham Durden (Civil)
- b. James Eliot Cooper (Fire Protection)

**Motion:** To approve Casey Gresham Durden and James Eliot Cooper for licensure as Professional Engineers through the portfolio process. Love/Dinkins/Approved.

### **Unfinished Business (carried over from July)**

### **Suggestions for Use of Education and Research Funding**

There is no further research available on use of the Education and Research fund, so the Board will carry this discussion over to a future meeting. Administrator Simpson will notify engineering departments in South Carolina universities of education funding that is available.

### **Executive Session for legal advice**

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

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

### **New Business**

### **Vote on Temporary License for Military Spouse – Jan Simpson**

After review of the bill related to granting a Temporary License to a spouse of military personnel assigned to a military installation in South Carolina, the Board determined that they will continue to review applications for licensure on a case by case basis if the applicant meets requirements.

### **Review of Proposed Statute Changes**

The Board reviewed proposed updates to Title 40, Chapter 22, the statutes governing the practice of engineering and surveying in South Carolina. They plan to finalize proposed changes at the next meeting on November 14, 2012, for submittal to the legislature in January 2013.

### **Comparison of Statutes regarding declared Public Emergencies**

After comparison of similar statutes related to Public Emergencies (Sections 40-22-75 and 40-22-295), the Board determined there is no conflict and no changes are required.

### **Endorsement of Miller L. Love, Jr. for NCEES Southern Zone Vice-President**

**Motion:** To approve the endorsement of Miller Love for NCEES Southern Zone Vice-President. Dinkins/Rickborn/Approved. The Southern Zone's Nominating Committee and other Southern Zone states will be notified.

**Recognition of Gene Dinkins as newly installed President of NCEES**

The Board recognized Gene Dinkins as the newly installed president of NCEES.

**Experience Requirement for LSIT Certificate – Dennis Fallon**

This issue was addressed during proposed Statute changes.

**Public Comments -- None**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Missy D. Jones  
Program Assistant

**Board of Professional Engineers and Surveyors  
Administrator's Report  
September 11, 2012**

Licensure Statistics – See attached

Board staff members worked with LLR's Information Technology to pilot test online FE applications for students at The Citadel. The information populates our database directly, requiring no data entry for Board staff. It worked well for The Citadel, so we will expand the procedure to other universities for the April 2013 exam. Coupled with the exam results being downloaded directly into our database, these technology improvements will save a lot of time for staff.

Reminder: Election of Officers for 2013 will be held in November.

I will continue working with LLR's legislative staff on drafting language for exam eligibility requirements and for retaking computer-based tests.

Administrative Disciplinary Reports:

<b>Engineers Cease and Desist Orders for 2012</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Reason</b>
On Spec Engineering PC	2/24/2012	No licensed PE with firm
Precision Structural Eng	2/24/2012	Unlicensed practice
Agilis	5/1/2012	Unlicensed practice

Eight Letters of Caution have been issued in 2012.