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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING
AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD
9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433
July 27, 2020

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At 10:00 a.m. on July 27, 2020, Thomas R. Carroll, P.E., P.L.S. called the meeting to order, via Zoom video teleconferencing, with the following members present:

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Thomas R. Carroll, III, P.E., P.L.S.	Chairman
Christopher K. Richard, P.E.	Treasurer
Jeff A. Pike, P.E.	Secretary

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Alan D. Krouse, P.E.
Edgar P. Benoit, P.E.
D. Scott Phillips, P.E., P.L.S.
Chad C. Vosburg, P.E.
Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S.
Connie P. Betts, P.E.
Reginald L. Jeter, P.E.

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Also present: Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director
Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director
Bill Tripoli, Board Staff
Joe Harman, P.E., Board Staff
D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney

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Not present: Charles G. Coyle, III, P.L.S.

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The invocation was led by Mr. Pike and the pledge was led by Mr. Richard.

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Public comment time was recognized by Chairman Carroll.

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The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Pike, to accept the July 27, 2020 proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Vosburg, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2020 Board meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Krouse, to confirm the date for the next Board meeting on October 26, 2020.

Committee Reports

Laws and Rules Committee

Mr. Richard presented the report for the Laws and Rules Committee.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the CPD Ad Hoc Committee, comprised of Mr. Pike, Mr. Fontenot and Ms. Betts, to adopt the Emergency Policy Concerning Continuing Professional Development, effective January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022, to read as follows:

**EMERGENCY POLICY CONCERNING
CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)
(EFFECTIVE January 1, 2021 TO DECEMBER 31, 2022)
Adopted July 27, 2020**

1. The Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board recognizes the significance of the COVID-19 outbreak in the State of Louisiana and the nation, and the effect it is having on professional engineers and land surveyors, especially the ability of those licensees to participate in face-to-face continuing professional development during a portion of the 2020 calendar year.

2. **Engineers.** La. R.S. 37:697 and Board Rule 3105(A) require every professional engineer, including those listed in two or more disciplines, to earn 15 PDHs per calendar year in engineering-related acceptable activities.

1 a. Board Rule 3105(A)(1) requires that least one of the PDHs per calendar year shall
2 be earned in professional ethics. Professional ethics concerns the standard of professional conduct
3 and responsibility required of a professional engineer.

4 b. Board Rule 3105(A)(2) requires that at least four of the PDHs per calendar year
5 shall be earned in Life Safety Code, building codes and/or Americans with Disabilities Act
6 Accessibility Guidelines by every professional engineer who designs buildings and/or building
7 systems in Louisiana during such calendar year.

8 3. **Land Surveyors.** La. R.S. 37:697 and Board Rule 3105(B) require every professional
9 land surveyor to earn 8 PDHs per calendar year in land surveying-related acceptable activities.

10 a. Board Rule 3105(B)(1) requires that least one of the PDHs per calendar year shall
11 be earned in professional ethics. Professional ethics concerns the standard of professional conduct
12 and responsibility required of a professional land surveyor.

13 b. Board Rule 3105(B)(2) requires that at least one of the PDHs per calendar year
14 shall be earned in the standards of practice for boundary surveys in Louisiana.

15 4. **Dual Licensees.** Board Rule 3105(C) requires that each dual licensee is required to earn
16 15 PDHs per calendar year; however, at least one-third of the PDHs for each calendar year shall be
17 earned separately for each profession.

18 a. Board Rule 3105(C)(1) requires that at least one of the PDHs per calendar year
19 shall be earned in professional ethics. Professional ethics concerns the standard of professional
20 conduct and responsibility required of a professional engineer and/or professional land surveyor.

21 b. Board Rule 3105(C)(2) requires that at least one of the PDHs per calendar year
22 shall be earned in the standards of practice for boundary surveys in Louisiana.

23 c. Board Rule 3105(C)(3) requires that at least four of the PDHs per calendar year
24 shall be earned in Life Safety Code, building codes and/or Americans with Disabilities Act
25 Accessibility Guidelines by every professional engineer who designs buildings and/or building
26 systems in Louisiana during such calendar year.

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28 5. During this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board acknowledges that licensees
29 may find it impossible due to government restrictions and/or physical distancing requirements to
30 accomplish typical face-face CPD opportunities with which they are accustomed during portions of
31 the 2020 calendar year.

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33 6. During this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, licensees may find it necessary to
34 accomplish more of their CPD requirements through online or alternative means due to a reduced
35 availability of typical face-face CPD opportunities during a portion of the 2020 calendar year.

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37 7. For the above reasons, between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021, the Board will
38 allow renewing licensees an extension on their CPD requirements for calendar year 2020 (no later
39 than April 30, 2021) as they show evidence of their CPD requirements completion for calendar year
40 2019 and 2020. Those hours attained during the extension to makeup for 2020 CPD deficiencies
41 shall not be counted toward 2021.

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43 8. For the above reasons, between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022, the Board will
44 allow renewing licensees an extension on their CPD requirements for calendar year 2020 (no later
45 than April 30, 2021) as they show evidence of their CPD requirements completion for calendar year
46 2020 and 2021. Those hours attained during the extension to makeup for 2020 CPD deficiencies
47 shall not be counted toward 2021.

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49 9. The Board is hopeful that each licensee is able to attain their 2020 CPD hours during
50 2020 rather than utilizing this policy, however, licensees should immediately notify Board staff in
51 writing in the event they foresee a need to utilize this emergency policy. The deadline for this
52 request is December 15, 2020.

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54 10. This emergency policy does not affect renewals in calendar year 2020 for CPD
55 requirements for calendar year 2018 or 2019 since these calendar years were unaffected by the
56 COVID-19 pandemic.

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58 11. This policy is intended for people who remain healthy, but who are having difficulty
59 completing their CPD requirements due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. A person seriously ill
60 with COVID-19, or any serious illness which significantly restricts their ability to attain their CPD
61 requirements, may consider applying for exemption under Board Rule 3109(A)(3).

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63 12. The failure to properly notify Board staff of the need to utilize this emergency policy
64 may subject the licensee to disciplinary action by the Board.

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66 13. This emergency policy shall terminate on December 31, 2022.

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Applications

Application Appeals

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to affirm the reviewing committee's decision to *disapprove* the application of **Timothy Easter** for licensure as a professional engineer by comity based on lack of good character and reputation.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Pike, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to affirm the reviewing committee's decision to disapprove the application of **Husam Sadek** for licensure as a professional engineer by comity based on not satisfying the experience requirements of the Board.

Committee Reports (continued)

Finance Committee

Mr. Richard presented the report for the Finance Committee.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to accept the review of the year-to-date financial report as presented.

Old/New Business

Chairman Carroll presented information regarding the 2020 NCEES annual meeting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting will be conducted virtually.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Mr. Richard, to accept the NCEES annual meeting ballot as presented by Chairman Carroll. The ballot will be submitted to NCEES by the July 31, 2020 deadline.

Closing Business


The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Vosburg, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Ms. Betts, to acknowledge and confirm all licenses and certificates issued and renewed since the last Board meeting.


The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Betts, seconded by Mr. Richard, to approve all Board expenses.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Mr. Pike, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. on July 27, 2020.



Thomas R. Carroll, P.E., P.L.S.
Chairman



Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E.
Secretary