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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING
AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD
9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433
March 11, 2013

At 8:05 a.m. on March 11, 2013, Richard Savoie, P.E., called the meeting to order with the following members present:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Miles B. Williams, P.E. | Chairman |
| James E. Bowie, Ph.D., P.E. | Vice Chairman |
| M. Ernest Gammon, P.L.S. | Treasurer |
| Theodore H. Thompson, P.E. | Secretary |

Ali M. Mustapha, P.E.
Kevin E. Crosby, P.E., P.L.S.
John W. "Billy" Moore, P.E.
David L. Patterson, P.L.S.
Richard L. Savoie, P.E.
Norma Jean Mattei, Ph.D., P.E.

Also present:

Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director
Joe H. Harman, P.E., Technical Support Staff
Victoria Hatton, Director of Enforcement
Tyson Ducote, Board Investigator
Justin Owens, Board Investigator
Holly Madaffari, Board staff
Renee Bramlett, Board staff
Nancy Donald, Board staff
Margaret Killingsworth, Board staff
Cheron Seaman, Board staff
Janet Lindsey, Board staff
Joy Huff, Board staff
Delphia Duncan, Board staff
Corey Trouard, Board staff
Mark Donald, student worker

Not present: John T. Irving, P.E.

The invocation was led by Mr. Savoie and the pledge by Dr. Mattei.

Mr. Savoie presented the Chairman's gavel to Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams, on behalf of the Board, expressed his appreciation to Mr. Savoie and Dr. Mattei for their years of service to the Board.

Ms. Madaffari, Ms. Bramlett, Ms. Donald, Ms. Killingsworth, Ms. Seaman, Ms. Lindsey, Ms. Huff, Ms. Duncan, Mr. Trouard, Mr. Donald and Ms. Hatton exited the meeting at 8:15 a.m.

Public comment time was recognized by Chairman Williams.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Mattei, seconded by Mr. Patterson, to accept the March 11, 2013, proposed Call for the Meeting and Board Meeting Agenda.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Mattei, seconded by Mr. Mustapha, to approve the Minutes from the January 22, 2013 Board meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Mr. Crosby, to schedule the Board's next regular meeting for May 20-21, 2013.

The Board's January Task List was reviewed.

Mr. D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney, entered the meeting at 8:25 a.m.

1 **Enforcement**
2

3 **Case #2012-24** – Ms. Sentell reported on the Complaint Review Committee’s review of a
4 case dealing with unlicensed practice by a firm through the use of the word “engineering”
5 in its name since 1989. The firm has requested a waiver to allow it to continue using the
6 word “engineering” in its name.
7

8 Ms. Hatton entered the meeting at 8:35 a.m.
9

10 The Board disapproved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Dr. Mattei, with
11 Dr. Mattei, Mr. Savoie, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Mustapha for and Mr. Moore, Mr.
12 Thompson, Dr. Bowie, Mr. Gammon and Mr. Crosby against, to approve the firm’s
13 continued use of the word “engineering” in its name as long as the words “d.b.a. xxx
14 Power Services” are added at the end of the name.
15

16 Dr. Mattei exited the meeting at 8:50 a.m.
17

18 After discussion, the Board approved the motion made by the Complaint Review
19 Committee (consisting of Mr. Williams, Dr. Bowie and Mr. Gammon), with Mr. Mustapha,
20 Mr. Moore, Mr. Thompson, Dr. Bowie, Mr. Gammon, Mr. Crosby and Mr. Patterson for
21 and Mr. Savoie against, to approve the firm’s continued use of the word “engineering” in
22 its name as long as (a) the words “d.b.a. xxx Power Services” are added at the end of the
23 name within 60 days and (b) the word “engineering” is completely removed from the name
24 within three years.
25

26 Dr. Mattei entered the meeting at 8:55 a.m.
27

28 **Case #2012-17** – Ms. Hatton reported on unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered to
29 practice engineering in Louisiana without proper licensure. The firm subsequently became
30 licensed in Louisiana. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order
31 offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contains the
32 following sanctions:

- 33 1. Fine of \$250
34 2. Costs of \$639.66
35 3. Publication without name on the Board’s website and in the Journal
36 4. No report to NCEES

37 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint
38 Review Committee (consisting of Mr. Moore, Mr. Gammon and Mr. Williams) to approve
39 the signed Consent Order.
40

41 **Case #2012-19** - Ms. Hatton reported on an unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered
42 to practice engineering and used the word “engineering” in its name and in conjunction
43 with its business in Louisiana without proper licensure. The firm subsequently became
44 licensed in Louisiana. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order
45 offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contains the
46 following sanctions:

- 47 1. Fine of \$2,500
48 2. Costs of \$251.62
49 3. Publication with name on the Board’s website and in the Journal
50 4. Report to NCEES with name

51 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint
52 Review Committee (consisting of Mr. Thompson, Dr. Bowie and Mr. Williams) to approve
53 the signed Consent Order. The name of the respondent is Structures America Innovative
54 Engineering, PLC
55

56 **Case #2012-66** - Ms. Hatton reported on a licensed engineer who aided or assisted his
57 unlicensed firm in practicing and/or offering to practice engineering and using the word
58 “engineering” in its name and in conjunction with its business in Louisiana without proper
59 licensure. The firm subsequently became licensed in Louisiana. The respondent has signed
60 and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The
61 proposed consent order contains the following sanctions:

- 62 1. Fine of \$100
63 2. Costs of \$251.62
64 3. Publication with name on the Board’s website and in the Journal
65 4. Report to NCEES with name

66 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint
67 Review Committee (consisting of Mr. Thompson, Dr. Bowie and Mr. Williams) to approve
68 the signed Consent Order. The name of the respondent is Syam S. Mannava, P.E.
69

1 The Board recessed at 9:25 a.m. and resumed at 9:40 a.m. Dr. Mattei and Mr. Owens were
2 not present.
3

4 Committee Reports

5 Enforcement Ad Hoc Committee

6 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Enforcement Ad Hoc
7 Committee to begin charging a \$400 fee to private companies who ask Board staff to
8 make continuing professional development presentations to their employees.
9

10 The Board instructed the staff to update the Request for Ethics Presentation form on
11 the Board's website to reflect this change.
12

13 Chairman Williams charged the Enforcement Ad Hoc Committee with developing a
14 *Policy for Investigative Processes for Fraud, Deceit, Gross Negligence, Material*
15 *Misrepresentation, Gross Incompetence or Gross Misconduct under La. R. S. 37:698(A)(2)*
16 and presenting the policy for review at the May Board meeting.
17

18 Mr. Varaprasad Ramaraju Venkata entered the meeting at 10:40 a.m.
19

20 Chairman Williams charged the Industrial Exemption Ad Hoc Committee with
21 working with Mr. Landry to develop a letter requesting an Attorney General opinion
22 regarding the meaning and scope of La. R.S. 37:701(C) and to present the letter for
23 review at the May Board meeting.
24

25 The Board recessed at 11:10 a.m. and resumed at 11:15 a.m. Mr. Savoie, Mr. Ducote
26 and Ms. Hatton were not present.
27

28 Land Surveying Committee

29 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Land Surveying Committee
30 to accept the updated list of approved land surveying courses, which includes
31 individual engineering curriculum courses that can be used to satisfy the educational
32 requirements for PLS licensure.
33

34 The Board recessed for lunch at 11:50 a.m. and resumed at 1:25 p.m. Mr. Savoie and
35 Ms. Hatton were present and Mr. Landry was not present.
36

37 Finance Committee

38 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
39 invest \$200,000 from the checking account in a Certificate of Deposit.
40

41 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
42 authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **L.A. Champagne & Co.,**
43 **L.L.P.** to provide accounting services to the Board. The term of the contract will be for
44 one year beginning **July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014**, in the amount not to
45 exceed **\$28,000.00**.
46

47 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
48 authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **Tri-Core Technologies,**
49 **L.L.C.** to provide IT support services to the Board. The term of the contract will be for
50 one year beginning **July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014**, in the amount not to
51 exceed **\$82,110.00**.
52

53 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
54 authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **Joe H. Harman &**
55 **Associates, LLC** to serve as a technical support staff for the Board. The term of the
56 contract will be for one year beginning **July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014**, in
57 the amount not to exceed **\$60,000.00**.
58

59 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
60 authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **Celia Cangelosi** to serve
61 as a prosecuting attorney for Board disciplinary and enforcement hearings. The term
62 of the contract will be for one year beginning **July 1, 2013 and ending June 30,**
63 **2014**, in the amount not to exceed **\$36,000.00**.
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1 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to
2 authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the **Louisiana Society**
3 **of Professional Surveyors** to:

- 4 • Develop and submit a semi-annual Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying
5 Examination for the Board;
- 6 • Score and grade the examination and submit the results to the Board;
- 7 • Maintain and expand an examination question database from which the
8 examination will be generated; and
- 9 • Ensure security of all examinations and the examination question database.

10 The term of the contract will be for one year beginning **July 1, 2013 and ending June**
11 **30, 2014**, in the amount not to exceed **\$5,600.00**.

12 **Applications**

13 The Board approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee (consisting
14 of Mr. Savoie, Mr. Williams and Mr. Patterson), with Dr. Mattei, Mr. Mustapha, Mr.
15 Moore, Mr. Thompson, Dr. Bowie, Mr. Crosby, Mr. Patterson and Mr. Savoie for and Mr.
16 Gammon against, to prohibit the applicant who confessed to an exam irregularity
17 during the October 2012 Fundamentals of Engineering examination from taking that
18 exam again until 2014 and to require him to obtain 6 years of progressive engineering
19 experience before applying for licensure as a professional engineer.

20 **Application Appeals**

21 The Board approved the motion made by Mr. Savoie, seconded by Dr. Bowie, with Dr.
22 Mattei, Mr. Moore, Mr. Thompson, Dr. Bowie, Mr. Gammon, Mr. Crosby, Mr. Patterson
23 and Mr. Savoie for and Mr. Mustapha against, to *affirm* the reviewing committee's
24 decision to *disapprove* the application of Varaprasad **Ramaraju Venkata** for licensure
25 as a professional engineer by comity. Mr. Ramaraju Venkata was encouraged to
26 reapply for consideration once he has met the experience requirements of the Board.

27 **New Applications**

28 The Board approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Mr. Thompson,
29 with Mr. Mustapha, Mr. Thompson, Dr. Mattei and Mr. Moore for, Dr. Bowie, Mr.
30 Crosby, Mr. Gammon and Mr. Savoie against, Mr. Patterson abstaining, and Mr.
31 Williams breaking the tie for, to *approve* the application of Mr. Chandrakant **Kansagra**
32 for licensure as a professional engineer by comity.

33 The Board approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Dr. Mattei, with
34 Mr. Mustapha, Dr. Mattei, Mr. Thompson, Dr. Bowie, Mr. Gammon, Mr. Patterson, Mr.
35 Crosby and Mr. Savoie for and Mr. Moore against, to *approve* the application of Ms.
36 Jayne **Duncan** for licensure as a professional engineer by examination.

37 The Board disapproved the motion made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Gammon,
38 with Dr. Bowie, Mr. Crosby and Mr. Moore for and Dr. Mattei, Mr. Thompson, Mr.
39 Mustapha, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Gammon and Mr. Savoie against, to submit the original
40 PLS application of Mr. Travis Ryan **Estess** to the Arkansas State Board of Licensure for
41 Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors and to advise that board of the
42 overlapping experience with Mr. Estess' PLS and PE applications.

43 Chairman Williams charged the Land Surveying Committee with reviewing the land
44 surveying and civil engineering experience Mr. Estess has submitted on his PLS
45 application and making a recommendation to the reviewing committee.

46 **Application Appeals (continued)**

47 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Land Surveying Committee
48 to *affirm* the reviewing committee's decision to *disapprove* the application of Mr. Luis
49 **Gonzalez** for licensure as a professional land surveyor by examination based on
50 insufficient experience.

51 The Board recessed at 3:45 p.m. and resumed at 4:04 p.m. Mr. Ramaraju Venkata was
52 not present.

53 Chairman Williams charged the Liaison and Law Review Committee with studying the
54 "Structural Engineer" designation and working with Mr. Landry on the legality of this
55 discipline designation and Board Rule 1901.

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Closing Business

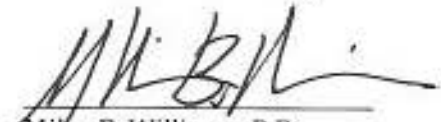
The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Dr. Mattei, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.

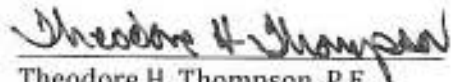
The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Mattei, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to acknowledge and confirm all licenses and certificates issued by the Board.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Mustapha, to approve all Board expenses.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Mattei, seconded by Mr. Savoie, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, March 11, 2013.


Miles B. Williams, P.E.
Chairman


Theodore H. Thompson, P.E.
Secretary