

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING
AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD
9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433
May 24, 2021

At 9:00 a.m. on May 24, 2021, Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E. called the meeting to order at the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Room 102C, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the following members present:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E. | Chairman |
| Christopher K. Richard, P.E. | Vice Chairman |
| Chad C. Vosburg, P.E. | Treasurer |
| Edgar P. Benoit, P.E. | Secretary |

Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S.
Linda H. Bergeron, P.E.
Byron D. Racca, P.E.
Connie P. Betts, P.E.
Reginald L. Jeter, P.E.
James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S.
Janice P. Williams, P.E.

Also present:

Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director
Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director
Bill Tripoli, IT Director
Janet Lindsey, Application Manager
D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney
Joe Harman, P.E., Technical Advisor (*via Zoom video conferencing*)
LaTasha Andrews, Board Investigator (*via Zoom video conferencing*)
Chris Aaron, Board Investigator (*via Zoom video conferencing*)
William Hyatt, Board Investigator (*via Zoom video conferencing*)

The invocation was led by Mr. Jeter and the pledge was led by Mr. Fontenot.

Public comment time was recognized by Chairman Pike.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to accept the May 24, 2021 proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Chustz, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2021 Board meeting.

Compliance and Enforcement

Case # 2020-96– Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who failed to disclose a disciplinary action in another jurisdiction on renewal of a license. The respondent has signed and returned a consent order, admitting to violating La. R.S. 37:698(A)(1), approved by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

1. Fine of \$1,000
2. Costs of \$178.67
3. Completion of the Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz, with a score of 90% or higher
4. Completion of the Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz, with a score of 90% or higher
5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Board's official Journal identifying Respondent by name.
6. Report to NCEES identifying Respondent by name

1 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
2 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms.
3 Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is
4 **Robert W. Beccard, P.E.**

5
6 **Case # 2021-16** – Mr. Aaron reported on an unlicensed firm, which practiced
7 and/or offered to practice engineering without proper licensure. The
8 respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the
9 Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the
10 following sanctions:

- 11 1. Fine of \$3,000
- 12 2. Costs of \$178.77
- 13 3. Publication on the Board’s website and in the Board’s official Journal
14 identifying Respondent by name.
- 15 4. Report to NCEES identifying Respondent by name

16 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
17 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter,
18 to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **J. Martin
19 Pitts, PE, LLC.**

20
21 **Case # 2021-17** – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who aided or
22 assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board. The
23 respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the
24 Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the
25 following sanctions:

- 26 7. Fine of \$500
- 27 8. Costs of \$178.77
- 28 9. Completion of the Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz, with a score of 90% or
29 higher
- 30 10. Completion of the Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz, with a score
31 of 90% or higher
- 32 11. Publication on the Board’s website and in the Board’s official Journal
33 identifying Respondent by name.
- 34 12. Report to NCEES identifying Respondent by name

35 After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the
36 Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter,
37 to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **James M.
38 Pitts, P.E.**

39 40 **Committee Reports**

41 **Laws and Rules Committee**

42
43 Mr. Richard presented the report for the Laws and Rules Committee.

44
45 After discussion, the Board approved the motion made by the Laws and Rules
46 Committee, with Mr. Richard, Mr. Vosburg, Mr. Fontenot, Ms. Betts, Mr. Jeter, Ms.
47 Bergeron, Mr. Racca, Mr. Chustz and Ms. Williams for and Mr. Benoit against, to amend
48 Rule 1507(B) as follows:
49

50 **§1507. Engineering Experience Subsequent to Degree**

51 A. ...

52
53 B. Up to one year of engineering experience may be obtained prior to
54 graduation, if obtained through a college or university-sponsored co-op
55 program as part of an accredited engineering curriculum approved by the
56 board, and only after completion of the first half of the curriculum. The co-op
57 program work must appear on the applicant’s college or university transcript
58 for it to be considered. The amount of credit given for co-op program work
59 will be based on the amount of co-op program work performed, will be limited
60 by the applicant’s academic course load and will only include co-op program
61 work performed during an academic term. The co-op program work must be
62
63

1 performed under the supervision of a professional engineer holding a valid
2 license to engage in the practice of engineering issued to him/her by proper
3 authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District
4 of Columbia, or, if not, an explanation shall be made showing why the work
5 should be considered acceptable.
6

7 **Incidental Practice of Engineering Task Force**

8
9 Ms. Sentell and Mr. Landry reported on the work of the Incidental Practice of
10 Engineering Task Force. Chairman Pike appointed Mr. Harman to be a Board
11 representative to the task force.
12

13 The Board recessed at 10:50 a.m. and resumed at 11:40 a.m.
14

15 **Land Surveying Committee**

16 Mr. Fontenot presented the report for the Land Surveying Committee.
17

18 Mr. Fontenot and Mr. Chustz presented an update on the geomatics program at
19 Nicholls State University.
20

21
22 The Board unanimously approved the following motion made by the Land Surveying
23 Committee regarding the security of the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying
24 Examination:
25

26 In the event the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying Examination is
27 compromised, the 70 exam questions would not be used again for at least one
28 year. Any applicant involved with compromising the exam may not be allowed
29 to take a future Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying Examination. Additionally,
30 an applicant pursuing a comity license who is involved with compromising the
31 exam will have this information shared with NCEES and all jurisdictions where
32 he/she is licensed.
33

34 The Board unanimously approved the following motion made by the Land Surveying
35 Committee regarding the administration of the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying
36 Examination:
37

38 Comity applicants have the choice of either coming to Baton Rouge to take the
39 Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying Examination, or taking the exam via Zoom
40 video teleconferencing. Additionally, any applicant who resides at least 130
41 miles from the Board office has the choice of either coming to Baton Rouge to
42 take the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying Examination, or, if available, taking
43 the exam at a location in North Louisiana proctored by a Board member.
44

45 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Land Surveying Committee
46 to authorize Ms. Sentell to contact Dr. Warner with TEST, Inc. regarding the
47 scheduling of an item-writing workshop in the spring of 2022.
48

49 Mr. Landry exited the meeting at 12:30 p.m. and Mr. Thomas R. Carroll, III, P.E., P.L.S.
50 entered the meeting at 12:35 p.m.
51

52 **Applications**

53 **Application Reviews**

54
55 The Board approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Ms. Williams, with
56 Mr. Vosburg, Mr. Chustz, Mr. Fontenot, Mr. Jeter, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Williams for and
57 Ms. Bergeron, Ms. Betts, Mr. Racca and Mr. Richard against, to *approve* the application
58 of **Benjamin J. Tullier** for licensure as a professional engineer by examination.
59
60

61 The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Benoit, seconded by Mr.
62 Richard, to *disapprove* the application of **Guo Chen** for licensure as a professional
63 engineer by comity based on not satisfying the educational requirements of the Board.
64
65
66
67

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52

Application Appeals

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Pike, to affirm the reviewing committee’s decision to *disapprove* the application of **Max A. Aguirre Deras** for licensure as a professional engineer by examination based on not satisfying the experience requirements of the Board.

Committee Reports (continued)

Finance Committee

Mr. Vosburg presented the report for the Finance Committee.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to accept the finance report and the amended FY 20-21 budget as presented.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to renew the certificate of deposit at Citizen’s Bank when it matures on July 23, 2021.

Old/New Business

Mr. Pike presented reports on recent meetings with the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors (LSPS), the NCEES Southern Zone and JESC, and upcoming meetings with the Louisiana Engineering Society (LES) and NCEES.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, to schedule the next Board meeting for July 26, 2021.

Closing Business

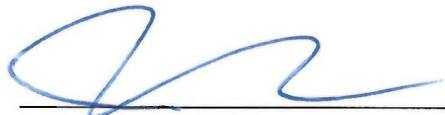
The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Vosburg, seconded by Ms. Bergeron, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Racca, seconded by Mr. Jeter, 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. Fontenot, to approve all Board expenses.

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m. on May 24, 2021.



Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E.
Chairman



Edgar P. Benoit, P.E.
Secretary