# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD 9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433 September 20, 2010

At 8:00 a.m. on September 20, 2010, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 3225 Patrick Taylor Hall, Louisiana State University College of Engineering, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the following members present:

Mark A. Jusselin, P.E.	Chairman Vice Chairman
Rhaoul A. Guillaume, P.E. Roger D. Danzy, P.E.	Treasurer
Ali M. Mustapha, P.E.	Secretary

Timothy J. Allen, P.L.S. Richard L. Savoie, P.E. Norma Jean Mattei, Ph.D., P.E. James E. Bowie, Ph.D., P.E. M. Ernest Gammon, P.L.S. Theodore H. Thompson, P.E.

Also present:

Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director Victoria Hatton, Director of Enforcement

**Not Present:** 

Miles B. Williams, P.E.

The invocation was led by Mr. Danzy and the pledge by Mr. Mustapha.

The Board acknowledged the September 16, 2010 death of Dr. Jorge Aravena, Ph.D., LSU Electrical and Computer Engineering Department Chairman.

Chairman Jusselin acknowledged Mr. Guillaume and presented him with a plaque in recognition of his leadership as Chairman of the Board from March 2010 to August 2010.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Savoie, seconded by Mr. Mustapha, to accept the September 20-21, 2010 Call for the Meeting and the Agenda.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Mattei, seconded by Mr. Guillaume, to approve the Minutes from the July 19-20, 2010 Board meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Mattie, seconded by Mr. Mustapha, to schedule the Board's next regular meeting for November 15-16, 2010.

## **Public Comment Time**

Ms. Brooke <u>Ramage</u> was present. She addressed the Board concerning her pending application for licensure as a professional engineer by examination.

Mr. Mustapha made the motion to discuss her application. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Mr. Mustapha made the motion, seconded by Mr. Savoie, to have Ms. Ramage's application sent to the appropriate application review committee. The motion was withdrawn.

Ms. Ramage left a letter of explanation for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Williams entered the room at 8:20 a.m.

Warren Waggenspack, Ph.D., Kelly Rusch, Ph.D., P.E., and Dean Richard Koubek, Ph.D., entered the meeting at 8:20 a.m. to welcome the Board to the LSU College of Engineering.

Dr. Waggenspack, Dr. Rusch, Dr. Koubek and Ms. Ramage exited the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

The Board reviewed the task list from the July Board meeting and agreed to remove the items assigned to the Liaison and Law Review Committee concerning technology degrees.

## **Enforcement**

<u>Case #2010 – 56</u> – Ms. Hatton reported on a licensed engineer/land surveyor who admitted to signing, sealing and issuing a survey plat which failed to meet Board's minimum standards for property boundary surveys. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed Consent Order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Mr. Allen, to approve the signed Consent Order.

<u>Case #2010 – 65</u> – Ms. Hatton reported on a licensed land surveying firm who admitted to practicing and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana with an expired license for over 9 years, 2 months. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed Consent Order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to approve the signed Consent Order.

<u>Case #2010 - 67</u> - Ms. Hatton reported on a licensed land surveyor who admitted to aiding or assisting his licensed land surveying firm in practicing and/or offering to practice land surveying in Louisiana with an expired license for over 9 years, 2 months. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed Consent Order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Mattei, seconded by Mr. Guillaume, to approve the signed Consent Order.

# **Deepwater Horizon Incident**

Mr. Williams updated the Board on the gathering of the Gulf Coast states at the August 2010 NCEES Annual Meeting. We have developed a contact list from the professional engineering licensing boards in Texas, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. Mr. Williams also discussed his recent interview with the NSPE magazine regarding the Deepwater Horizon incident.

Chairman Jusselin charged the Liaison and Law Review Committee with reviewing the industrial exemption (La. R.S. 37:701(C)).

Mr. Mustapha and Mr. Savoie exited the meeting at 9:15 a.m. and returned at 9:20 a.m.

The Board recessed at 9:30 a.m. and returned at 9:45 a.m.

# **Committee Reports**

#### Policy and Procedure Committee

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Dr. Mattei, to approve \$17,131 for the purchase of RME (Records

Management Edition) software and funds not to exceed \$4,000 for installation of the software.

Mr. Mustapha exited the meeting at 9:50 a.m. and returned at 10:00 a.m.

## **Education/Accreditation Committee**

Dr. Bowie reviewed the Education/Accreditation Committee policy for reviewing engineering education. After discussion, the Education/Accreditation Committee made the motion to approve amendments to the policy. This motion was tabled until the November Board meeting so that the committee can make further edits.

Chairman Jusselin charged the Policy and Procedure Committee with working with the Executive Director to develop a practical and planned schedule for Board staff to process applications. This plan will include a process for handling complete and incomplete applications and for the timely return of applications reviewed by the reviewing Board members.

Mr. Savoie exited the meeting at 10:55a.m. and returned at 11:00 a.m.

Chairman Jusselin charged the Liaison and Law Review Committee with adding to the Board rules the approval of ABET- accredited MS programs.

Mr. Ryan McDonald, a senior Civil Engineering major, entered the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Mr. Savoie and Mr. Guillaume exited the meeting at 11:35 a.m. and returned at 11:40 a.m.

Mr. Gammon exited the meeting at 11:55 a.m. and returned at 12:05 p.m.

The Board recessed at 12:10 p.m. and resumed at 1:30 p.m.

At 1:30 p.m., the Board invited LSU College of Engineering faculty to join the meeting. All Board members, except Mr. Savoie, were present. Also present were Larry Mann, Ph.D., P.E. (former Board member (1994-2000)), Dean Richard Koubek, Ph.D., Clint Willson, Ph.D., P.E., Warren Waggenspack, Ph.D., Kalliat T. Valsaraj, Ph.D., Dean Adrian, Ph.D., P.E., Craig Harvey, Ph.D., P.E., Dan Thomas, Ph.D., P.E., Steven Hall, Ph.D., P.E., and Stephen Sears, Ph.D.

Dr. Mattei led a discussion concerning Engineering Education/Bachelors +30 and Dr. Bowie led a discussion concerning leveling courses for the various graduate programs at LSU.

Mr. Joe Harman entered the room at 2:10 p.m.

The Board recessed at 3:00 p.m. and resumed at 3:20 p.m. Dr. Mann, Dr. Koubek, Dr. Willson, Dr. Waggenspack, Dr. Valsaraj, Dr. Adrian, Dr. Harvey, Dr. Thomas, Dr. Hall and Dr. Sears were not present.

Chairman Jusselin asked that Mr. Guillaume, Mr. Williams, Ms. Sentell and Ms. Hatton work with Mr. Harman in developing a plan of action to establish goals for Mr. Harman's job responsibilities. This plan will be presented at the November Board meeting.

## **Applications**

Mr. Danzy made the motion, seconded by Mr. Mustapha, to *approve* the application of Mr. Stephen <u>Nelson</u> for licensure as a professional engineer by examination.

Mr. Williams made the motion to defer action on Mr. Nelson's application until Mr. Savoie was present. The motion died for lack of a second.

The Board approved Mr. Danzy's motion regarding Mr. Nelson's application, with Mr. Mustapha, Mr. Danzy, Dr. Mattei, Dr. Bowie, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Allen for, Mr. Gammon against and Mr. Williams and Mr. Guillaume abstaining.

#### **Finance Committee**

Mr. Danzy presented the Board's budget as of August 2010.

The Board approved the motion made by the Executive Committee to authorized the Executive Director to enter into a contract with *Joe H. Harman & Associates, LLC*, to provide technical support assistance to the Board. The term of the contract will be for nine months beginning October 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011, in the amount not to exceed \$80,000.

#### **Strategic Planning Committee**

Mr. Danzy presented the proposed letter to be sent to the Attorney General requesting an opinion concerning the use of Board funds.

The Board approved the motion made by Mr. Danzy, seconded by Mr. Guillaume, with Mr. Mustapha, Mr. Danzy, Dr. Mattei, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Allen, Mr. Williams and Mr. Guillaume for, and Dr. Bowie against, to send the letter below, as modified, to the Attorney General:

September 22, 2010

The Honorable James D. Caldwell Attorney General P.O. Box 94005 Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Subject: Attorney General Opinion Regarding the Use of LAPELS Funds

Dear Mr. Caldwell,

LAPELS would like your opinion regarding the following questions:

- 1) May LAPELS temporarily waive a portion of the licensure application fees and licensure renewal fees which it charges to all applicants and licensees? If so, will the temporary waiver limit LAPELS' ability to return to charging the full fees at any time? (La. R.S. 37:694(B)(1) allows LAPELS to establish a licensure application fee of up to \$200, which may not be increased by more than \$30 in any three-year period. La. R.S. 37:697 allows LAPELS to establish a licensure renewal fee of up to \$100 per year, which may not be increased by more than \$20 in any one-year period.)
- 2) May LAPELS contract with an individual or firm to provide services for aiding applicants in the study and preparation for examinations required by LAPELS for licensure?
- 3) If the answer to 2) is "yes", would LAPELS have to offer these services for all of the different types of examinations? (For example, LAPELS licenses both engineers and land surveyors and for engineers numerous disciplines such as civil, mechanical, environmental, electrical, structural, chemical, and petroleum.)
- 4) May LAPELS provide grants to Louisiana public institutions that have ABET-approved engineering or geomatics programs for the specific use by the institution of assisting students in preparing for the Engineering or Land Surveying Intern examinations?
- 5) May LAPELS provide grants to Louisiana private institutions that have ABET-approved engineering or geomatics programs for the

- specific use by the institution of assisting students in preparing for the Engineering or Land Surveying Intern examinations?
- 6) May LAPELS provide grants to students of Louisiana public institutions enrolled in ABET-approved engineering or geomatics programs?
- 7) May LAPELS provide grants to students of Louisiana private institutions enrolled in ABET-approved engineering or geomatics programs?

Best regards,

Roger D. Danzy, P. E. LAPELS Treasurer

## **Old Business**

Mr. Guillaume discussed the recent certificate presentation ceremony with LES and his suggestion to LES of rotating this event to various locations around the state to allow more licensees and Board members to attend.

Mr. Thompson, Mr. Mustapha and Dr. Bowie were requested to follow up with the LES and LSPS boards concerning this suggestion.

## **New Business**

The Executive Director will notify NCEES that the following Board members indicated they would make exam site visits on October 29/30, 2010: Mr. Gammon, Mr. Allen, Dr. Mattei, Mr. Williams, Mr. Guillaume, Mr. Mustapha, Mr. Danzy and Mr. Thompson.

# **Closing Business**

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

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

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Mustapha, seconded by Dr. Bowie, to approve all Board expenses and the attached Board member compensation log.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Thompson, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. on September 20, 2010.

Mark A. Jusselin, P.E.

Chairman

All M. Mustapha, P.E

Secretary