

**South Carolina
Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2006**

The Board held its regularly scheduled meeting on September 26, at 110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Columbia, SC.

Official notification of the meeting was sent to LLR's Office of Communications and Governmental Affairs and the Office of General Counsel; appropriate newspapers; WIS-TV; and the South Carolina Society of Professional Engineers (SCSPE).

Chairman M.L. Love, Jr., P.E., called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.. Board Members present were Gene L. Dinkins, P.L.S and P.E.; Cecil Huey, Jr., P.E.; Andy Kinghorn, P.E.; Gaye Sprague P.E., Mitchell Tibshirany, Jr., P.E. and Thurl Amick, Sr., L.S.. Public Member Preston Young was not present.

Also present were Jan Simpson, Board Administrator; Stacy Johnson, Administrative Assistant; Todd Bond, Investigator; and Sharon Dantzler, Advice Counsel. Charlie Ido, Chief Investigator, briefly attended the meeting. Visitors included Leslie Hope, Carolinas AGC; Bart Dominick, Midlands Chapter of Professional Land Surveyors; and Henry Dingle, Jr., PLS.

Administrator Simpson reviewed the agenda.

Where action is recorded below, it was taken in each case on motion duly made, seconded and carried.

Motion by Sprague/Dinkins to approve the June 6, 2006, and July 18, 2006, scheduled Board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Sprague/Huey to approve corrections made to the violations report in the January 17, 2006, approved meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Compliance/Violations Report:

Todd Bond reported on behalf of the Investigative Review Committee on cases recommended for Dismissal and Formal Complaints. Those cases are as follows:

Dismissals

Case #2005-67
Case #2005-73
Case #2006-3
Case #2006-4
Case #2006-6
Case #2006-10
Case #2006-20
Case #2006-22
Case #2006-27

Formal Complaints

Case #2006-29	Case #2006-1	Case #2006-40
Case #2006-36	Case #2006-15	Case #2006-41
Case #2006-38	Case #2006-17	Case #2006-45
Case #2006-62	Case #2006-18	Case #2006-46
Case #2006-64	Case #2006-25	Case #2006-54
	Case #2006-26	Case #2006-55
	Case #2006-30	Case #2006-60
	Case #2006-31	
	Case #2006-37	
	Case #2006-39	

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Formal Complaints, Continued

Case #2006-61
Case #2006-67
Case #2006-68
Case #2006-70
Case #2006-77
Case #2006-80
Case #2006-86
Case #2006-87

Letter of Caution

Case #2006-21
Case #2006-44
Case #2006-50
Case #2006-71
Case #2006-72
Case #2006-88
Case #2006-89

Motion by Sprague/Huey: To accept the IRC's recommendations report on dismissals and formal complaints. Motion carried

Applications:

Joseph Williams: Mr. Williams requested that the Board consider reducing the eight years of qualifying work experience needed to take the Professional Engineers exam and to receive an Engineer-in-Training Certification based upon his current years of experience as well as his education. The Board reviewed Mr. Williams' current experience and his Masters degree in Civil Engineering.

Motion by Sprague/Kinghorn: To approve Mr. Williams' application to take the Professional Engineers exam 4 years after completion of his Masters degree in May 2004. He will also receive his engineer-in-training certification. Motion carried.

Kenneth Sharp: Mr. Sharp attended the meeting to request the Board reconsider the denial in 2000 of his PE application by Comity with Georgia. Mr. Sharp's education was evaluated and it was determined he did not meet the educational requirements according to the S.C. statute 40-22-190. The Board took Mr. Sharp's years of experience in transportation engineering into consideration as well as his Masters degree in Civil Engineering.

Motion by Sprague/Kinghorn: To approve Mr. Sharp's application and grant him a PE registration by comity. Mr. Sharp will also receive the Board's policy regarding transportation engineering for future references. Motion carried.

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Charles Manning: Mr. Manning's application was reviewed by the Board because of an insufficient amount of descriptive work experience. The Board requested Mr. Manning to provide a more detailed description of his work experience as well as 3 additional work experience verification outside of his firm. Further review of Mr. Manning's application will be provided upon receipt of additional requested information.

Motion by Dinkins/Kinghorn: To further review Mr. Manning's application upon receipt of additional requested information. Members of the Board also requested that Member Huey draft a policy regarding references being submitted by family members of the same firm.

NCEES 85th Annual Meeting

Board members Love, Tibshrary, Dinkins, and Amick and Administrator Simpson attended the NCEES annual meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. Member Tibshrary summarized the topics of discussion which included the following issues:

Bachelors degree plus 30 semester credits

Future of online degrees

Increasing exam fees

Model Law changes

A new "Practice in Education" award for schools to begin in 2009

Exam collusion workshops

Committee Reports:

Communication with Licensees: Member Kinghorn noted the recent publication of the Board's electronic newsletter, which was e-mailed to 5,700 licensees and is also posted on the Board's Web site. SCSPE noted they were pleased the newsletter is again being published. The electronic newsletter will be published twice a year with updates as needed.

Career Enhancements/Licensure: Member Young was not present to give a report.

Interface with Engineering Colleges:

Member Huey reported that there is now a Dean of Engineering at USC and Clemson. Reforming the Deans' Council may be considered. Possible topics for discussion include joint degrees, Faculty licensure, student outcomes on the FE exam, and surveying education issues. Dr. Huey will draft a letter for the Board Chairman to invite all deans to a luncheon meeting in Columbia.

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Joint Degree Initiative:

Chairman Tibshrary discussed the possibility of S.C. State University being approved for an ABET-accredited engineering degree program. He and SC State Trustee Maurice Washington will speak to the Board of Trustees and other key persons this week to discuss the issue. Mr. Tibshrary reported that S.C. State University officials believe they have not only the support but also the financial backing to have an accredited engineering program rather than the current engineering technology program.

Board members reviewed a proposed Resolution regarding the Board's support for S.C. State being approved for an engineering program and the benefit to the students and the state.

Motion by Sprague/Dinkins: To approve the Proposed Resolution. Motion carried. Mr. Tibshrary will deliver it to officials at S.C. State University.

Building Official Manual

Administrator Simpson provided the Board with the final draft of the Building Official Manual for review.

Motion by Sprague/Love: To approve the final version of the Building Official's Manual. Motion carried.

Legislation

Members of the Board reviewed the latest draft of proposed Legislation for submittal in 2007 to the Legislature. Members Dinkins and Amick will determine where to delete "land" from the text with regard to land surveyors. The final draft will be ready for approval at the November meeting.

Administrators Report:

New Engineering Disciplines

There has been an exchange of information on the ENGLSMBA group e-mail network about licensing nanno eningeers and other "new" disciplines.

Foreign Degree Evaluations

Dr. Castro has notified the Board he will increase his fee for evaluation of degrees to \$100.00, effective October 1, 2006. LLR's finance division has approved continued utilization of Dr. Castro's services as long as they are "fair and reasonable." Board staff is revising forms and web site information to reflect the change in cost.

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Online Renewals: (as of 8/31/06)

May	1457
June	1406
July	389
August	37
Total:	3289 (Updated as of 9/8/06: 3345 renewed online)

Total renewed: 13,668

Response to online renewals has been good. Susan Hicks worked overtime during June and July to get everyone licensed. It took longer than anticipated, but the silver lining is that staff was able to identify future changes that need to be made in the database system. LLR's computer staff was cooperative and responsive to daily requests for assistance.

Cease & Desist Orders

LLR's Office of Investigations and Enforcement has asked that Administrators issue Cease and Desist Orders when they believe an unlicensed person is practicing engineering or surveying. These Orders will no longer be issued by OIE.

Guest Appearances:

Mr. William B. (Bart) Dominick of the Midlands Chapter of S.C. Professional Land Surveyors spoke to the Board regarding his efforts to work with Midlands Technical College and the University of South Carolina to provide coursework equivalent to a four-year surveying degree. The joint program will allow Midland Technical students to continue their Surveyors education at USC. Mr. Dominick advised the Board that without the cooperation from both schools, it will not be possible. Member Dinkins applauded Mr. Dominick for his initiative and noted this collaboration is one way to provide an equivalent degree in surveying for S.C. citizens. The 4-year degree will be required for licensure as a Surveyor in 2010. Member Dinkins will draft a letter to the USC Provost in support of the collaboration.

Mr. Henry Dingle, Jr., PLS, requested clarification from the Board regarding wetlands mapping and qualification for providing wetland mapping services. After extended discussion, the consensus of the Board members was that surveyors may not take information (e.g., wetlands areas) from non-licensed individuals who are not under their direct supervision for the purpose of recording the information on survey plats. Surveyors who accept data from non-licensed individuals not under their direct supervision and who place that information on survey plats are violating the statutes governing the practice of surveying in South Carolina, and their licenses may be disciplined by the Board.

The Board members also agreed that wetlands plats must be prepared by a licensed professional land surveyor.

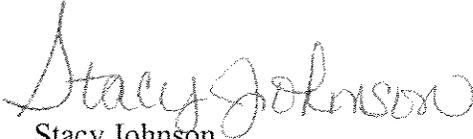
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Motion by Dinkins/Amick: To send a letter to Mr. Dingle summarizing the Board's opinion pertaining to wetlands mapping and to post the information on the Engineers and Land Surveyors Web site. Motion carried

Leslie B. Hope with the Carolinas AGC reported on proposed legislation regarding Special Inspections. Ms. Hope has been working with several industry groups and the Building Codes Council to create a statewide registration process for Special Inspections. This will allow Code Officials, Contractors, and others to have access to a statewide list of qualified Inspectors and will allow those Inspectors to register one time without having to register with every entity in the state. The SC Building Codes Council will oversee this Legislation process. The Board expressed support of the proposed legislation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Stacy Johnson
Administrative Assistant