

**General Session Minutes**  
**State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers**  
**March 22, 2011**

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers met in their offices at 300 Capitol Street in Charleston, WV on Tuesday, March 22, 2011. Those present for all or part of the meeting were:

Edward L. Robinson	President
William E. Pierson	Vice-President
Bhajan S. Saluja	Secretary
Richard E. Plymale, Jr.	Member
Leonard J. Timms	Member
Lesley L. Rosier-Tabor	Executive Director
Don W. Johnson	Board Investigator
Debra L. Hamilton	Legal Counsel

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. The Board meeting minutes for January 18, 2011 (both executive and general session) were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Pierson. Motion carried.

The Board budget summaries for January and February 2011 were received and reviewed. The detailed purchasing card expenditures were also received and reviewed. A motion to approve the current expenditures and purchasing card transactions was made by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mr. Plymale. Motion carried.

Ms. Rosier presented the Executive Director's report and addressed all Board questions and comments. Ms. Rosier discussed her participation in recent events and presentations made by her to various groups since the last Board meeting. She also reviewed the office's schedule of upcoming activities. A motion was made by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Plymale, to approve attendance and travel for staff activities outlined in the Executive Director's report and updated 2011 calendar of events, in addition to approval for our new staff member, Tiffany Davis, to attend the next available NCEES exam proctor training.

The upcoming April examination was discussed. NCEES had denied registration of four FE examinee candidates at the Morgantown facility because the room was at capacity. After discussion, NCEES made arrangements to accommodate the additional examinees. The Board discussed a request to start offering the PE exam in Morgantown. A motion to offer the PE exam twice a year in Morgantown beginning in October 2011 was made by Mr. Timms, seconded by Mr. Pierson. Motion carried. Ms. Rosier will contact NCEES to request they make the necessary arrangements for the PE exam to be administered in the Morgantown area.

The effectiveness of the policy requiring Educational Plans of Study and required examinee interviews with the Board for candidates who had failed an exam more than three times was discussed. Ms. Rosier will prepare a summary of results from the last 4 exam administrations and report on the findings at the next Board meeting.

A number of states are beginning to require that a comity applicant must have a NCEES Record to be able to apply for comity in those states. The Board discussed the issue and concluded they were not in favor of requiring a NCEES Record for comity applicants.

Mr. Pierson moved to enter into Executive Session at 11:40 AM, seconded by Mr. Timms. Motion carried.

The Board recessed the meeting in Executive Session at 1:00 PM for an informal conference on complaint C2009-11.

After completion of the informal conference, the Board reconvened the meeting in Executive Session at 2:00 PM.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, Mr. Timms moved to enter into General Session with a second by Mr. Saluja. Motion carried and the Board then took the following actions:

1. A motion was made by Mr. Timms to rescind the January 18, 2011 Board action regarding license revocation on complaint C2009-12 based on evidence of compliance provided by the respondent. Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
2. Mr. Timms moved that inquiry I2011-08 be received and filed as a Board-initiated complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried.
3. Mr. Pierson moved that inquiry I2011-11 be received and filed as a Board-initiated complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Plymale and carried.
4. Mr. Plymale moved that inquiry I2011-13 be received and filed as a Board-initiated complaint. Motion was seconded by Mr. Pierson and carried.

Based on a motion by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mr. Saluja, the Board took the following actions on Special Cases for Board Action:

1. Isabel C. Cardona's request for EI certification was denied at this time, awaiting additional explanation from WVU administrators regarding her Master's degree or an acceptable NCEES foreign degree evaluation of her undergraduate degree.
2. Raymond L. Beaufait's request for comity was approved.
3. Richard B. Garlitz, Jr.'s request for comity was denied.
4. Richard J. Lombardi's request for comity was approved.

Mr. Timms reported on his recent activities as the NCEES President:

1. His heavy travel schedule as NCEES President is underway including NCEES Board of Directors meetings, NCEES committee meetings, upcoming Zone meetings and upcoming international trip to Turkey to discuss offering the NCEES exams there.
2. Due to the current crisis situations in both Egypt and Japan, the April 2011 NCEES exam administrations were cancelled in these countries.
3. The NCEES Board of Directors received and approved the recommendations of the CBT Task Force to enter into negotiations with Pearson VUE to serve as NCEES' CBT vendor for the FE and FS exams and, as a part of the negotiations, to consider options that allow for a reduction in the length of the exams.

The Board discussed a number of changes from NCEES that will require a change in the WV Engineering Law and Rules. The items requiring immediate attention are Computer Based Testing (CBT) of the FE exam and the 2-day structural examination. CBT is expected to be in place in the next 2-3 years and the 2-day structural exam is already in use. There are also potential changes to the Industrial Exemption language and the educational requirements for

licensure (requiring a Masters degree or Equivalent). After considerable discussion, the Board decided to pursue an update of the Engineering Practice Act in 2012. The staff and Board attorney were directed to begin work on changes to the statute for submission to the legislature in January 2012. Members of the Board will be required to be involved in the process. A status report will be provided by staff and counsel at each future Board meeting of 2011.

Ms. Hamilton reported that proposed changes to Section 30 of the WV Code, which affects this Board, failed to pass in the recent legislative session.

Ms. Rosier updated the Board on the status of the CBT Taskforce. As reported by Mr. Timms earlier, a vendor has been selected to implement the conversion and work is in progress.

The Northeast Zone meeting is scheduled for May 19-21 in Annapolis, Maryland. Board members attending will be Mr. Timms, Mr. Pierson and Mr. Saluja along with staff members Ms. Rosier and Mr. Johnson. Ms. Rosier and Mr. Johnson will attend as the NCEES and Zone funded delegates.

The new NCEES Examinee Management System was discussed. Our exam candidates have commented on how user friendly the system is and our staff agrees.

NCEES has been notified on who the exam observers are for the upcoming April exams. Mr. Timms will be the observer in Morgantown. Ms. Rosier, Ms. Sue Rubenstein and Ms. Davis will be the observers in Charleston.

Ms. Rubenstein attended the FARB Conference in New Orleans in January 2011 and provided a detailed report on the relevant issues that were discussed at the conference.

The 2011 renewal notice draft was reviewed by the Board. There were no changes and staff will send out the RFQ within the next month in order to prepare for the mid-May mailing.

The Board discussed the plans for the upcoming 2011 WV EXPO. The Board is again registered as an EXPO exhibitor and will conduct a two-hour seminar on engineering licensure which will include a joint session with the WV Society of Professional Engineers honoring our successful 2010 WV FE and PE examinees.

Mr. Timms requested we revisit the faculty licensure issue, specifically with respect to WV Engineering Law and teaching of advanced engineering courses. Mr. Robinson agreed to advance discussions with relevant university administrators regarding compliance.

The Board requested that Ms. Rosier revise a previously discussed agenda and budget for possibly hosting a 2011-2012 WV Engineering Education Summit. It is anticipated that this two-day event would be organized and hosted by our agency in an effort to bring together WV engineering deans and department chairs, engineering faculty, ABET coordinators and other relevant administrators to discuss important state licensure issues. Once the agenda and preliminary budget are approved by the Board at an upcoming meeting, it is the desire of the Board to seek pre-approval from Purchasing and the Attorney General's office to fund travel, lodging, meals and incidentals for all attendees that are invited to participate.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2011. The meeting will take place in the Board offices at 300 Capitol Street in Charleston, WV.

Upon motion by Mr. Pierson, seconded by Mr. Timms, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The Board members will be compensated one day per diem plus travel expenses.

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**Edward L. Robinson, P.E.**  
**Board President**

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**Bhajan S. Saluja, P.E.**  
**Board Secretary**