

LOUISIANA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

9643 Brookline Ave, Ste. 101, Baton Rouge, LA 70809



REGULAR MEETING OF LBOPG

Friday, April 22, 2014

1:30 P.M.

Louisiana Engineering Society Building
Conference Room

9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809

MINUTES

Present: William R. Finley, Kelli Hardesty, Lloyd Hoover, Arthur Johnson, John E. Johnston, III, Madhurendu Kumar, William Meaney, and Daisy Pate, Board Members. Ethel Graham, Legal Counsel, and Georgeann McNicholas, Executive Secretary.

Absent: Todd Perry, Board Member.

Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m. Role Call was executed. Quorum established. Minutes of last meeting revised to add date and under C. "Johnson" to "Johnston" in first two references. Motion to accept minutes as amended made by Johnston, Seconded by Finley. Carried unanimously.

Reports from Committees:

- a.) HB 167 – Passed unanimously by House of Representatives on 4/15/14. No date set for Senate committee vote. Expected next week or the following week. Kumar will be there to answer any questions.
- b.) Website – Presentation by Useable Creative of the online application to date. Abstract imagery used at this time. Three choices: abstract imagery, oil and gas photos, or Louisiana landscapes. Johnston suggested that we stay with the abstracts. Johnson and Finley stated that we can substitute with photographs at a later time but use abstracts for now. Mission Statement on home page. Three topics are placeholders. Hoover suggested change wording on website from "Membership" to "Licensing Criteria" and "Join" to "Apply". Resources will hold Agendas, Minutes, and Roster of those Licensed. Remove "Calendar of Events". Remove "fax" from application. Three certificates, licenses, etc. can be submitted. Add Education button for three additions. Hoover suggested it

should be “Create A Profile” instead of “Create an Account”. Discussion ensued. Decided to leave “Create an Account” as is. Kumar clarified Geoscientist In Training is certified and Geoscientists is licensed. “Act” linked to the page with the full text. McNicholas to draft language for Thank You to those who supply reference. Discussion ensued regarding need for place for those who will be taking the test. Determined it will be an add-on for later after grandfathering applicants have been licensed. McNicholas to send screenprints to Board for further comments.

- c.) Membership – Hardesty reported letter to those who submitted applications post 12/31/13 still needs Daisy Pate’s electronic signature. Johnson and Hardesty still need to complete application procedures. Hoover does not apply. Hardesty still waiting for license verification from Mississippi. Discussion ensued regarding reference requirement for licensing.
- d.) Office – Lease signed. Johnston made a motion for McNicholas to set up telephone service with Cox. Seconded by Finley. Board approved office equipment purchase. Kumar asked about the terms of the lease. Government approval received by Leasor. Johnson asked about email addresses for Board. McNicholas reported that, to use GoDaddy emails, we need to increase space. Discussion ensued regarding use of gmail and other options. Johnston made a motion for McNicholas to set up LBOPG GoDaddy email accounts for Board by next meeting. Finley amended to have McNicholas research. Seconded by Johnson. Motion carried. McNicholas to research and report to Board.
- e.) Rules – Discussion again ensued concerning reference requirement for licensing. Suggestion was made by Johnson that all board members review their information and be prepared to discuss at the next Board meeting. Finley presented the Mission Statement to be used on the website. Johnston made a motion to accept the Mission Statement. Seconded by Johnson. Discussion ensued. Motion carried. Finley is continuing to work on the rules. Discussion of future journal ensued concerning what information would be included and whether it would be electronic or hardcopy. Hoover presented information regarding engineering journals.

Break for 5 minutes

- f.) Legal Counsel – Handout relating to Public Records was distributed. Graham explained all documents are potentially public records unless there is a law that keeps those records non-public. The wording of the LBOPG Act makes all records public which would include references. Kumar asked about emails. Graham explained that documents may be redacted. Further, the Board is not allowed to ask the reason why a person wants to see the records. The Board may ask for the request be made in writing. Documents related to disciplinary actions may be sealed. The Board can make argument of invasion of privacy and the requesting party may challenge in Court. All requests should be

reported to Graham. Meaney suggested that all future emails should express no opinions but be stated in factual terms.

New Business - Forms for Board per diem/honorarium were discussed. McNicholas to have form(s) for Board at the next meeting. Pate requested the motion passing the Mission Statement be rescinded because of the word "firm" is currently in the statement. Daisy made a motion to strike reference to "licensed firms" in Mission Statement. Seconded by Johnston. Motion carried. Pate showed a hand marked copy of the license noting that the license certificate should say "Serial #", not "License #" and pointed out where the wording is in the Act. Discussion ensued. Johnston made a motion that the word "License" be changed to "Serial". Graham pointed out that "Serial" suggests they go in an order, a series. Others suggested that only "#" be used. More discussion ensued. Noted that Act states "license holder" and "serial #". Hoover displayed an engineering journal. Discussion ensued regarding hard copy versus electronic. Pate mentioned part of the Adobe system has been set up to allow 3 emails a month which would accommodate a "newsletter". Tabled for a future meeting.

Date for the next meeting is Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in the same location. Motion to adjourn was made by Johnston, seconded by Finley. Motion carried.