

LOUISIANA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

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



REGULAR MEETING OF LBOPG

Tuesday, May 27, 2014

1:30 P.M.

Louisiana Engineering Society Building

Conference Room

9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Dr. Kumar at 1:30 pm

Present: Finley, Meaney, Hoover, Perry, Johnson, Johnston, Kumar, Board members. Graham, Legal Counsel, and McNicholas, Executive Secretary

Absent: Hardesty, Pate

Motion to approve the minutes made by Johnston, seconded by Johnson. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

HB167 – Kumar reported that he attended the Senate committee hearing on May 7th. The Senate committee reported favorably and it went to the floor of the Senate where it passed unanimously on the 14th. On the 15th, it was signed by the Speaker. On the 19th, the Senate President signed. On the 20th, it went to the Governor for signature. If the Governor doesn't veto, the bill will become active automatically in 10 days, even if he doesn't sign it. Kumar will notify McNicholas when it is law so that she may notify all relative organizations.

Membership – No report. Kelli Hardesty, Membership Committee chair is not present. Passed to the next meeting.

Office – All email addresses are set up for the Board on ZoHo Mail. Discussion ensued regarding board email activation and use going forward. All board business should go to these @lbopg.org email addresses. Two filing cabinets are in. Guest chairs arrived but one sent back

for defection. Office Depot will either give us identical replacement chair, a refund to purchase the same chair or take both chairs in exchange for two that match. Printing quotations were presented from four printers: Champion, DocuMart, Printing Tech, and Franklin. McNicholas reported on her research. Johnston reported that Champion had good reviews from 8 departments at LSU that used their services. Motion made by Johnston to use Champion for all printing. Seconded by Johnson. Discussion ensued concerning need for contract to be approved by LA government. Graham to follow-up. Motion carried based on Graham's findings.

Treasurer's Report – Treasurer absent. Kumar reported \$306,448.33 balance as of April 30, 2014. List of expenditures to date were distributed. Johnston reported that he gave written authorization for McNicholas to receive all bank statements and communicate with Chase bank regarding banking issues.

Rules - Finley distributed list of states that have the same or greater licensing requirements based on ASBOG's November 2013 list. Discussion ensued concerning Mississippi. They only require 4 years vs. 5 years of work experience. Discussion also ensued regarding 5 years of licensed work experience v. 5 years of work experience for reciprocity. Once the rules of reciprocity are determined, they will have to be approved by the Louisiana legislature. Discussion ensued regarding 30 hours on semester system and its equivalency on a quarterly system. Determined that it will be worked out for each individual applicant. Texas has two means of determining reciprocity: either meeting qualifications or by endorsement. In Texas, reciprocity means that someone must hold a license in another state for 5 years OR by endorsement. Discussion ensued regarding reciprocity. Finley using Texas 850 rules, 5 subchapters. Mainly been working on subchapters 1 and 2 but getting bogged down. Finley asked for help. Finley suggested and the respective board members accepted assignments as follows: Johnson took subchapter 3, Codes of Professional Conduct. Compliance and Enforcement given to Meaney to review. Hearing and contested cases given to Johnston. Kumar pointed out that Texas regulations are subject to a revision process at this time. Discussion continued regarding ASBOG's list of states requirements, specifically continuing education/ethics. Johnston said he will have the hearing and contested cases suggested rules by next meeting. Johnson said he will review the Codes of Professional Conduct before next meeting.

Website – McNicholas gave report that we were to test last week and launch site today but we do not have an account with EchoSign for authenticated electronic signatures. Discussion ensued concerning the use of the word "that" in the Attestation. Decided to leave "that" in. Motion made by Perry for the Board to enter into a 3-year contract with EchoSign. Seconded by Finley. Graham noted that EchoSign contract must go through OCF because it is over \$2000.00. Motion passed. McNicholas to work with Elizabeth at OCF to expedite the process and with Usable Creative regarding testing while we wait for contract approval. Discussion ensued concerning University transcripts. Clarified that they are to be transmitted electronically or sent

by mail to McNicholas. Kumar asked when we might be able to launch. McNicholas noted that the EchoSign contract must be finalized prior to launching.

Legal Counsel's Contract – Graham noted that a board member had brought up whether we are meeting the Open Meeting laws requirement. Graham reviewed the Open Meeting Laws and the posting of the Agenda on the building door 24 hours in advance is sufficient to comply with the law. If LBOPG wants to have it on the website or other societies websites, that is fine but not required. McNicholas confirmed it is on the glass door 24 hours in advance and the Agendas and Minutes are up-to-date on the website.

Other Business – none.

Next meeting date is June 10th but no quorum due to conference in New Orleans. Tuesday, June 17th is the alternate date for the Board meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn made by Johnson, seconded by Johnston. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.