

LOUISIANA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

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



REGULAR MEETING OF LBOPG

Tuesday, August 12, 2014

1:30 P.M.

Louisiana Engineering Society Building, Conference Room
9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809

MINUTES

Dr. Kumar called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., August 12, 2014.

Present: Kelli Hardesty, William Finley, Arthur Johnson, John Johnston, Madhurendu Kumar, and L. Todd Perry, Board Members. Ethel Graham, Legal Counsel, and Georgeann McNicholas, Executive Secretary to the Board.

Absent: Lloyd Hoover, William Meaney, and Daisy Pate, Board Members.

Roll Call sheet was circulated for signatures.

Johnston made a motion to accept minutes of July 22nd, 2014 meeting. Finley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report was reviewed by the Board. Johnston made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Licensing Application Review Committee - Hardesty directed the Board to the list of submitted applications that the committee has reviewed dated August 12, 2014. Numbers 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 23, 26, 27 and 35 require more documentation, an additional reference or explanation of work experience. McNicholas is to notify them of outstanding documentation, an additional reference or need for further explanation of work experience. Numbers 11, 19, 25 and 32 need further review. Johnson made a motion to approve numbers 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, and numbers 36 through 56. Johnson seconded. Discussed ensued concerning number 38. Board decided to move number 38 for further review. Johnston made a motion to approve numbers 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21,

22, 24, 28, 29,30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, and numbers 39 through 56, of the list be approved for licensing. Johnson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Licensing Examination Committee - No report at this time.

Complaint Review Committee – No report at this time.

Hearing Committee – Johnson’s provided hand out to the Board to “hold the spot” in the Rules for the hearing procedures according to ASBOG’s requirements. Finley suggested that it could be to an Appendix to Rules. Discussion ensued.

Comity/Reciprocity - No report at this time.

Office Committee – Templates for the cards are in the works with State Printing Office. Lack of communication with current bank and bank charges discussed. McNicholas scheduled meeting with current bank representative for Monday, August 18, 2014. Johnston and McNicholas will investigate other financial institutions and present findings to the Board. Louisiana Engineering Society is retaining a different vendor to complete signage. Perry will provide an example to Johnston and McNicholas of bidding by banks. Graham suggested that the CPA may be able to give some insight. McNicholas reported the issue with signage is finding one that can produce the Braille signs to match the other office signs.

Rules Committee – Finley presented a Power Point Presentation. Finley explained at slide 1 that he was compiling the Chapter, Act and the Rules into four primary categories: applications of the chapter; those that concern the existence of the Board; licensing processes; and those that have to do with the regulations of the Act. Slide 2– Applications of chapters divided into the geoscience disciplines and non-geoscience disciplines, where licenses were required and where they were not. Slide 3 – Definitions such as “credential” for certificates and registration cards. Slide 4 – What needs to be on the credentials. Slide 5 – Geoscience defined - discipline with sub-disciplines. Slide 6 – Practice of Geoscience and practice for the public. Slide 7 – The Board’s makeup and role. Perry requested clarification regarding the 2 that are representatives of the public and are geoscientists. Slide 8 – When application is first admitted online is the start date. Quorum defined. Committee members defined. Membership defined. Slide 9 – Meetings. Graham suggested reference to Open Meetings Act may be included. Slide 10 – References/Sponsors. Johnson asks if we need to put something in their about electronic vs. hard copy reference. Decided it is clear as written. Slide 11 – Procedures for Reference/Sponsor. Graham said she is not sure that these kinds of instructions are needed for the Rules. Slide 12/13 – Texas requires that a geoscientists tell his/her client of any complaints filed against them but LA Act has nothing in the Act like this. Take out. Graham suggested that she go through Finley’s PowerPoint presentation and note what is not needed to comply with the Act. Slide 14 – Unlicensed individuals practicing geoscience. Slide 15 – How to modify the rules. Graham suggested revision of substituting “proposed” for “request”. Johnson asked if there is a timeline to respond to proposed changes to the rules. Finley believes there is a time when all changes are reviewed in Texas, once a year or once every three years. Leave as is for

now. Slide 16 – Texas requirement of notification of disciplinary action. Johnston noted we already have rules on that. Finley says it is also in the section about discipline. Discussion ensued. Move to the last section regarding regulations. Slide 17 – How Board works with other agencies. Discussion ensued. Not needed at this time. Delete. Slide 18 – Procedure of how to notify applicant of deficiency in application. Discussion ensued. Check with LA Engineering Society on how they handle deficiencies. Johnston will check with LSU concerning old transcripts expedited. 45 days if not response, applicant is put aside. Slide 19 – 30 days to make sure the fees are paid. After 30 days, account is frozen and no further activity. Graham says the trigger is the fees so there is no application until the fees are paid. Finley explained that application may be started but does not have to be completed but fees must be paid. After one year, application is expired. Applicant would have to pay another fee and start from the beginning. Slide 20 – Foreign applicants. Discussion ensued. Act addresses foreign applicants so Board should not address. Delete. Slide 21 – PG’s and GIT’s exam forms through us and through ASBOG. Delete “Form E”. When we are to that point, we will have a link on the website. Slide 22 – Course work earned in foreign universities. Fine as is. Slides 23, 24 and 25 – Texas has reciprocal similar examination requirement. Discussion ensued. LBOPG previously determined that if applicant is currently licensed in another state, LBOPG doesn’t need further proof provided. Delete. Slide 26 – GIT’s. Discussion ensued. Board decided that there should not be a limit on the amount of time a person may remain a GIT. Further, they must have 5 years of continuing education, 4 hours of training and 1 hour of ethics. Slide 27 – Defining Active, Inactive (from the expiration date up to one year), Expired (after one year) and fees. Renewal application form needed. Replace “Form B” with “renewal application form”. Board may not refuse to renew within 120 days of inactivity. Slide 28 – In addition to renewal application, they will sign a Statement of Affirmation that they have not practiced while inactive/expired. Delete “Form VII”. Slide 29 – Texas requires the licensee return a copy of their PG stamp within 60 days. Delete for now. Slide 30 – Where to find the Schedule of Fees. Graham to research what fee may be charged for copying.

Website – Finley wants more instructions listed particularly concerning work experience and has spoken to Usable Creative about it. McNicholas stated that will need to be part of Phase II for Usable Creative and has requested a contract for Phase II from Usable Creative.

Legal Counsel’s Comments – No comments.

Other Business – Perry has been asked to give presentation on the Louisiana Professional Geoscience Act and the Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientists. Board approved.

Next meeting will be August 26, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. at the Louisiana Engineering Society Building Conference Room, 9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA and the following one will be September 9, 2014.

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Kumar, seconded by Johnston. Motion passed unopposed. Kumar adjourned meeting at 3:36 p.m.