**Occupational and Professional Licensing**

**District of Columbia Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors**

**1100 4th Street SW; Suite 500**

**Washington, DC 20024**

**January 25, 2024**

**Meeting Minutes**

***This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act.  Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at******opengovoffice@dc.gov****.” 3 DCMR § 10409.2*

The District of Columbia Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at 11:01 AM. This meeting was held virtually.

**Attendance**

Board Members Present: Mr. Barry Lucas, Chairman, Ms. MaryJean Pajak, Mr. Roland Carter, Mr. Michael McKenna, Mr. Sam Wilson

Board Staff: Mr. Leon Lewis, Program Manager, Ms. Avis Pearson, Board Administrator, Ms. Jah-mai Jefferson, Program Support Specialist, Ms. Jacqueline Noisette, Deputy Director, OPL

Legal Counsel: Mr. Justin Orrison, Esq.

Public Guest: Mr. Stephen Pavlik, Program Manager, DLCP Consumer Protection, Mr.

 Rick Dreist, Ms. Jennifer Mainardi, Mr. Luis Vargas, Mr. Richard

 Stauderinger, Mr. Peter Neubauer, Dr. Charles Iheagwara

**Agenda Item: Comments from the Public**

Ms. Mainardi, Mr. Neubauer and Mr. Shakeri inquired about their Reinstatement Applications. Ms. Pearson informed the Applicants that she would review their application and follow up with them regarding the meeting. Additional information was given to all public guests regarding our current Application Administration Portal. The Reinstatement Application can now be accessed through our current portal. This is a very recent update. Before the update, the reinstatement applications were Seamless Documents that were not connected to the portal which caused a delay in processing.

**Agenda Item: Draft Minutes**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Carter and properly seconded by Ms. Pajak, the Board voted unanimously to approve the November 13, 2023 meeting minutes with the recommended changes.

**Agenda Item: Application Approvals**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Wilson and properly seconded by Mr. Carter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the January 25, 2024, list of administrative-approved Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors applications for licensure, attached hereto and made a part of the January 25, 2024, minutes.

**Agenda Item: Old Business**

Ms. Pearson gave the Board an update on the NCEES 2024 Interim Zone Meeting to be held May 2-4, 2024 at the Watergate Hotel in Washington, DC. The off-site activity scheduled for Friday 5/3/24 will be confirmed during next week’s meeting with Ms. McAllister, NCEES, Manager of Meetings. A meeting is scheduled on 1/30/24 to meet with the full committee for the Northeast Zone.

Ms. Pajak gave an update from the Education subcommittee. Ms. Merdon has agreed to do a presentation on safety. A date for the Forum has not been confirmed.

**Agenda Item: New Business**

Mr. Pavlik, DLCP Program Manager, Consumer Protection Unit, provided information on the Complaint Intake Process. All complaints will be forwarded to the Consumer Protection Unit first. Following review and investigation the complaints will be forwarded to the Board if additional action is required.

Decoupling information was provided to the Board by Ms. Pearson. There are currently thirty-eight states that have de-coupled. Decoupling the PE Exam from the experience requirement allows an Engineer in Training to take the PE exam before applying for licensure or earning the necessary four years of experience. Licensure cannot be obtained until all requirements have been met. The Board has requested additional data (i.e. has there been an increased number of applicants passing the exam and getting licensed) before moving forward with decoupling. Ms. Pearson will follow up with NCEES to get additional information.

Mr. Lucas gave an update on the Engineer Licensure Model Task Force regarding Technology Degrees. Currently, Technology Degrees are not accepted as an educational requirement to qualify to take the PE exam. A proposal has been put forth at past Zone Meetings to allow for Technology Degrees plus six years of experience and all other requirements. Education must be obtained from ABET-accredited schools.

**Agenda Item: Executive Session** – **(Closed to the Public)**

Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) (4) (A); D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) (9) and 13 to discuss complaints/legal matters, applications, and legal counsel reports.

**The Board did not enter an Executive Session**.

**Agenda Item: Recommendations**

­No recommendations

**Agenda Item: Adjournment**

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Carter and properly seconded by Ms. Pajak the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Barry Lucas, Chairman

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 Date

Recorder/transcriber: Avis Pearson, Board Administrator