

## MINUTES

### UTAH PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS LICENSING BOARD

#### Electronic Meeting

November 18, 2020 | 9:00 a.m.

**CONVENED:** 9:04 A.M.

**ADJOURNED:** 12:02 P.M.

**Bureau Manager**  
**Board Secretary**

Stephen Duncombe  
Tracy Taylor

**Board Members Present**

Blaine Leonard, Chairperson  
Jeffery Miller  
Stephen Connor  
Brad Kenison  
Chris Kobayashi  
James Pitkin

**Board Members Absent**

Jeff Whitney

**Guests:**

Christoph Lohr, ASPE  
David Dexter, ASPE  
Billy Smith

**DOPL Staff Present:**

Mark Steinagel, Division Director  
Chris Rogers, Bureau Manager  
Carolyn Dennis, Management Analyst  
Bobby Main, Investigations Supervisor  
Cory Snodgrass, Investigator  
Mike Osiek, Investigator

#### **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:**

#### **DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

Welcome New Members

Members of the Board introduced themselves and welcomed our new members Chris Kobayashi and James Pitkin

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes dated July 15, 2020 were reviewed. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Kenison seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Time: 13:19

## Investigations Report

Mr. Main provided the Board with a detailed investigations report. Mr. Duncombe and Mr. Osiek sought feedback from the Board regarding fire suppression engineer and requirements for such systems. Mr. Connor, as the Mechanical Engineer spoke to his experience with fire protection designs. Typically, they require the calculations to be performed by a NICET certified designer under the review of a Professional Engineer. Mr. Kobayashi spoke to the Master Plan Specification. A third party reviewer in many situations is not a licensed individual but usually has extensive experience and expertise with the applicable code. When a disagreement occurs between the reviewer and the engineer of record, ultimately the engineer of record is the one responsible for the design and will need to work with the reviewer to resolve the disagreement to the satisfaction of the permitting jurisdiction. Mr. Steinagel expressed his appreciation to the Board in regards to obtaining citation authority and the continued communication and collaboration between the Board and the Division. Item noted with no action taken.

Time: 14:49

## Education and Enforcement Fund

Mr. Duncombe provided the Board with an updated report on the Fund and current licensing numbers. Mr. Steinagel discussed the current situation of the balance of the fund and the upcoming renewal places the fund in danger of lapsing at the end of this fiscal year. Recognizing that outreach opportunities are not currently taking place during the pandemic, the Board brainstormed ideas for use of the Fund, including funding the salary and benefits of an employee dedicated to outreach. Mr. Leonard made a motion to use up to \$45,000 from the Professional Engineer and Professional Land Surveyor Education and Enforcement Fund for the salary and benefits of an Outreach Manager focused on engineering and surveying through fiscal year 2021, ending June 30, 2021. Mr. Kenison seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Time: 1:13:04

## DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS:

### Exam Discipline

Christoph Lohr, representing the American Society of Plumbing Engineers, PE Working Group, submitted a request to the Board seeking their support in his quest to have NCEES develop and add a plumbing engineering examination option under the mechanical engineering discipline of the NCEES Principle and Practice exam. Mr. Lohr cited the specific knowledge and safety issues involved in plumbing systems and the lack of particular plumbing engineering subject matter in the other mechanical exam options. The Board would like to do a bit of their own research before committing their support to NCEES. Mr. Leonard requested that Mr. Lohr submit his Power Point Presentation, obtain local constituency to further support Utah's involvement, and provide examples of other states support. Mr. Lohr will provide this information through the Board Secretary and the discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Time: 47:05

### Endorsement

Ms. Dennis reviewed the research that was conducted on the jurisdictions that would fall under the new endorsement provision. Mr. Leonard feels strongly about meeting the current education requirements in Utah and has concerns with eroding the engineering profession as a whole with the ease of acceptance the endorsement provision would allow. Mr. Leonard noted at least 10 other jurisdictions that have lower educational requirements for licensure while acknowledging that he did not complete his review of all jurisdictions. Ms. Dennis and Ms. Taylor spoke regarding the current language in the Professional Engineer and Professional Land Surveyor Licensing Act that allows a pathway to licensure without the education. Ms. Dennis agreed to conduct further research on the educational requirements and will provide that information to the Board for continued discussion at the next meeting. Item noted with no action taken.

Time: 1:58:10

### Seal Security and Sole Control

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Bridge Design

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Next Board Meeting:

January 20, 2021 9:00 a.m.

**ADJOURN:**

Adjourned at 12:02 P.M.

*Note: This report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript, but is intended to record the significant features of what was discussed in the meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily arranged in chronological order.*

01/20/2021

Date Approved

Blaine D Leonard, P.E.

Chairperson, Utah Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors Board

01/20/2021

Date Approved

Steve Duncombe

Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing

**Signature:** 

**Email:** bleonard@utah.gov

**Signature:** 

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