

MINUTES
LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
1917 IH35 SOUTH, BOARD ROOM, AUSTIN, TX 78741
May 20, 2015—1:00 PM

Call to Order. Lamberto “Bobby” Ballí, P.E., Chair, called the Licensing Committee meeting to order at 1:00 pm on May 20, 2015, at the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, 1917 South Interstate 35, Austin, TX. (Note: all motions are unanimous unless noted).

1. Roll call and welcome visitors.

Lamberto “Bobby” Ballí, P.E.	Chair
Carry Ann Baker, J.D.	Member (Excused Absence)
Jim Greer, P.E.	Member
Sam Kannappan, P.E.	Member
Kyle Womack, P.E.	Member (Alternate)

A quorum was present. Ms. Veena Mohan, Assistant Attorney General, was present to provide legal counsel to the Board. Mr. Edmundo Gonzalez, Jr., P.E., and Govind Nadkarni, P.E., Emeritus Board Members, were present.

The following staff members were present:

Lance Kinney, P.E.	Executive Director
David Howell, P.E.	Deputy Executive Director
George Hartmann, P.E.	Licensing Special Project Coordinator
Dewey Helmcamp, III, J.D.	Staff Attorney
Morgen Cumming, J.D.	Staff Attorney
Ranitra Johnson	Licensing Specialist
Dorothy Gonzales	Executive Assistant

Visitors. Allison Grady, Office of the Attorney General, Robert Bauhn.

Personal Interviews: John Miner, Jaime Ozuna, Stephen Jones, Alfredo Perez-Lozano, Bradley Sohm, Benjamin Taylor, William Tolleson, John Vara, Matthew Williamson, Jeremy Marquis, Andrew Adams, Russell Hooper, Robert Hermosillo.

2. Public comment. None.

Discuss and Possibly Act on the Following (Agenda Items 3-11):

3. Discuss and possibly approve the February 11, 2015, Licensing Committee Minutes.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan/Greer) to approve the February 11, 2015, Licensing Committee minutes as submitted. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

4. Discuss and possibly act on applications for licensure: Personal Interviews.

Benjamin King. This applicant applied for licensure. He came before the Committee due to completion of conditions from a previous Board action. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Greer/Womack) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant for licensure. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

John Miner. This applicant applied for re-licensure as a Former Texas License Holder with a waiver of the PE exam. He came before the Committee due to completion of conditions from a previous appearance with the committee in February 2015. The Committee and applicant discussed his experience and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan/Womack) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant for licensure. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Jaime Ozuna. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. He came before the Committee for reconsideration of a previous application denial. He presented additional information and documentation of experience since the last action by the Board. The Committee and applicant discussed his additional information in support of his application.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Greer/Womack) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam starting in October, 2015. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Stephen Jones. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. He came before the Committee due to a recent criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan /Womack) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Alfredo Perez-Lozano. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. He came before the Committee due to a recent criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Womack / Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Bradley Sohm. This applicant applied for licensure. He came before the Committee due to a recent criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Greer/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant for licensure. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Benjamin Taylor. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. He came before the Committee due to a recent criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Womack/Greer) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

William Tolleson. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. He came before the Committee due to a recent criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan/Greer) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

John Vara. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. He came before the Committee due to a recent criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan/Greer) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Matthew Williamson. This applicant applied for licensure. He came before the Committee due to a recent criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Womack/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to approve the applicant for licensure. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Jeremy Marquis. This applicant applied for licensure. He came before the Committee due to recent criminal incidents. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Balli/Greer) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to place the applicant's application on hold pending successful completion of the Level I (30 hour) Ethics course from Texas Tech and submit documentation to staff. After the ethics course is successfully completed, the applicant shall reappear at the next scheduled Licensing Committee meeting for consideration of licensure or submit a white paper to staff to present to the Committee about lessons learned from the ethics course. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Andrew Adams. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. He came before the Committee due to an unreported criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Womack/Greer) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to place the applicant's application on hold pending successful completion of the Level I (30 hour) Ethics course from Texas Tech and submittal of documentation to staff. The applicant shall reappear before the Licensing Committee to consider approval to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Russell Hooper. This applicant applied for licensure. He came before the Committee due to an unreported criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Greer/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to place the applicant's application on hold pending successful completion of the Level I (30 hour) Ethics course from Texas Tech and submittal of documentation to staff. The applicant shall reappear before the Licensing Committee for reconsideration of licensure.. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Robert Hermosillo. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. He came before the Committee due to an unreported criminal incident. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

Mr. Ballí recused himself from any discussion and/or voting regarding this applicant.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Greer/) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to require Mr. Hermosillo to successfully complete the Level II course with Texas Tech and reappear before the Licensing Committee to demonstrate that he is ready to take the exam.

Due to no SECOND, the motion failed.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Greer/Womack) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to place the applicant's application on hold pending completion of the Level II (60 hour) Ethics course from Texas Tech and submittal of documentation to staff. The applicant shall reappear before the Licensing Committee no sooner than February 2016 to consider approval to take the PE exam when all conditions have been met. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED; Mr. Ballí abstained from voting.

Chair called for a break at 3:38pm. Chair reconvened the meeting at 3:45pm.

5. **Discussion of proposal of Decoupling PE Exam and Experience.**

Mr. Howell discussed the proposal of the decoupling the PE exam and experience requirements for licensure which was submitted as an exhibit. The Committee directed staff to provide full background to stakeholders and prepare a white paper to include information from the NCEES Model Law and Comity issues/concerns. Encourage engagement from Engineers-in-Training (EIT) to get their feedback.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Greer/Womack) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on May 21, 2015, to allow staff to move forward with the proposal of decoupling of the PE Exam and Experience. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

6. **Discuss Enhancing Engagement of Engineers-In-Training (EIT).**

Mr. Ballí discussed the possibility of engaging EITs who are near or thinking about taking the PE exam and showing the value of becoming a PE. Possible activities would be a letter to EITs; have a contest for an EIT of the Year; and or possibly having certified EITs; the possibility of working closer with universities to encourage engineer graduates to take the FE exam and promote the value of becoming a licensed engineer.

7. **Criminal History Record Check (CHRC).**

Mr. Howell reviewed the CHRC report included as an exhibit with Committee members.

8. **International Licensure Agreements.**

Mr. Kinney reported that Texas has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with South Korea that was signed one year ago. There have been several changes in leadership on the Korean side, and the current point of contact commented that the possible Mutual Recognition agreement (MRA) between Texas and Korea is being reviewed. If changes are submitted for consideration, staff will bring to the Committee for approval. He added that the agreement with Canada is current and in place. The Board is currently working to revise agreements with Mexico and Engineers Australia. Mr. Kinney also added that Texas has been in contact with Spain for a possible agreement. Board liaisons are currently working with staff on all of the agreements.

9. **Licensing Director's Report.**

• **Results and statistics: Application and Examination Report.**

Mr. Howell reviewed the report that was included as an exhibit with Committee members.

10. **Issues for consideration and schedule next meeting.**

Agenda items for the next scheduled meeting: EITs - staff should bring back ideas/strategies regarding EITs.

11. **Adjourn.**

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan/Womack) to adjourn the Committee meeting at 4:46pm. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Committee approved minutes as submitted: August 26, 2015
Date Board accepted minutes: August 27, 2015