MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD 8550 UNITED PLAZA BOULEVARD, SUITE 903 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-2296 December 5, 2024

At 9:05 a.m. on December 5, 2024, Reginald L. Jeter, P.E. called the meeting to order at the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, 1201 Capitol Access Road, Suite 102 C, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the following members present:

Reginald L. Jeter, P.E. Chairman
Connie P. Betts, P.E. Vice Chairman
Linda H. Bergeron, P.E. Treasurer
Byron D. Racca, P.E. Secretary

James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S.
Janice P. Williams, P.E. (via Zoom video teleconference)
Vijaya Gopu, Ph.D., P.E.

Gordon E. Nelson, P.E. Susan H. Richard, P.E. Byron E. Trust, P.E. Robert L. Wolfe, P.E., P.L.S

Absent: Gordon E. Nelson, P.E.

Also present: Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director

Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director

D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Betts, seconded by Mr. Racca, to accept the December 5, 2024 proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

## **Committee Reports**

## **Laws and Rules Committee**

The Board reviewed the November 22, 2024 letter from Governor Landry's Office concerning enrollment in the Louisiana Department of Justice's Occupational Licensing Review Program (OLRP). After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Bergeron, seconded by Mr. Trust, to authorize Mr. Landry to contact the Office of the Attorney General to discuss and negotiate fees for enrolling in the OLRP, along with possible payment options.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Gopu, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, to approve Board enrollment in the OLRP.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Racca, seconded by Ms. Bergeron, to authorize Ms. Sentell to complete and return the Board Participation Decision Form to Governor Landry's office by December 31, 2024.

The Board reviewed the pending revisions to Rules 905, 911, 1703 and 3119. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Betts, seconded by Dr. Gopu, to change the effective date of the pending revisions to Rules 905, 911, 1703 and 3119 from July 1, 2025 to July 1, 2026.

The Board recessed at 10:40 a.m. and resumed at 11:00 a.m.

At 11:15 a.m., the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Betts, seconded by Mr. Chustz, to enter into executive session to discussion personnel matters.

At 11:35 a.m., the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Trust, seconded by Ms. Bergeron, to exit the executive session.

After review and discussion of the proposal from Theresa B. Jones Consulting, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Chustz, seconded by Ms. Richard, to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **Theresa B. Jones Consulting** to provide an organizational culture assessment and improvement strategy for the Board office. The term of the contract will be for three six months, **beginning January 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2025,** in the total amount not to exceed \$15,000.

## **Closing Business**

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Betts, seconded by Mr. Chustz, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Bergeron, seconded by Mr. Racca, to acknowledge and confirm all licenses and certificates issued and renewed since the last Board meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Trust, seconded by Dr. Gopu, to approve all Board expenses.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Dr. Gopu, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m. on December 5, 2024.

Reginald L. Jeter, P.E.

Chairman

Byron D. Racca, P.E.

Secretary