MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOUISIANA PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING BOARD 9643 BROOKLINE AVENUE, SUITE 121 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1433 January 11, 2021

At 9:04 a.m. on January 11, 2021, Charles G. Coyle, III, P.L.S. called the meeting to order via Zoom video teleconferencing, with the following members in attendance:

Charles G. Coyle, III, P.L.S. Thomas R. Carroll, III, P.E., P.L.S.	Chairman Vice Chairman
Christopher K. Richard, P.E.	Treasurer
Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E.	Secretary

Chad C. Vosburg, P.E. Edgar P. Benoit, P.E. Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S. Connie P. Betts, P.E. Reggie L. Jeter, P.E. Linda H. Bergeron, P.E. Byron D. Racca, P.E.

Also in attendance: Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director

Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director

Bill Tripoli, Board Staff
Joe Harman, P.E., Board Staff
William Hyatt, Board Investigator
Chris Aaron, Board Investigator
LaTasha Andrews, Board Staff
D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney

Guests: Robert Gros

D. Scott Phillips, P.E., P.L.S.

The invocation was led by Mr. Pike and the pledge was led by Chairman Coyle.

Public comment time was recognized by Chairman Coyle.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Carroll, to accept the January 11, 2021 proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Carroll, to approve the minutes from the October 26, 2020 Board meeting.

Compliance and Enforcement

<u>Case # 2020-40</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on an unlicensed firm which (a) practiced and/or offered to practice engineering and used the words "engineer", "engineering" or any modification or derivative thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity without proper licensure and (b) committed fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$2,250
- 2. Costs of \$464.33
- 3. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 4. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Existing Structures Engineering, Inc.**

<u>Case # 2020-41</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who (a) committed fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board and (b) aided or assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$1,500
- 2. Costs of \$464.33
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit, and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **James B. Evetts, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2020-47</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on an unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering in Louisiana without proper licensure on 19 projects. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$3,000
- 2. Costs of \$211.28
- 3. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 4. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **BC Engineers, Inc. of Kansas.**

<u>Case # 2020-78</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who aided or assisted an unlicensed firm in practicing engineering in Louisiana without proper licensure. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$500
- 2. Costs of \$211.28
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit, and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Erik B. Knudsen, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2020-79</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who aided or assisted an unlicensed firm in practicing engineering in Louisiana without proper licensure. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$500
- 2. Costs of \$211.28
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit, and Ms.

Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Darin T. Seidel, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2020-18</u>– Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who failed to disclose disciplinary actions in two other jurisdictions on renewal of a license. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$1,000
- 2. Costs of \$472.20
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit, and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Zeyn B. Uzman, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2020-32</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who failed to disclose disciplinary actions in another jurisdiction on renewal of a license. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$1,000
- 2. Costs of \$301.33
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit, and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Martin J. Wiedenman, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2020-54</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who failed to disclose disciplinary actions in another jurisdiction on renewal of a license. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$1,000
- 2. Costs of \$407.37
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit, and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Heath A. Dumack, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2020-83</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on an unlicensed firm which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering without proper licensure. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$3,000
- 2. Costs of \$575.68
- 3. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 4. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Brough & Stephens, Inc.**

<u>Case # 2020-97</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineer who aided or assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$500
- 2. Costs of \$575.68
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit, and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Michael E. Stephens, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2020-30</u> – Mr. Hyatt reported on an unlicensed firm which engaged in fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$750
- 2. Costs of \$905.51
- 3. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 4. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Entech Engineering, Inc.**

<u>Case # 2020-31</u> – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineer who engaged in fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$1,000
- 2. Costs of \$905.51
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 6. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Fontenot, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Mitchell D. Simpson, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2017-28</u> – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineer who (a) engaged in fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a renewal license with the Board; (b) failed to be responsible for renewal of a firm's license as the firm's supervising professional; (c) failed to timely respond to inquiries and correspondence from the Board; (d) practiced and/or offered to practice engineering with an expired license; (e) failed to provide, within thirty calendar days of receipt of notice by certified mail, information or documents requested by the Board relating to any alleged violation of the Board's laws; and (f) aided or assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$4,000
- 2. Costs of \$1,420.68
- 3. Past unpaid renewal fees of \$120

- 4. Provide to the Board the information and documents requested by the Board in its February 11, 2020 letter
- 5. Additional fine of \$500, along with any administrative costs incurred in collecting this additional fine, if the respondent fails to provide to the Board the requested information and documents
- 6. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz
- 7. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 8. Immediate suspension of license if the respondent fails to comply with any part of the consent order, with said suspension continuing until the respondent so complies
- 9. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 10. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Correen C. Robertson, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2019-55</u> – Mr. Hyatt reported on an unlicensed firm (that subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm) which (a) practiced and/or offered to practice engineering without proper licensure; (b) failed to timely respond to inquiries and correspondence from the Board; (c) failed to provide, within thirty calendar days of receipt of notice by certified mail, information or documents requested by the Board relating to any alleged violation of the Board's laws; and (d) engaged in fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a license with the Board. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$2,250
- 2. Costs of \$1.420.68
- 3. Provide to the Board the information and documents requested by the Board in its June 30, 2020 letter
- 4. Additional fine of \$500, along with any administrative costs incurred in collecting this additional fine, if the respondent fails to provide to the Board the requested information and documents
- 5. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz by each supervising professional
- 6. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz by each supervising professional
- 7. Immediate suspension of license if the respondent fails to comply with any part of the consent order, with said suspension continuing until the respondent so complies
- 8. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 9. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **MAP Design Group, LLC**.

<u>Case # 2017-29</u> – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineering firm which **(a)** engaged in fraud, deceit, material misstatement or perjury, or the giving of any false or forged evidence, in applying for a renewal license with the Board; **(b)** failed to timely respond to inquiries and correspondence from the Board; **(c)** practiced and/or offered to practice engineering with an expired license; and **(d)** failed to provide, within thirty calendar days of receipt of notice by certified mail, information or documents requested by the Board relating to any alleged violation of the Board's laws. The respondent has signed and returned the proposed consent order offered by the Complaint Review Committee. The proposed consent order contained the following sanctions:

- 1. Fine of \$3,500
- 2. Costs of \$1,420.68
- 3. Past unpaid renewal fees \$120
- 4. Provide to the Board the information and documents requested by the Board in its June 30, 2020 letter
- 5. Additional fine of \$500, along with any administrative costs incurred in collecting this additional fine, if the respondent fails to provide to the Board the requested information and documents
- 6. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz by each supervising professional
- 7. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz by each supervising professional
- 8. Immediate suspension of license if the respondent fails to comply with any part of the consent order, with said suspension continuing until the respondent so complies

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9. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name

10. Report to NCEES with name

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Complaint Review Committee, consisting of Mr. Richard, Mr. Benoit and Ms. Betts, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **The MAP Group, Inc.**

Mr. Benoit presented the report and recommendation from the ad hoc committee, comprised of Mr. Benoit, Ms. Betts, Mr. Racca and Mr. Pike, regarding the request of **Anthony R. Venson** for reinstatement of his revoked professional engineer license. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the ad hoc committee to deny the request from Mr. Venson.

The Board recessed at 10:15 a.m. and resumed at 10:25 a.m.

Committee Reports

Laws and Rules Committee

Mr. Richard presented the report for the Laws and Rules Committee.

After discussion, the Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Laws and Rules Committee to amend Rules 705, 709, 903, 1301, 1305, 1309, 1311, 1313, 1315, 1509, 1901, 2103, 2301, 2305, 2501, 3109, 3115 and 3117 as follows:

§705. Meetings

A. ...

- B. Special Meetings. The chairman or the secretary may call special meetings when considered necessary. Upon written request of at least six board members, the chairman is required to call a special meeting.
- C. Open Meetings. Every meeting of the board shall be open to the public, unless closed as an executive session.
- D. Meeting Dates. Written public notice of the dates, times, and places of all regular meetings shall be given at the beginning of each calendar year.
- E. Separate Notice of All Meetings. In addition, separate written public notice of any regular, special, or rescheduled meeting shall be given no later than 24 hours before the holding of the meeting. This separate notice shall include the agenda, date, time and place of the meeting.
- F. Posting of Notice. The written public notice discussed in §705.D and E shall include:
 - 1. posting a copy of the notice at the office of the board; or
- 2. publication of the notice on the board website no less than 24 hours before the meeting.
- G. Notice to Board Members. Notice of all meetings, in conformity with §705.D and E, shall be given in writing to each board member by the executive director.
- H. Quorum. A simple majority of board members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- I. Robert's Rules of Order. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of the board at all meetings, except as otherwise provided herein or by law.
- J. Location of Meetings. All meetings shall be held at the board office, unless, in the judgment of the chairman, it is necessary, convenient or preferable to meet elsewhere.

§709. Executive Director

A. - B. ...

C. Duties of the Executive Director. The executive director shall:

C.1. - C.7. ...

8. supervise the administration of the Louisiana laws of land surveying examination;

§903. Professional Engineer Licensure

A. The requirements for licensure as a professional engineer under the alternatives provided in the licensure law are as follows:

A.1. ...

- 2. the applicant for licensure as a professional engineer shall be an individual who holds a valid license to engage in the practice of engineering issued to him/her by proper authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, based on requirements that do not conflict with the provisions of the licensure law and which were of a standard not lower than that specified in the applicable licensure law in effect in Louisiana at the time such license was issued, who is of good character and reputation, who has submitted an application for licensure in accordance with the requirements of R.S. 37:694, and if the state, territory, or possession, or the District of Columbia, in which he/she is licensed will accept the licenses issued by the board on a comity basis, and who was duly licensed as a professional engineer by the board; or
- 3. the applicant for licensure as a professional engineer shall be a graduate of an accredited engineering curriculum of four years or more approved by the board as being of satisfactory standing who has a verifiable record of twenty years or more of progressive experience obtained subsequent to meeting the educational qualification on engineering projects of a level and scope satisfactory to the board, who is of good character and reputation, who has passed the examination(s) required by the board in the principles and practice of engineering in the discipline(s) of engineering in which the applicant seeks to be listed, who was recommended for licensure by five personal references (at least three of whom must be professional engineers who have personal knowledge of the applicant's engineering experience and character and ability), who has submitted an application for licensure in accordance with the requirements of R.S. 37:694, and who was duly licensed as a professional engineer by the board.

B. - H. ...

§1301. General

- A.1. Only individuals who have been authorized by NCEES will be allowed to take the fundamentals of engineering and fundamentals of land surveying examinations, and registration for these examinations must be made with NCEES.
- 2. Individuals who are seeking licensure as a professional engineer based on having met the educational qualifications described in §901.A.1 or §903.A.3 must obtain authorization from NCEES in order to be allowed to take the principles and practice of engineering examination, and registration for this examination must be made with NCEES.
- 3. Individuals who are seeking licensure as a professional engineer based on having met the educational qualifications described in §901.A.2 or §901.A.3 must obtain authorization from the board in order to be allowed to take the principles and practice of engineering examination, and registration for this examination must be made with the board.
- 4. Only individuals who have been authorized by the board will be allowed to take the principles and practice of land surveying and Louisiana laws of land surveying examinations, and all applications for these examinations must be timely filed with the board.
- B. An individual must present appropriate documents to establish his/her eligibility and identification prior to being admitted to any examination.
- C. Examinations in the fundamentals of engineering, fundamentals of land surveying, the principles and practice of engineering, the principles and practice of land surveying and the Louisiana laws of land surveying will be offered at times and places designated by the board or NCEES. Descriptions of typical content of the examinations will be made available to individuals through the board or NCEES.

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D. Any individual found to have engaged in conduct which subverts or attempts to subvert the examination process may, at the discretion of the board, have his/her scores on the examination withheld and/or declared invalid, have disciplinary action taken as described in R.S. 37:698-700 and/or be subject to the imposition of other appropriate sanctions.

E. The board may require individuals who are seeking to take an examination to demonstrate their knowledge of the laws and rules of the board, and the English language. Such individuals must be able to speak and write the English language. Proficiency in English may be evidenced by possession of a baccalaureate degree taught exclusively in English, or by passage of both the TOEFL (test of English as a foreign language) paper-based exam with a score of 550 or better (213 or better on the TOEFL computer-based exam) and the TSE (test of spoken English) exam with a score of 45 or better. Individuals requesting a waiver from the TOEFL and/or TSE requirements must submit a written request and supporting reasoning to the board. A waiver from the TOEFL and/or TSE requirements may be granted by the board upon receipt of one of the following:

- 1. a passing score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE); or
- 2. transcripts which verify the successful completion of 6 full-time semesters (6 credit hours per semester) toward a graduate engineering degree in the United States.

§1305. Approval to Take the Examination in the Principles and Practice of Engineering

Repealed.

§1309. Approval to Take the Examinations in the Principles and Practice of Land Surveying and in the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying

A. Only an individual who meets all of the other requirements for licensure as a professional land surveyor may be permitted to take the examinations in the principles and practice of land surveying and in the Louisiana laws of land surveying.

§1311. Examination for Record Purposes

A. The board provides the opportunity for professional engineers who were previously licensed in Louisiana to take the examination in the principles and practice of engineering in the discipline(s) of engineering in which they seek to be listed without affecting their current licensure status with the board. These examinations are offered at times and places designated by the board or NCEES. Each individual will be charged a fee for this service.

§1313. Examination Results

- A. The board or NCEES will specify the minimum passing score for all examinations for certification or licensure of individuals.
- B. Individuals will be informed only as to whether they passed or failed an examination.

§1315. Re-Examinations

- A. An individual who fails an examination is eligible to apply to retake the examination.
- B. After an individual has failed a principles and practice of engineering examination, principles and practice of land surveying examination or Louisiana laws of land surveying examination a minimum of three times, he/she may be required to appear before the board, or a committee of the board, for an oral interview.

§1509. Experience at Time of Application

A. ...

B. For applicants for professional engineer licensure under §903.A.1 of these rules, the "verifiable record of four years or more of progressive

experience obtained subsequent to meeting the educational and applicable experience qualifications to be an engineer intern" must be gained by the time of application for licensure.

- C. For applicants for professional engineer licensure under §903.A.3 of these rules, the "verifiable record of twenty years or more of progressive experience obtained subsequent to meeting the educational qualification" must be gained by the time of application for licensure.
- D. For applicants for professional land surveyor licensure under §909.A.1 of these rules, the "verifiable record of four years or more of combined office and field experience in land surveying including two years or more of progressive experience on land surveying projects under the supervision of a professional land surveyor" must be gained by the time of application for licensure.

§1901. Disciplines

A. Professional engineers will be issued licenses by the board as a professional engineer, and the board shall list a professional engineer in one or more of the disciplines of engineering approved by NCEES based on such individual having passed the examination in the principles and practice of engineering in such discipline(s).

§2103. Licensure and Certification Status

A. The board has established the following licensure statuses for licensees.

Active Status—the licensure status which exists for a licensee of the board who has complied with all the licensure and licensure renewal requirements of the board and who has either elected to be in this status on his/her biennial licensure renewal form or otherwise received authorization from the board to be in this status.

Expired Status—the licensure status which exists for a licensee of the board who has either failed to properly renew licensure as required in R.S. 37:697 or otherwise received authorization from the board to be in this status. A licensee in an expired status cannot practice or offer to practice engineering or land surveying in Louisiana.

Inactive Status—the licensure status which exists for an individual licensee of the board who has chosen not to practice or offer to practice engineering and/or land surveying in Louisiana and who has either elected to be in this status on his/her biennial licensure renewal form or otherwise received authorization from the board to be in this status. A licensee in an inactive status can represent himself/herself to the public as a P.E. inactive or a P.L.S. inactive, as applicable, but cannot otherwise practice or offer to practice engineering and/or land surveying in Louisiana.

Retired Status—the licensure status which exists for an individual licensee of the board who has chosen not to practice or offer to practice engineering and/or land surveying in Louisiana and who has either elected to be in this status on his/her biennial licensure renewal form or otherwise received authorization from the board to be in this status. To qualify for the retired status, the licensee must be at least 70 years of age or have been a licensee of the board for at least 35 years. Unless the licensee is granted a waiver by the board, the renewal fee for the retired status shall be one-half of the current renewal fee for the active status. A licensee qualified for the retired status may be granted a waiver of this renewal fee if the licensee is at least 70 years of age, has been a licensee of the board for at least 35 years continuously, has never been subject to disciplinary action in any jurisdiction, has never committed any of the offenses described in R.S. 37:698(A)(3), (4) or (5), and is of good character and reputation. A licensee in a retired status can represent himself/herself to the public as a P.E. retired or a P.L.S. retired, as applicable, but cannot otherwise practice or offer to practice engineering and/or land surveying in Louisiana.

B. The board has established the following certification statuses for certificate holders.

Active Status—the certification status which exists for a certificate holder of the board who has complied with all the certification and certification renewal

requirements of the board and who has either elected to be in this status on his/her biennial certification renewal form or otherwise received authorization from the board to be in this status.

Expired Status—the certification status which exists for a certificate holder of the board who has either failed to properly renew certification as required in R.S. 37:697 or otherwise received authorization from the board to be in this status.

§2301. General

A. - B.3. ...

C. Unless otherwise provided, sole proprietorships which are not legal entities and which bear the full name of the owner who is a licensed professional are exempt from the application of this Chapter. Such sole proprietorships are not required to be licensed as engineering or land surveying firms with the board. Sole proprietorships which are not legal entities and which do not bear the full name of the owner who is a licensed professional must be licensed with the board as an engineering or land surveying firm and must comply with all the provisions of this Chapter. For purposes of this §2301.C, legal entities is defined as domestic or foreign partnerships, associations, cooperatives, ventures, corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, or other entities.

D. ...

§2305. Supervising Professional

A.1. Each firm licensed with the board shall designate one or more supervising professionals. Each supervising professional shall be a licensed professional in an active status:

A.1.a. - E. ...

§2501. Scope; Knowledge; Definition of Licensee

A. - E. ...

F. Licensees shall be truthful in all communications with the board. Licensees shall not engage in any fraud, deceit or perjury, make any material misstatements, or submit any false or forged evidence, in connection with such communications.

§3109. Exemptions

A. A licensee may be exempt from the CPD requirements in this Chapter for any one or more of the following reasons.

A.1. - A.3. ...

4. Licensees working in a location for more than 180 days in a calendar year where compliance with the CPD requirements is impractical due to location, working hours, mail restrictions, etc., may be granted an exemption from such requirements for said calendar year. Supporting documentation, such as a signed letter from the licensee's employer, is required. This documentation shall be on the letterhead of the employer, shall set forth both the location and the period of time in which the licensee has been working outside of the United States, and shall contain a statement by the employer as to why it was impractical for the licensee to satisfy the CPD requirements.

A.5. - A.6. ...

§3115. Record Keeping

A. ...

B. All licensees are required to obtain and maintain certificates, transcripts or other proof of attendance/completion substantiating any PDHs earned. Such certificates, transcripts or other proof should include, at a minimum, the dates and titles/descriptions of the courses/activities, the names of the sponsors/providers, the licensee's name, and the number of PDHs earned.

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- C. All licensees are required to maintain a board-approved professional development activity log outlining all PDHs claimed during a calendar year. Licensees must complete all sections of the log and be prepared to submit the completed log and any corresponding documentation to the board upon request. Blank log forms can be obtained from the board's website.
- D. Maintaining records to be used to support PDHs claimed is the responsibility of the licensee. These records must be maintained for at least six consecutive calendar years and copies may be requested by the board at any time.

§3117. Audit and Review of Records

Α. ..

B. Additionally, the board will conduct random audits twice per year in connection with impending biennial licensure renewals of up to 30% of all board licensees renewing in that calendar year. A license will not be renewed and will be deemed to have expired, unless the licensee provides proof of compliance with all CPD requirements and there are no discrepancies or deficiencies discovered.

C. - D. ...

Engineer/Architect Task Force

Mr. Carroll presented an overview and update on the Incidental Practice Task Force.

Applications

Application Reviews

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Committee, comprised of Mr. Pike and Mr. Richard, to *disapprove* the application of <u>Gavin James</u> for licensure as a professional engineer by comity based on not satisfying the educational requirements of the Board.

Committee Reports (continued)

Finance Committee

Mr. Richard presented the report for the Finance Committee.

The Board unanimously approved the motion by the Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to accept the finance report, through December 2020, as presented.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Benoit, to renew the certificate of deposit at United Community Bank when it matures on March 10, 2021.

Old/New Business

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to schedule the next Board meeting for March 22, 2021.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Pike, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, to approve funding for Mr. Jeter, Mr. Carroll, Chairman Coyle and Mr. Pike to attend the LSPS Convention, April 14-16, 2021 in Bossier City, LA.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Vosburg, to approve funding for Mr. Richard, Mr. Pike, Mr. Benoit, Ms. Betts, Ms. Bergeron, Mr. Jeter, Mr. Racca, Mr. Carroll and Mr. Vosburg to attend the JESC Conference, April 27-28, 2021 in Lafayette, LA.

Committee Reports (continued)

Nominations and Awards Committee

The Nominations and Awards Committee presented the following nominations for election of Board officers for 2021-2022:

Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E. – Chairman Christopher K. Richard, P.E. – Vice Chairman Chad C. Vosburg, P.E. – Treasurer Edgar P. Benoit, P.E. – Secretary

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Nominations and Awards Committee to elect these Board officers for 2021-2022 as nominated.

Closing Business

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve all committee recommendations and actions.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Vosburg, seconded by Mr. Benoit, 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. Racca, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to approve all Board expenses.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. on January 11, 2021.

Charles G. Coyle, III, P.L.S.

Chairman

Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E.

Secretary