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

At 9:00 a.m. on October 11, 2021, Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E. called the meeting to order at the Board's office in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the following members present:

Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E. Christopher K. Richard, P.E. Chad C. Vosburg, P.E. Edgar P. Benoit, P.E. Chairman
Vice Chairman
Treasurer
Secretary (via Zoom
video teleconferencing)

Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S. Linda H. Bergeron, P.E. Byron D. Racca, P.E. Connie P. Betts, P.E. Reginald L. Jeter, P.E. James H. Chustz, Jr., P.L.S. Janice P. Williams, P.E.

Also present:

Donna D. Sentell, Executive Director
Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director
Bill Tripoli, IT Director
D. Scott Landry, Board Attorney
Joe Harman, P.E., Technical Advisor
Janet Lindsey, Application Manager (via Zoom video teleconferencing)
LaTasha Andrews, Board Investigator (via Zoom video teleconferencing)
Chris Aaron, Board Investigator (via Zoom video teleconferencing)
William Hyatt, Board Investigator (via Zoom video teleconferencing)

The invocation was led by Mr. Vosburg and the pledge was led by Ms. Betts.

Public comment time was recognized by Chairman Pike.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Chustz, seconded by Mr. Jeter, to accept the October 11, 2021 proposed Call and Agenda for the meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Vosburg, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, to approve the minutes from the July 26, 2021 Board meeting.

Compliance and Enforcement

<u>Case # 2021-33</u> – Ms. Andrews reported on an unlicensed firm (that subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering 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 \$360.88
- 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. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **21 Design Group, Inc.**

<u>Case # 2021-46</u> – Ms. Andrews 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 \$360.88
- 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. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Benjamin J. Kuenzel, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2020-99</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional land surveyor who practiced and/or offered to practice land surveying with an expired 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 \$589.07
- 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 **Timothy L. Collins, P.L.S.**

<u>Case # 2020-100</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on a professional engineering and professional land surveying firm whose representative practiced and/or offered to practice land surveying with an expired 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 \$589.07
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz by each land surveying supervising professional
- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz by each land surveying supervising professional
- 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 **C. P. S. Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc.**

<u>Case # 2021-14</u> – Mr. Aaron reported on an unlicensed firm (that subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering 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 \$498.95
- 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. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Structure Sight LLC**.

<u>Case # 2021-19</u> – Mr. Aaron 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 \$498.95
- 3. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz

- 4. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz
- 5. 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
- 6. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 7. Report to NCEES with name

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

Case # 2021-37 – Mr. Aaron reported on an unlicensed firm (that subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm) which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering and used the words "engineer", "engineering" or any modifications or derivatives thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity 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 \$278.43
- 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. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Ulteig Engineers, Inc.**

<u>Case # 2020-35</u> – Mr. Hyatt reported on an unlicensed firm (that subsequently became licensed as a professional engineering firm) which practiced and/or offered to practice 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 \$3,000
- 2. Costs of \$166.91
- 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. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter, to approve the signed consent order. The Respondent is **Hardy Engineering, Inc**.

<u>2020-105</u> – Mr. Hyatt 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 \$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. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter, to approve the signed consent order. The Respondent is **Timothy L. Hardy, P.E.**

<u>Case # 2021-4</u> – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineering firm which practiced and/or offered to practice engineering with an expired 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 \$5,000
- 2. Costs of \$465.56
- 3. Past unpaid renewal fees of \$240
- 4. Louisiana Laws & Rules Quiz by each supervising professional
- 5. Louisiana Professionalism & Ethics Quiz by each supervising professional
- 6. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 7. Report to NCEES with name

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

<u>Case # 2020-36</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 renewal 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 \$1,149.87
- 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. Benoit, Ms. Betts and Mr. Jeter, to approve the signed consent order. The name of the respondent is **Robert V. Nangia, P.E.**

Case # 2020-44 – Mr. Hyatt reported on a professional engineer who (a) prior to licensure practiced and/or offered to practice engineering and used the words "engineer", "engineering" or any modifications or derivatives thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity without proper licensure, (b) was rendered ineligible for renewal of licensure as a professional engineer based on not being, in the opinion of the Board, of good character and reputation, (c) aided or assisted another person in violating the laws and/or rules of the Board, (d) presented or attempted to use as one's own the license, certificate, seal or stamp of another person and (e) falsely impersonated a licensee or certificate holder of a like or different name. 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. Costs of \$3,730.64
- 2. Expired license permanently ineligible for renewal
- 3. License to be immediately revoked if respondent fails to comply with any portion of the consent order
- 4. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 5. 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 **Daniel R. Roseman, P.E.** (expired).

<u>Case # 2020-45</u> – Mr. Hyatt reported on an unlicensed firm which (a) practiced and/or offered to practice engineering and used the words "engineer", "engineering" or any modifications or derivatives thereof in a person's name or form of business or activity without proper licensure, (b) had a representative who presented or attempted to use as one's own the license, certificate, seal or stamp of another person and (c) had a representative who falsely impersonated a licensee or certificate holder of a like or different name. 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. Costs of \$3,730.64
- 2. Cease and desist
- 3. Ensure that its employees, owners, officers and representatives cease and desist
- 4. Publication on the Board's website and in the Journal with name
- 5. 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 **U.S. Aquatics, Inc.**

The Board recessed at 10:20 a.m. and resumed at 10:30 a.m.

Committee Reports

Firm Licensure Committee

Mr. Racca presented the report for the Firm Licensure Committee.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Firm Licensure Committee to affirm the reviewing committee's decision to *disapprove* the application of **Engineered Comfort Services, Inc.** for licensure as a professional engineering firm based on not designating a supervising professional.

Mr. Landry exited the meeting at 10:48 a.m.

Applications

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Fontenot, seconded by Mr. Chustz, to deny the request of **Anthony R. Venson** for reinstatement of his revoked professional engineer license.

Committee Reports (continued)

Finance Committee

Mr. Vosburg presented the report for the Finance Committee.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to accept the finance report for FY 21-22 as presented.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to add Cheron Seaman, Deputy Executive Director, as an authorized signatory on all existing certificates of deposits.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with **D'Pat, L.L.C.**, to serve as technical advisor to the Board. The term of the contract will be for 32 months beginning November 2021 and ending June 30, 2024, in the annual amount not to exceed \$30,000.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by the Finance Committee to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the **Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors (LSPS)** to assist in the development of the Louisiana Laws of Land Surveying Examination. The term of the contract will be for three years beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2024, in the annual amount not to exceed \$5,600.

Chairman Pike charged the Finance Committee with reviewing the Board's current fee structure for all applications and renewals and making a recommendation at the next Board meeting.

Nominations and Awards Committee

Chairman Pike, on behalf of the Nominations and Awards Committee, presented the following nominations for election of Board officers for 2022-23, to be voted on at the February 2022 Board meeting:

Christopher K. Richard, P.E. – Chairman Chad C. Vosburg, P.E. – Vice Chairman Edgar P. Benoit, P.E. – Secretary Wilfred J. Fontenot, P.L.S. - Treasurer

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:53 a.m. and resumed at 12:10 p.m.

Old/New Business

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Racca, to schedule the next Board meeting for Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

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The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Mr. Fontenot, to schedule the Board's Alumni Reunion meeting for April 3–4, 2022.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Vosburg, seconded by Ms. Bergeron, to schedule the additional 2022-23 Board meetings on the following dates:

Sunday/Monday - April 3-4, 2022 - Alumni Reunion meeting Monday - May 23, 2022 Monday - July 25, 2022 Monday - October 10, 2022

Chairman Pike appointed an ad hoc committee, comprised of Board emeritus members Alan D. Krouse, P.E. and Thomas R. Carroll, III, P.E., P.L.S. and current Board members Ms. Betts and Mr. Chustz, to assist the Executive Director with the plans for the Alumni Reunion meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Ms. Betts, seconded by Ms. Williams, to allocate \$25,000 for the Alumni Reunion meeting.

Closing Business

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

The Board unanimously approved the motion made by Mr. Jeter, seconded by Ms. Bergeron, 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. Vosburg, seconded by Ms. Betts, to approve all Board expenses.

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m. on October 11, 2021.

Jeffrey A. Pike, P.E.

Chairman

Edgar P. Benoit, P.E.

Secretary