

MINUTES
GOVERNMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
UT Thompson Conference Center
2405 Robert Dedman Drive
Room 2.108
Austin, Texas 78758
June 6, 2014 - 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER The Government Advisory Committee meeting was called to Order by Victoria Li, P.E., Chair at 10 am at the UT Thompson Conference Center located at 2405 Robert Dedman Drive in Austin, TX.

1. **Introduction of Committee Members and welcome visitors.**
2. **Public comment.** None.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

3. **Discuss and possibly approve the May 31, 2013, Government Advisory Committee Minutes.**
The Committee unanimously approved the minutes.
4. **Update on Issues from the Board.**
 - **TBPE Update.**
Mr. Clark reported on ongoing agency activities.
 - **New DED and Director of Licensing.**
Mr. Clark reported on the hiring of the Board's new Deputy Executive Director, Mr. David Howell, P.E., and the new Director of Licensing, Mr. Robert Opiela, P.E.
 - **Law & Rule Changes.**
Mr. Clark reviewed the law and rule changes that were published in the last newsletter.
 - **Criminal History Record Check Update.**
The CHRC became effective January 2014. The committee discussed the process for getting CHRC completed in a timely manner and options for completing the process by employees, including on-location fingerprinting by the vendor.
 - **Computer Based Testing Update.**
Mr. Clark reported that the FE exam converted to computer based testing in January 2014. No problems had been encountered so far. Advantages include increase options for taking the exam (location and dates) and exam results are reported in 7-10 days which is faster than before Software Engineering Update.
 - **International Licensure Update.**
Mr. Clark reported that TBPE has current Memoranda of Understanding with Canada, Australia, Mexico, Japan, and is working on an agreement with South Korea.
 - **Policy Advisory Opinion Update.**
Mr. Clark reminded committee members that policy advisories are posted on our website. He reviewed the process for submitting a Policy Advisory to the Board. If anyone has any questions, they can contact him.
5. **Strategic Plan Update.**
Mr. Clark led a brief strategic planning brainstorming session with attendees.

What are some issues you see coming up in the next year? 2 years? By 2020?

- 1 yr.
 - Trends
 - FE/PE examinee numbers/Passing Numbers
- Does Committee have data to show threats to licensure, government, practice in general, practice in Texas?
- Decision in quality of designs submitted to cities for review/permitting.
- Passing experience down from older PEs to newer PEs

- Reduction in number of PEs vs People going into industry.
- More discussions TBPE/TBAE on possible overlap issues RE: grading/drainage by Landscape Architect

What are some suggestions on ways TBPE could address these issues or generally improve?

- Active Committee presentations to Board of meeting results.
- Encourage greater societies focus on profession

6. Discussion of Agency Visibility and Outreach Efforts.

How can TBPE communicate better with your constituency / stakeholders? (Methods / Messages)

- Coordination of Government with local schools
- Outreach with Government Elected Officials
- Texas City Managers/ICML. Outreach to TML.
- Have associations fund Board outreach program.

7. Discussion of Faculty Licensure.

Mr. Clark commented that the Licensing Task Force has developed some language for the possibility of presenting at the next Legislative Session. Dr. Jim Nelson, P.E., Licensing Task Force Chair will be meeting with engineering societies to discuss the proposed language, and possibly moving forward for consideration by the Legislators.

8. Issues for discussion from Committee members.

- Halloween Flood in Austin, TX

Ms. Li shared the recent flooding disaster that occurred in South Austin, and all the families that were affected.

9. Issues for discussion at Joint Education, Government, and Industry Meeting.

Faculty Licensure.

10. Issues for consideration at next scheduled meeting.

None.

11. Adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 12pm.

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