

MINUTES
LICENSING COMMITTEE MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
1917 IH35 SOUTH, BOARD ROOM, AUSTIN, TX 78741
FEBRUARY 11, 2015— 1:00 PM

Call to Order. Lamberto “Bobby” Ballí, P.E., Chair, called the Licensing Committee meeting to order at 1:01 pm on February 11, 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
Jim Greer, P.E.	Member (Excused Absence)
Sam Kannappan, P.E.	Member

A quorum was present. Ms. Veena Mohan, Assistant Attorney General, was present to provide legal counsel to the Board. Mr. Jose I. Guerra, P.E., Emeritus Board Member, was present.

The following staff members were present:

Lance Kinney, P.E.	Executive Director
David Howell, P.E.	Deputy Executive Director
Robert Opiela, P.E.	Director of Licensing
Dewey Helmcamp, J.D.	Staff Attorney
Salvador Sanchez	Licensing Specialist
Dorothy Gonzales	Executive Assistant

Visitors. Yolanda Blaszczyk; Crespín Guzman, P.E., American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE); John Shields; Robert Bond.

Personal Interviews: Brian Everitt, Laurence Thomas, Ernest Blaszczyk, Jorge Gonzalez, Ryan Raske, Ray Thomas, Kayli Browne, Jonathan Caldwell, Jacob Reneson, Steven Kalinowski, Ivan Bass, Damon Johnson, Kole Weber, John Miner.

2. Public comment. None.

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

3. Discuss and possibly approve the November 19, 2014, Licensing Committee Minutes.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan/Baker) to approve the November 19, 2014, Licensing Committee minutes as submitted. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

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

Brian Everitt. This applicant applied for a waiver of the FE and requesting to take the PE exam. On August 28, 2014, the Board placed his application on hold, requested he submit a PE reference from his current employer after one year of employment and non-PE references from past engineering employers, and reappear before the Licensing Committee. The applicant has fulfilled all requirements by the Board. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan /Baker) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the waiver of the FE exam and allow the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Laurence Thomas. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. On May 23, 2013, the Board directed the applicant to take the Level III Ethics course and reappear before the Licensing Committee. The applicant has completed all the Board requirements. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Baker/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Ernest Blaszczyk. 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/Baker) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Jorge Gonzalez. This applicant applied for licensure in Texas. He has passed both the FE and 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 (Baker/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant be licensed in Texas. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Ryan Raske. This applicant applied for licensure in Texas. He has passed both the FE and 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/Baker) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant be licensed in Texas. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Ray McClendon Thomas. 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/Baker) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Kayli Ann Browne. This applicant applied to take the PE exam. She came before the Committee due to an unreported criminal incident. She has completed the terms related to the criminal incident. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, her experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Baker/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Jonathan Salmons Caldwell. This applicant applied for a waiver of the FE and requesting 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 (Baker/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the waiver of the FE exam and allow the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Jacob Reneson. This applicant applied for licensure in Texas. He has passed both the FE and PE exam. He came before the Committee due to recent criminal incidents. He has completed the terms related to the criminal incidents. The Committee and applicant discussed the incidents, his experience, and lessons learned.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Baker/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant be licensed in Texas. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED 2 to 1; Ballí against.

Steven A. Kalinowski. This applicant applied for licensure in Texas. He has passed both the FE and 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 (Baker/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant be licensed in Texas. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Ivan Phillip Bass. 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 (Baker/Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam after successful completion of the Level II Ethics Course and submission of documentation to staff within one year. He does not need to reappear before the Committee. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Damon R. Johnson. This applicant applied for licensure in Texas. 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 (Baker /Kannappan) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant to be licensed in Texas after successful completion of the Level I Ethics Course submission of documentation to staff within 1 year. He does not need to reappear before the Committee. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Kole Weber. 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 (Ballí/Baker) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to approve the applicant to take the PE exam. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

John Miner. This applicant is a former Texas licensee requesting to re-licensure. The applicant requested a waiver of both the FE and PE exams. Since a PE exam waiver was requested, his application was circulated among board members who voted for the applicant to come before the Licensing committee. The Committee and the applicant discussed a prior criminal incident, his experience, and lessons learned

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Ballí/Baker) to recommend to the Board at its Regular Quarterly Meeting on February 12, 2015, to have the applicant take the Level III Ethics Course, and reappear before the Licensing Committee within less than 1 year. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

5. **Criminal History Record Check.**

Mr. Howell reviewed the report submitted as an exhibit with Committee members. Mr. Ballí requested that an end of year report and that narrative summary be included in the newsletter.

6. Discussion on early Professional Engineer (PE) exam.

Mr. Howell shared the NCEES model law that was adopted regarding taking the PE exam before the required experience. The applicant would still have to meet the state board's requirements before becoming a PE in the prospective state. Staff provided a flow chart of how the process may work for the Board. The Board would also have to adopt rule changes to align with the new process. The Committee directed staff to share this information with the all the societies for comment.

7. Continuing Education Program.

Mr. Kinney reported that there was a question regarding what type of documents the Board accepts as proof of attendance. One document that was shared with the Board was from a society's conference and allowed the participant to select which courses / sessions they attended and self-certify their attendance. The Board staff talked to the society point of contact and suggested that a signature on the form would reinforce the proof of attendance. Mr. Ballí commented that the Board is not in the practice of approving or promoting continuing education programs. The Professional Engineers should know what benefits their practice.

8. International Agreements.

Mr. Kinney reported that he has a new contact from South Korea. The newly appointed minister would like to review the signed MRA and get back with us later. Mr. Guerra is assisting with providing new contacts from Mexico. Discussions with Spain are in the works.

9. Licensing Director's Report.

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

Mr. Opiela reviewed the application and examination included as an exhibit with the Committee members.

10. Issues for consideration and schedule next meeting.

Potential program to keep Engineers In Training (EIT) engaged until licensure.

Possible rule proposal regarding taking the PE exam early may be presented at the next scheduled meeting.

11. Adjourn.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Kannappan/Ballí) to adjourn the Committee meeting at 4:54 pm. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Committee approved minutes as submitted:

May 20, 2015

Date Board accepted minutes:

May 21, 2015