



MINUTES
BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING EXAMINERS
ENGINEER COMMITTEE MEETING
Davy Crockett Tower
Nashville, Tennessee
Wednesday, June 1, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Committee Chair Hal Balthrop, P.E., Robert Campbell, Jr., P.E., called the Engineer Committee meeting to order at 1:14 p.m. on June 1, 2016, in Room 1-B of the Davy Crockett Tower at 500 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee.

The following **Engineer Board members** were present:

Robert Campbell, Jr., P.E.	East TN Member
Philip Lim, PE	West TN Member
Laura Reinbold	Middle TN Associate Member
Stephen King	East TN Associate Member

A quorum was present.

The following **Board staff** was present for part or all of the meeting:

John Cothron	Executive Director
Benjamin Glover	Legal Counsel
Zack Nitzschke	Paralegal
Wanda Phillips	Administrative Manager

Visitors present: Kasey Anderson, Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers/American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee (TSPE/ACEC-TN); Brian T. McCormack, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Regulatory Boards.

NEW BUSINESS

APPLICATIONS AND AUDITS FOR DISCUSSION

- **Eric Russell Jervis** (Exam) – Following discussion, the committee concluded that Mr. Jervis needs more experience under the direct supervision of a professional engineer.
- **Aaron Thomas O’Hern** (Exam) – Mr. Lim requested discussion of this application due to an apparent lack of direct supervision by a professional engineer. Following discussion, committee members agreed to approve the application.
- **Adam Blake Walker** (Exam) – Mr. Campbell requested discussion of this application due to concerns about the applicant’s experience. Following discussion, committee members agreed to approve the application.
- **James F. Brogdon** (Continuing Education Audit) – Mr. King requested discussion of the registrant’s continuing education claim for service on a Tennessee Technological University Advisory Board. The committee concluded that this activity was allowed by Rule 0120-05-.06(2)(i).
- **William McCord** (Continuing Education Audit) – Mr. McCord requested that the committee review his audit to determine the acceptability of his continuing education documentation. The committee concluded that the documentation was not acceptable, with the exception of four (4) hours, and that the registrant would have 180 days to earn other hours to remedy the deficiency.

APPLICANT INTERVIEWS

The following interviews were conducted by teleconference:

- **Ashish Ghosh** (Comity) – A NCEES evaluation determined that the applicant’s degree is deficient 15 semester hours in mathematics/basic sciences and 12 semester hours in general education. The general education deficiency was remedied by the applicant’s graduate degree and experience, leaving a deficiency in mathematics/basic sciences. At the request of the committee, the educational record was sent to Dr. John W. Smith for evaluation, who determined that he could not properly evaluate Mr. Ghosh’s graduate courses without detailed course descriptions. Following discussion, the committee requested that Mr. Ghosh provide additional information on his graduate courses for Dr. Smith’s review.
- **Asit N. Baxi** (Comity) – A NCEES evaluation determined that the applicant’s degree is deficient 16 semester hours in mathematics/basic sciences and 16 semester hours in

general education. The general education deficiency was remedied by the applicant's graduate degree and experience, leaving a deficiency in mathematics/basic sciences. At the request of the committee, the educational record was sent to Dr. John W. Smith for review, who determined that Dr. Baxi would need to complete one chemistry course and one physics course. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Campbell and seconded to approve the application on the basis that Dr. Baxi's Ph.D. dissertation research adequately addressed any chemistry or physics deficiencies. The motion carried unanimously.

ENGINEERING EXAM RESULTS

Mr. Cothron reviewed the engineering examination results for January-April 2016, and noted that the number of candidates sitting for the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam continues to increase. The committee requested that Mr. Cothron provide data for the schools in future reports.

2017 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Mr. Cothron noted that T.C.A. § 62-2-401(a)(1) requires that applicants for engineer registration, in addition to the education and experience requirements, be certified as an engineer intern in order to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) examination. Although most states, including Tennessee, certify individuals as engineer interns after passing the FE examination, some states do not offer this certification. Consequently, Mr. Cothron proposed that this section of the law be amended to simply state that applicants for engineer registration must have passed the FE exam, which is the intent of the law as currently written. There were no objections to this proposal.

DESIGNATE DELEGATES FOR NCEES ANNUAL MEETING

Mr. Cothron recommended that the following individuals be designated to attend the NCEES Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana on August 24-27, 2016:

Robert Campbell, Jr. (NCEES-funded delegate)

Laura Reinbold (NCEES-funded delegate)

Ricky Bursi (state-funded)

Philip Lim (state-funded)

John Cothron (state-funded)

Benjamin Glover (state-funded)

By consensus, the committee agreed with this proposal.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

EXAM APPLICATION PROCESS DISCUSSION

Assistant Commissioner Brian T. McCormack discussed a proposal to remove the requirement for the Board to authorize engineer applicants to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam. Under this process, individuals would not apply for registration until they have already passed the PE exam. The committee requested that additional information be provided before moving forward with this initiative.

LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN PE/FE EXAMINERS COUNCIL (JPEC)

Mr. Cothron reported that he has contacted JPEC, and they are interested in establishing an agreement with the Tennessee Board. A representative from JPEC will be in attendance at the NCEES Annual Meeting and will meet with Board members to exchange information.

ENERGY SERVICE COMPANIES AND ENGINEERING REGISTRATION LAWS

Mr. Cothron reported that he has contacted the Georgia Board regarding the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) and has invited an officer of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of AEE to attend a future committee meeting to discuss the certifications they offer.

Mr. Lim noted that the Tennessee Valley Authority is monitoring the activities of a company named Future Energy Solutions.

Adjourn. Mr. Campbell adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.