

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held at 215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chairperson Mann called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m. and noted the location of the Open Meetings Act. Per the Open Meetings Act, a notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on June 27, 2024, and on the Board's website.

Roll Call: Nancy Mann, Chairperson; Jeffrey Seymour, Vice-Chairperson; Cara Burberry, Douglas Hallum, Michael O'Hara; Absent: Charles Joyce, Secretary; Ralph Martin

Staff Present: Diana Stahlnecker, Administrative Programs Officer (APO); Jean Lais, Administrative Programs Officer (APO).

Chair Mann appointed Vice Chair Seymour as Secretary for the day in Joyce's absence.

PUBLIC COMMENT/APPOINTMENTS

A. CONSENT AGENDA

[April 3, 2024, Meeting Minutes](#)

Motion by Hallum, second by Seymour, to approve the consent agenda. Voting Yes: Hallum, Seymour, O'Hara, Mann; Voting No: None; Abstain: Burberry; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

B. MEETING REPORTS

[Nebraska Geological Society](#)

There will be a two-day field trip around August 8 and 9. The trip will start in Franklin, NE, continue to Superior, NE, and end in Superior, NE, and continue to Superior, NE, and end in Grand Island, NE. Training will cover hydrogeology and geophysical watering. Each day will be worth six continuing education hours.

The annual meeting will be an all-day event at Schramm Park on September 15, 2024, including a cookout.

[Office/Staff](#)

As mentioned at the April meeting, the Board of Engineers and Architects received funding for a new staff position, starting July 1, 2024. The position will assist with compliance cases and outreach. The hiring process has begun.

APO Lais updated the members on the status of the new database. Geologist renewals are scheduled to go live by November 1st, and testing will begin.

C. OLD BUSINESS

Legislative

[Statute Revisions](#)

Staff and O'Hara presented new revision recommendations for §§ 81-3518, 81-3520(1)(a), 81-3531, 81-3531(2), 81-3539(5), 81-3529(3)(d), 81-3541(1)(a), 81-3528. After discussion, the following revisions were made:

- 81-3518 – Revised to read, "Responsible charge means personal responsibility for the technical and financial aspects of geologic work through (1) personal action, (2) management in an organization, or (3) by direct supervision.
- 81-3520(1)(a) *Revised* – Change formatting and add that the education member is not required to be a professional geologist – Separate the education member requirements from the other professional geologist requirements
 - Five professional geologists;

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

- One professional geologist or geologist who is a...; and
- One public member.
- 81-3529(3)(d) – changed *control* to *responsible charge*.
- 81-3531(2) – Revised to read, “An applicant for renewal of a certificate of licensure or certificate of authorization shall apply in the method prescribed by the board....”
- 81-3539 – New pathway for individuals working in an exempt field:
 - An individual who has practiced in an exempt field listed in section 81-3541 for fifteen or more years may apply to the board to be licensed as a professional geologist. The board may require an individual applying under this subsection to pass an examination on the statutes, rules, and other requirements unique to Nebraska. An individual applying under this section shall submit to the board:
 - An application accompanied by the fee established by the board;
 - Documentation of fifteen or more years of geologic experience in the exempted field;
 - Verification the applicant has successfully completed a minimum of thirty semester hours or forty-five quarter hours of coursework that includes coursework in the content domains as established in the rules and regulations of the board; and
 - Submission of one or more acceptable written references.
- 81-3541(1)(a) – changed *direct supervision* to *responsible charge*.

No further revisions are being made to 81-3528. Staff recommended the additional requirement for licensees to report disciplinary action within 14 days to Rules.

The next step is for APO Lais to send the revisions to the Revisor of Statutes for consideration as legislative drafts. A senator must also be found to sponsor the bill during the 2025 legislative session.

Motion by Hallum, second by Seymour, to approve the revision to § 81-3518 as presented. Voting Yes: Seymour, O’Hara, Hallum, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: None; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

Motion by Seymour, second by O’Hara, to approve the revisions to 81-3520(1)(a) as discussed. Voting Yes: Seymour, O’Hara, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: Hallum; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

Motion by Hallum, second by Seymour, to approve the revision to § 81-3529(3)(d) as discussed. Voting Yes: Seymour, O’Hara, Hallum, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: None; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

Motion by Hallum, second by Seymour, to approve the revision to § 81-3531(2) as discussed. Voting Yes: Seymour, O’Hara, Hallum, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: None; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

Motion by Hallum, second by Seymour, to approve the revision to § 81-3541(1)(a) as discussed. Voting Yes: Seymour, O’Hara, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: Hallum; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

Motion by Hallum, second by Seymour, to approve the addition of the alternate pathway for individuals working in an exempt field. Voting Yes: Seymour, O’Hara, Hallum, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: None; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

Other Old Business – None

D. NEW BUSINESS

ASBOG

2024 Annual Meetings and Fall COE Workshop – October 22-26, 2024 – Fort Collins, CO

Chairperson Mann was approved to attend the annual meeting and COE Workshop, October 22-26, 2024, in Fort Collins, CO. Joyce was approved as the backup delegate. APO Stahlnecker was approved to attend the Administrative Workshop and Annual Meeting.

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

Chairperson Mann was appointed the voting delegate, with Joyce as the backup.

Motion by Hallum, second by Seymour, to authorize Chairperson Mann to attend the ASBOG Annual Meeting and COE Workshop, with Joyce as the backup, and APO Diana Stahlnecker to attend the Administrative Workshop and the Annual Meeting and appoint Chairperson Mann as the voting delegate and Joyce as the backup. Voting Yes: Seymour, O'Hara, Hallum, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: None; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

Other New Business – None

[Strategic Plan Review](#)

A copy of the current *Strategic Plan* was provided. The discussion was tabled until the August 28, 2024, meeting.

E. COMPLIANCE – None

F. APPLICATIONS

Core Course Equivalency Chart and Rationale

The Core Course Equivalence Chart and Rationale were provided.

Administratively Approved

[Certificates of Authorization](#)

Approved: Bay West LLC

[Temporary Permits – None](#)

Licensure/Examinations

[Licensure from Other Jurisdictions – None](#)

[Licensure by Initial](#)

Approved: Christopher Norris Elofson

[Licensure by Experience – None](#)

[Licensure by Reinstatement](#)

Approved: G-0298 Matthew John Rhoades

[FG Exam](#)

Approved: Jeremy James Caird, Thomas Henry Jacobi II, Skylar Jace Kaminski

[PG Exam](#)

Approved: Travis Anthony Herman, James Bredin Lowe, Taylor Suzanne Young

[FG/PG Exam Approvals - None](#)

Motion by Seymour, second by Hallum, to approve the applications. Voting Yes: Seymour, O'Hara, Hallum, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: None; Absent: Joyce, Martin.

G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports – April, May, June

[Budget Status Report](#)

[MTD General Ledger Detail Reports](#)

[Fund Summary Reports](#)

[FY23-24 Financial Profile](#)

Motion by Seymour, second by Hallum, to approve the financial reports as presented. Voting Yes: Seymour, O'Hara, Hallum, Burberry, Mann; Voting No: None; Absent: Joyce, Martin

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2024, 1:00 p.m.
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

Other Financial Matters

[FY2024-25 Initial Budget Status](#)

APO Lais provided a spreadsheet showing the initial FY2024-25 Budget Status numbers. As the administrative service contract was higher than anticipated, funds were moved from the *Board and Lodging* and the \$297.56 in carryover funds from FY2023-24 to cover the difference. The Board will need to monitor other costs to ensure funds are available.

[2025-27 Biennium Budget Request](#)

The spreadsheet and copies of the draft narrative were provided for review and discussion. The draft must be entered into the budget request system by August 4, 2024. Final approval will occur at the August 28, 2024, meeting at 1:00 p.m. for submittal by the September 15, 2024, due date.

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

[Board Meeting Schedule](#)

[Board Member Roster](#)

[Trends in Licensure](#)

Numbers as of July 3, 2024

Professional Geologists	295
Certificates of Authorization	63
Temporary Permits.....	0

Other Information


[Website Dashboard Report](#)

April Total Visits.....	262
May Total Visits	428
June Total Visits.....	312

The approved Board policies as of January 20, 2021, were provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mann to adjourn the meeting at 3:22 p.m.

 _____ 10/9/2024
Board Member