

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – April 2nd, 2025, 1:00 pm
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held at 215 Centennial Mall S, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chairperson Martin called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. and noted the location of the Open Meetings Act. Per the Open Meetings Act, a meeting notice was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on December 31, 2024, and on the Board's website.

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

Staff Present: Cole Gressley, Administrative Programs Officer (APO) Jean Lais, Administrative Programs Officer (APO)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Motion by Hallum, second by Ohara, to elect Seymour as Chairperson, Joyce as Vice-Chair, and Burberry as Secretary. Voting Yes: Burberry, Hallum, Joyce, O'Hara, Mann, Seymour; Voting No: None; Absent: Martin

PUBLIC COMMENT/APPOINTMENTS

A. CONSENT AGENDA

[January 15, 2025, Rules making Hearing Minutes](#)

Mann notes that at the previous meeting Martin and Joyce were absent and the meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

[January 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes](#)

Mann notes that the previous meeting was called to order by Mann.

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

B. MEETING REPORTS

[Nebraska Geological Society](#)

Burberry reported there is a meeting coming up April 17th, in Waterloo, at 6 pm for dinner, the meeting does not have a speaker yet, no program yet, and remains uncertain on field trip on agenda.

[Office/Staff](#)

APO Gressley informed the Board that the office is currently interviewing for a new Office Specialist (OS). Also discussed was the progression of the database on licensing system. APO Gressley informed the Board that there has not been much new material to discuss, however due to an issue when setting up Landscape Architects, licensing system ran into a problem the format change will take longer than expected.

C. OLD BUSINESS

Legislative

[Geologist Regulation Act Revisions Update](#)

Joyce mentioned that removing the length of test time means that the Board would need to hold onto the test date indefinitely. Seymour mentioned that he is ok with current provisions. Mann tabled Ch.4 review (ASBOG) for further discussion in July. The Board will wait to discuss further in July, no motion.

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – April 2nd, 2025, 1:00 pm
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

LB 38

Motion by O'Hara, second by Burberry, to agree to look at the additional items considered until the next meeting. Voting Yes: O'Hara, Burberry, Hallum, Mann, Seymour; Voting No: None; Absent: Martin

Other Old Business – None

D. NEW BUSINESS

Legislative

Introduced Bills of Interest

A copy of the introduced bills of interest to the Board was provided.

- **LB29** would revise the mandatory rules and regulations required in the Occupational Board Reform Act from five to three years to be completed by June 30th. The responsible standing committee would be required to submit their report by December 31st.
- **LB38** – Revisions to the Geologists Regulation Act
- **LB190**—Provides duties for the Legislative Performance Audit Committee—The bill would require all agencies to undergo a performance audit every five years.
- **LB221** – Provides a procedure to fill unfilled gubernatorial appointments.
- **LB261** – 2025-27 Biennium Budget Bill – The Governor's recommendation does not include the additional travel expenses requested to hold a board meeting in Western Nebraska.
- **LB317** – Merges the Department of Natural Resources with the Department of Environment and Energy to create the Department of Water, Energy, and Environment.
- **LB346** – Provides for the termination of boards, commissions, committees, councils, funds, panels, task forces, and acts, and eliminates funds, and powers and duties of departments and agencies. The Board of Geologists is not included in the bill.
- **LB472** – Adopts the Regulatory Management Act
- **LB565** – Provides and changes requirements related to agency guidance documents.
- **LB634** – Adopts the Legislative Sunset Review Act. The Act would require a sunset review of agencies every five years.
- **LB664** – Changes the Administrative Procedures Act to require agencies to allow for public comment and submissions on proposed rules and regulations and change the permissible venue for civil actions challenging rules and regulations.
- **LB696** – Changes to the Professional Landscape Architects Act

Rules Revisions

ASBOG- none

Other New Business

Strategic Plan Review

A copy of the current Strategic Plan and the final senator letter packet were provided. The letter was sent to all state senators on December 20, 2024.

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – April 2nd, 2025, 1:00 pm
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

Review of Core Course Equivalency Chart and Rationale

Further discussion tabled

Documenting Your Geologic Experience Guidelines Review

At the October 2024 meeting, the members expressed the desire to review the *Documenting Your Geologic Experience Guidelines*. A copy of the current guidelines was provided.

The review of the guidelines was tabled until the April 2025 to be reviewed with the other items reviewed on an annual basis. No action was taken

August 2nd, Burberry suggested, and the Board agreed to revise documented record of a minimum of five years to four years of progressive experience.

Letter to Senators

No comments

Motion by Hallum, second by Burberry to approve pending changes in documenting of geologic experiences.

Voting Yes: O'Hara, Burberry, Hallum, Seymour, Joyce, Mann; Voting No: None; Absent: Martin

E. COMPLIANCE – None

F. APPLICATIONS

The Core Course Equivalency Chart and Rationale were provided.

Administratively Approved

Certificates of Authorization

Approved: CAG0125 Northwest AqwaTek Solutions LLC, CAG0524 BGC Engineering USA Inc

Temporary Permits - None

Licensure/Examinations

Licensure from Other Jurisdictions- None

Licensure by Experience

Approved: William Cody Duckworth

Licensure by Reinstatement - None

FG Exam Approvals - None

FG/PG Exam Approvals - None

PG Exam Approvals - None

Motion by Joyce, second by Seymour, to approve the applications as presented and reviewed, pending verification of Washington license of Duckworth in good standing. Voting Yes: O'Hara, Burberry, Hallum, Joyce, Mann, Seymour; Voting No: None; Absent: Martin

Board moved to take a recess at 1:34 to wait for APO Lais

APO Lais joined the meeting at 1:40 pm.

Meeting was called back to order at 1:42 pm.

G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports – January, February, March

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – April 2nd, 2025, 1:00 pm
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

Budget Status Report

APO Lais discussed the status through March 27th. IBT Services contract was ran on Monday and now included. Board will be under projection for the year. Joyce questioned on line 475103 renewal fees, over whether that is the sum or the difference. APO Lais stated that is the sum, and that we are almost on target for renewals. There are a few exam applications that are in process.

MTD General Ledger Detail Reports

Fund Summary Reports

Cash fund sits at 56338.60

FY24-25 Financial Profile

APO Lais reported that as of December 31, 2024, 50.4% of the fiscal year elapsed, 51.23% of the appropriated expenses had been used, and 73.57% of the projected revenue had been received. The Cash Fund was \$59,440.75, which is \$6,056 lower than last year.

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

Other Financial Matters

2025-2027 Biennium Budget Bil

A copy of LB261, the 2025-2027 biennium budget bill, was provided. The Governor's recommendation does not include the additional travel expenses requested related to holding one board meeting a year in Western Nebraska. Discussion was held as to whether other funds could be moved around to still allow. One suggestion was to send only one member to the ASBOG Annual meetings and COE workshops.

The Appropriations Committee recommendation has not been released. It was determined that the Board would not pursue the additional funds if the committee's recommendation did not include them. As a result, staff will submit a letter of support to the Committee before the hearing.

The requested appropriations were \$40,591 in FY2025-26 and \$41,159 in FY2026-27.

FY25-26 Administrative Service Contract

The contract between the Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA) provides administrative services to the Board. Staff time spent on NEBOG was averaged over the last three calendar years. The resulting percentage is applied to the appropriated expenses for the contract period and the cost of travel to the National Association of Boards of Geology (AS BOG) annual meetings. The cost for the FY 2023-24 contract is \$18,109, to be billed on a quarterly basis. Additional services provided outside the provided services list will be charged at a weighted hourly rate of \$21.031 and must have signed approval. The contract reflects a \$1,695 increase over the FY2022-23 contract.

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

Motion by Joyce, second by Ohara, to approve administrative services contract Voting Yes: O'Hara, Burberry, Hallum, Joyce, Mann, Seymour; Voting No: None; Absent: Martin

Review of Fee Schedule

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes – April 2nd, 2025, 1:00 pm
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

Reviewed and in the process of revision through rules promulgation process. The board discussed how raising fees will lead to a loss of some licensees, however, they agreed that the one-time fee raise is better than changing fees yearly.

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and events was provided. The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at 215 Centennial Mall Sout, Lincoln, Nebraska.

[Trends in Licensure](#)

Numbers as of March 26, 2025

Professional Geologists	286
Certificates of Authorization	62
Temporary Permits.....	0

Other Information

[Website Analytics](#)

The approved Board policies as of October 9, 2024, were provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mann, second by OHara, to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 pm

Board Member