

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-Chairperson Martin called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., and noted the location of the Open Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on December 29, 2022, and also on the Board's website in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Roll Call:, Ralph Martin, Harmon Maher, Nancy Mann, Jeffrey Seymour, Michael O'Hara, Charles Joyce, Douglas Hallum

Absent: Charles Joyce, Douglas Hallum

Staff Present: Gail Parris, Administrative Programs Officer (APO), Jean Lais, Administrative Programs Officer (APO), Josh Frerking, Public Information Officer, (PIO)

PUBLIC COMMENT/APPOINTMENTS

No members of the public were present.

A CONSENT AGENDA

October 6, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Action

Motion by Mann, second by Maher to accept the minutes as presented

Voting Yes: Seymour, Maher, Mann, Martin Voting No: None Abstain: O'Hara

B REPORTS

Nebraska Geological Society

Maher stated that a field trip was in the planning stages. He also mentioned Urban Geology of Omaha.

Office/Staff

Parris informed the board that the discovery and discussion component of the new database with NCARB has been completed, and the kickoff is scheduled for February 15, 2023.

C OLD BUSINESS

ASBOG 2022 Annual Meeting Update

Mann reported that a main topic of the annual meeting was the conversion to computer-based testing which is scheduled for the March 2023 exam administration. In addition to approving the budget and other meeting tasks, the members discussed creating an ASBOG guidebook to the FG exam given the number of non-exam preparation materials that are offered to applicants.

ASBOG Fall COE Workshop Update

Seymour spoke about the suggestions that were made to include more technology questions e.g., GIS and drone mapping. The attendees visited a rock quarry and discussed saltwater incursion and a reverse osmosis process as a solution.

Chadron Examination Testing Site

Mann updated the board with the details of the meeting which included staff from Prometric, Chadron College, and the board. Prometric claimed that the process included a software download to the computer lab, and that the lab staff would proctor the exam and also handle technical problems if they occur. Chadron will need time to further discuss the issue with other departments who will need to be included, and also receive the necessary approval.

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D NEW BUSINESS

Spring COE Workshop – Approval of Delegates

The workshop is scheduled for April 13-15, 2023, and will be held in Greenville, S.C.

Action

Motion by Mann, second by Maher to approve Hallum and Joyce to attend the spring COE workshop; and Martin and Seymour as alternates.

Voting Yes: Mann, Seymour, O'Hara, Martin, Maher Voting No: None

History Nebraska Meeting – January 2023

An invitation was extended to attend an informational presentation regarding LB211, the Nebraska Archeological Resources Preservation Act (NeARPA). Background information on the work of the State Archeology Office will also be provided.

Action

Motion by Maher, second by Mann to approve Hallum to attend the History Nebraska meeting

Voting Yes: Martin, Seymour, Mann, O'Hara, Maher Voting No: None

Legislative

Copies of the following were provided for review.

LB16 – Revision to the Occupational Board Reform Act to allow for licensure of individuals who are licensed or certified in another jurisdiction if they meet certain requirements regardless of whether they meet Nebraska's requirements or not. Professions regulated by the Board of Engineers and Architects would be exempt from the requirement.

HR7939 – License Portability for Military and Spouses: H.R. 7939 was signed into law by President Biden on January 5, 2023. The bill requires licensing jurisdictions to issue/recognize a license from another jurisdiction of like practice of military personnel or their spouses when relocated due to military orders. The licensee must provide evidence of military orders, be in good standing in the issuing jurisdiction, submits to the authority of the licensing authority in the new jurisdiction for the purposes of standards of practice, discipline, and fulfillment of any continuing education requirements, and evidence the license has been used during the two years immediately preceding the relocation.

LB684 - Outside Entity to Review Services Provided by State Agencies: Requires the Department of Administrative Services to contract with an outside entity to conduct a review of all services provided by state agencies over a two-year period and provide recommendations to the legislature.

E COMPLIANCE - None

F APPLICATIONS

Copies of the Core Course Equivalency Chart and Rationale were provided for review.

Administratively Approved

Certificates of Authorization

Approved: *Geosyntec Consultants Inc., FL*

Licensure/Examinations

Licensure from Other Jurisdictions

Approved: Lyman Anderson, KS

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Licensure by Experience

Approved: Amir Matin, CA

FG Exam Applications

Approved: Andrew W. Harms, NE; Eric A. Johnson, NE

PG Exam Applications

Approved: Ross M. Schumacher, NE

Action

Motion by Seymour, second by Mann to approve the applications as reviewed and discussed.

Voting Yes: Mann, Martin, Maher, Seymour, O'Hara, Voting No: None

APO Lais entered the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

G FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports

Budget Status Report

MTD General Ledger Detail Report

Fund Summary Report

FY 2022-23 Financial Profile

APO Lais reported that with just over 50% of the fiscal year elapsed as of December 31, 2023, a little less than 50 % of the appropriation has been expended, and about 77% of the projected revenue has been received. 94% licensees renewed online. The Cash Fund balance is at \$65,647 which is less than twice the appropriation.

Action

Motion by Maher, second by Mann to approve the financial reports as presented and discussed.

Voting Yes: O'Hara, Seymour, Martin, Mann, Maher Voting No: None

Other Financial Matters

ASBOG has contracted with Prometric to administer the Fundamentals of Geology and the Practice of Geology exams. Proctor services are no longer required for the discontinued paper and pencil exams.

Action

Motion by Maher, second by Seymour to cancel the exam proctor contract. Voting Yes: Maher, Mann, O'Hara, Seymour, Martin Voting No: None

A copy of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Accounting Memorandum of Understanding that requires agencies to have an internal control plan over financial reporting was presented for review.

Action

Motion by O'Hara, second by Mann to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as presented.

Voting Yes: Seymour, Maher, Mann, O'Hara, Martin Voting No: None

APO Lais exited the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

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H GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and events was provided for review. The next meeting will be held on April 5, 2023, at 215 Centennial Mall South in the large conference room beginning at 1:00 p.m.

A roster of the Board members was provided.

Licensing and Certification Trends

Individuals and organizations authorized to practice in Nebraska as of December 31, 2022

Professional Geologists: 307

Certificates of Authorization: 67

Temporary Permits: 0

Other information

The website dashboard reports showed the following number of total visits:

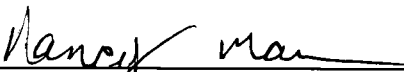
October: 683

November: 304


December: 484

A copy of the approved Board Policies as of January 20, 2021, was provided for review.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice-Chairperson Martin adjourned the meeting at 2:28 p.m.



Board Member



Date