



Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

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MINUTES

Board Meeting
April 8, 2021

A meeting of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists was held on Thursday, July 15, 2021 at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery, Alabama. The following members were present at the meeting location: Mr. Troy Perry, Jr. (Board Chair), Dr. Scott Brande (Vice Chair), Mr. Richard Katz (member), and Mr. Russell Griebel (member). Members attending virtually were Dr. David King (Secretary/Treasurer) and Mr. Chris Bryant (member). Member absent was Ms. Leslie Noble (member). Also in attendance were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Secretary), Mr. Brad Chynoweth (Assistant Chief Deputy, AGO), Ms. Hope Childers (Board Administrator) and Ms. Renee Reames (recording secretary). Mr. Warren called Board roll and indicated that a quorum was present to conduct business. Chairman Perry called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

The regularly scheduled meeting was advertised to the public on the Board's website, (www.algeobd.alabama.gov), as well as the Secretary of State's website, (www.sos.alabama.gov), in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Perry presented for the Board's approval the Board meeting minutes from April 8, 2021 regular meeting of the Board. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Katz made a motion to approve the April minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Griebel. Chairman Perry called for a roll call vote and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. Warren reported that a roll call vote had been established through this motion.

Executive Secretary Report: Mr. Warren presented the Executive Secretary's Report to the Board. He reported on the financial activities as of June 30, 2021, which included a line-item report of expenditures for this period. He reported that, with the cost-saving measures the Board had previously approved, he anticipated the Board to maintain a positive financial balance during the remainder of the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021.

FY 2021 Financial Information:

1. Revenue	\$39,725.00
2. Expenditure Vouchers	\$29,568.10
3. Cash Balance	\$16,596.69

Mr. Warren also reported on the number of licensees for this same period:

1. Professional Geologists (PGs):	507
(comprised of 194 Alabama licensees and 313 out-of-state licensees)	
2. Licenses not renewed (January 2021 thru June 2021)	76
3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs)	15
4. Retired	17
5. Temporary License (current)	1

In reviewing the financial report and the decline in the number of licensees, the Board discussed notifying the licensees about the Board financial situation. The Board discussed positive steps to increase awareness for licensure by encouraging students to take the Fundamentals exam, speaking opportunities to geology students and the Board foster contacts with undergraduate advisors, licensees having access to continuing education opportunities toward maintaining licensure, soliciting ideas from licensees, follow-up with non-renewing licensees, etc. Mr. Warren indicated that a copy of the Board’s brochure would be distributed to the members for future consideration toward licensure awareness. Mr. Griebel indicated that he would assist in drafting a letter to licensees to assist in this process:

- Reach out to licensees whose license had expired;
- Letter to all licensees regarding the Board’s financial situation and solicit ideas about what the Board can do to make things better; and
- Inform licensees that licensing fees had not been increased since 1997.

The Board also discussed reviewing surrounding State’s licensing fees structure, while considering adjustments in the Board’s licensing fees, and consider changes to the licensure categories in the Board’s statute by creating a licensure path for exemptions and consult with ASBOG on this matter of academia licensure path. The Board members agreed to follow-up with key leaders and supporters in seeking legislative changes to the Board’s statute.

Dr. Katz made the motion to approve the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande. Chairman Perry called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Perry stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Administrator’s Report: Mr. Warren presented the Administrator’s Report listing activities performed by the staff since the last Board meeting. (copy of the Executive Secretary’s report and Administrator’s report are available for viewing in the Board’s official Book of Minutes).

CE Committee Report (Old Business): Dr. King stated that he had no formal report from the CE Committee at this time. Dr. Brande indicated that he would provide a list of other agencies who are providing continuing education that could be posted on the Board’s website for licensees.

Neathery Award for Outstanding Student: Dr. King reported that no nominations were received from the three universities invited to participate in 2021 Thornton J. Neathery award for outstanding student. Chairman Perry deferred further discussion on this matter until the next meeting to allow Dr. King an opportunity to present recommendations for expanding this program,

e.g. more than one candidate per program, more than one person per program to receive solicitation letter, etc. to increase opportunity to receive nominations.

Chairman Perry reported that the Board had not yet received a response from ADEM regarding the last communication about Coastal Permits. Chairperson Perry asked the Executive Secretary to follow-up with ADEM.

Mr. Warren reported that the Board's new legal counsel from the Attorney General's office was Ms. Katherine Robertson, Chief Deputy of the Civil Division, and he introduced Mr. Brad Chynoweth. Mr. Chynoweth reported that he was attending the meeting on behalf of Ms. Katherine Robertson, who had a scheduling conflict. The Board welcome Mr. Chynoweth.

Dr. King left the meeting (virtually) at 11:00 a.m. due to a conflict in scheduling.

Ms. Childers presented six (6) PG applications and one (1) GIT application for licensing. Following a review of the applications, Mr. Griebel made the motion to approve five (5) PG applications and one (1) GIT application and deny one (1) PG for lacking transcripts. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz (a list of the approved applications is available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). Chairman Perry called for any objections to the motion, using the previously established roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Perry stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Chairman Perry announced that the Board's next meeting was scheduled October 7, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Warren indicated that he would keep the Board advised of plans to have the October meeting in-person at the Board's office.

There being no further business of the Board, Mr. Griebel made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande. Chairman Perry called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Perry stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board and he adjourned the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Troy J. Perry, Jr.
Board Chair

Keith E. Warren
Executive Secretary

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