



## Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

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### MINUTES

Board Meeting  
April 13, 2023

A meeting of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists was held on Thursday, April 13, 2023, at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery, Alabama. The following members attended onsite: Mr. Troy Perry, Jr. (Board Chair), Dr. Scott Brande (Vice Chair), Mr. Richard Katz (member), Mr. Russell Griebel (member), and Ms. Leslie Noble (member). Board member absent was Dr. David King. Also in attendance were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Secretary), Ms. Katherine Robertson (Assistant Attorney General attending virtually), Ms. Hope Childers (Board Administrator) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recorder). Chairman Perry called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Mr. Warren called Board roll and indicated that a quorum was present to conduct business. Chairman Perry welcomed everyone in attendance.

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

Approval of Meeting Agenda: Chairman Perry presented for the Board's approval the Board meeting agenda for the April 13, 2023, regular meeting of the Board. A copy of the agenda was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review.

**MOTION:** Mr. Griebel made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and unanimously approved by the Board.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Perry deferred review of the Board's minutes from the January 19, 2023, meeting, until after the proposed rules were discussed.

Executive Secretary Report: Mr. Warren presented the Executive Secretary's Report to the Board. He reported on the financial activities in FY 2023 for the period March 31, 2023, which included a line-item report of expenditures for this same period.

Financial Information for fiscal year 2023:

|                         |             |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Revenue              | \$23,725.00 |
| 2. Expenditure Vouchers | \$24,007.10 |
| 3. Cash Balance         | \$25,084.93 |

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

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Professional Geologists (PGs):                                   | 533 |
| (comprised of 223 Alabama licensees and 315 out-of-state licensees) |     |
| 2. Licenses not renewed (November 2022 thru March 2022)             | 28  |
| 3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs)                                     | 15  |
| 4. Retired  | 17  |
| 5. Temporary License (current)                                      | 1   |

**MOTION:** Mr. Katz made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and unanimously approved by the Board.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Proposed Rules for Final Adoption:** Mr. Warren reported that the proposed rules discussed at the January meeting had been published and no comments were received from the public. The Board reviewed the rules and indicated that some changes were not included as approved. Mr. Warren indicated that he would republish the rules that were not correct to allow for public comment and any rules approved by the Board as a Final Rule would be published for an additional 45 days before becoming effective. The Board reviewed each proposed rule.

**Rule 364-X-2-.01 Definition of Terms:** The Board found that the proposed changes to be included in the published rule.

**MOTION:** Ms. Nobel made the motion to approve Final Rule 364-X-2-.01 as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-3-.02 Application Form:** The Board found that the proposed changes to be included in the published rule.

**MOTION:** Mr. Griebel made the motion to approve Final Rule 364-X-3-.02 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nobel and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-4-.02 Fees:** The Board found that the proposed changes were not included in the published rule. The Board agreed to the following fee changes: Application from \$150 to \$200; License Fee from \$150 to \$200, Geologist-In-Training remain the same at \$75, Seals and Stamps Fee previously approved at \$100 from \$75, Renewal Fee from \$150 to \$200, Late Fee from \$100 to \$150, Temporary License Fee from \$200 to \$250, Roster Fee remain at \$25 and License Replacement Fee from \$10 to \$25.

**MOTION:** Mr. Griebel made the motion to modify and republish Rule 364-X-4-.02 as discussed. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nobel and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-5-.01 Curricula Approved By The Board:** The Board found that the proposed change was not included in the proposed rule. The Board agreed that the courses listed in the Rule remain the same and modified to read “preferred by the Board” for licensure.

**MOTION:** Mr. Griebel made the motion to modify and republish Rule 364-X-5-.01 as discussed. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-6-.02 Non-Qualifying Experience:** The Board found that the proposed changes were not included in the proposed rule. The Board agreed that item (3) be modified to indicate “contract work performed in accordance with the design of a licensed professional geologist will not be recognized by the Board as qualifying geological experience, unless supported by a detailed reference from the principal, project manager or supervisor who is a licensed professional geologist.”

**MOTION:** Mr. Griebel made the motion to modify and republish Rule 364-X-6-.02 as discussed. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-7-.02 References:** The Board found that the proposed changes to be included in the published rule.

**MOTION:** Mr. Griebel made the motion to approve Final Rule 364-X-7-.02 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nobel and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-8-.06 Examination Results:** The Board found that the proposed changes to be included in the published rule.

**MOTION:** Dr. Brande made the motion to approve Final Rule 364-X-8-.06 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nobel and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-11-.02 Seal of The Licensee:** The Board found that the proposed changes to be included in the published rule.

**MOTION:** Dr. Brande made the motion to approve Final Rule 364-X-11-.02 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nobel and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-12-.01 Requirements:** The Board found that the proposed changes to be included in the published rule.

**MOTION:** Mr. Griebel made the motion to approve Final Rule 364-X-3-.02 as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Rule 364-X-13-.02 Continuing Education:** The Board found that the proposed change was not included in the proposed rule. The Board agreed that in item (5)(c) “televised courses or videotaped” be removed and “online courses” added as continuing education activities. Also recommended was to remove reference to “correspondence” courses in item (8)(d) and replace with “exclusively through online” course, and to also add “web-based programs that monitor attendance and are offered in real time are eligible for one (1) PDH of credit for each contact hour”. **MOTION:** Dr. Brande made the motion to modify and republish Rule 364-X-5-.01 as discussed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Griebel and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Update on Coastal Permits:** Mr. Warren reported that he had no additional information from ADEM about the Board’s request to discuss with them the role of Professional Geologists in the matter of coastal drilling. It was recommended and the Board agreed to resend the letter to Mr. Scott Brown in the Mobile field office and copy Mr. Joe Kelly and the Director. The Board further discussed seeking a legal opinion on how to resolve the matter between agencies and consider establishing a subcommittee to resolve.

**Renewal of Administrative Services Contract:** Mr. Warren reported that the annual renewal of the Administrative Services contract was due and there were no changes to the contract.

**MOTION:** Ms. Nobel made the motion to approve the renewal of the Administrative Services contract with Smith Warren Management Services for one year with no changes to the contract. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and unanimously approved by the Board.

**Discussion of Proposed Legislative Changes:** Mr. Warren reported that the Board had previously discussed changes to the Board’s statute to include Board composition and categories represented, fees, student incentives and fees. It was the consensus of the Board that these considerations did not rise to the level to recommend changes.

Mr. Warren reported on SB 156 that proposed to move occupational boards under one state agency.

NEW BUSINESS

Board for Professional Soil Classifiers: Chairman Perry presented information about an opportunity for Professional Soil Classifiers to merge with the Board of Professional Geologists. He indicated that this matter would be deferred to the next meeting.

Annual Thornton L. Neathery Award of Outstanding Geology Student in the State of Alabama: Chairman Perry asked Mr. Warren to work with Dr. King and Dr. Brande to identify staff at the universities to receive the request for nomination of students for the Neathery Award. The letter requesting nominations would be released in late April.

The Board commented on the reopening of the U.S. 231 Rest Area as a proposed museum to open regarding the impact crater and discovery by Tony Neathery.

The Board recommended that the fall Board meeting be held on one of the three universities' campus.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Perry presented the minutes from the January 19, 2023, Board meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made a motion to approve the January minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and unanimously approved by the Board.

Review of Applications: Ms. Childers presented 5 PG applications for the Board's review and approval. Following a review of the applications, Chairman Perry called for a motion to approve.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made a motion to approve the applications as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and unanimously approved by the Board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

Next Board Meeting: Chairman Perry announced that the Board's next meeting was scheduled July 13, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: There being no further business of the Board, Mr. Griebel made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and unanimously approved by the Board. Chairman Perry adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Troy J. Perry, Jr.  
*Board Chair*



Keith E. Warren  
*Executive Secretary*

/rr