



Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

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MINUTES

Board Meeting
March 28, 2024

A meeting of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists was held on Thursday, March 28, 2024, at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery, Alabama. The following members attended: Mr. Troy Perry, Jr. (Board Chair), Ms. Leslie Noble (member), and Mr. Richard Katz (member). Board members attending virtually were Mr. Russell Griebel (Board Vice Chair) and Dr. David King (Secretary/Treasurer joined at 10:29 a.m.) and Dr. Scott Brande (member joined at 10:36 a.m.). Board member absent was Mr. Chris Bryant (member). Also in attendance were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Secretary), Mr. Dan Wisniewski (Assistant Attorney General-Legal Counsel), Ms. Hope Childers (Board Administrator), Ms. Angela Warr (Executive Assistant), and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary) and guest.

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.

Chairman Perry called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Mr. Warren called the Board member roll and indicated that a quorum was present to conduct business. Chairman Perry welcomed board members, staff and guest in attendance. Chairman Perry indicated that he would vote on matters before the Board to maintain a quorum.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: Chairman Perry presented a copy of the March 28, 2024 meeting agenda for the Board's approval. A copy of the agenda was provided to the members prior to the meeting for their review.

MOTION: Ms. Nobel made the motion to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and, following a roll call vote, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Approval of Minutes: Chairman Perry presented for Board approval a copy of the Board's minutes from the January 11, 2024 meeting. A copy of the minutes was provided to the members prior to the meeting for their review. A correction was made to the date of the meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Nobel made a motion to approve the January minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Executive Secretary Report: Mr. Warren presented the Executive Secretary's Report to the Board.

Mr. Warren reported on the number of licensees:

1. Professional Geologists (PGs): 510
(comprised of 216 Alabama licensees and 294 out-of-state licensees)

Number of Licensees, continued:

2. Licenses not renewed (July 2023 through February 2024)	22
3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs)	14
4. Retired	18
5. Temporary License (current)	3

He also reported on the financial activities in fiscal year 2024 for the period ending February 29, 2024, which included a detailed listing of the obligations vs. budget for the same period. Mr. Warren commented on the slight increase in revenue from increased licensing fees, which was the first adjustment in fees since the inception of the Board.

Financial Information for the first five months of fiscal year 2024:

1. Revenue	\$ 19,625.00
2. Expenditure Vouchers	\$ 21,981.92
3. Cash Balance	\$ 25,502.69

Mr. Warren commented on other activities performed by the staff since the last Board meeting held in January, and reminded the members that the ASBOG exams were now conducted online and the registration deadline for the October exams was August 23, 2024. Chairman Perry reported on speaking at University of Alabama to students and encouraged them to take the examination to become licensed.

MOTION: Mr. Katz made the motion to accept the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Noble and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Coastal Permits: Mr. Wisniewski indicated that he would speak with the Board's previous legal counsel, Ms. Robertson, about the conversations she may have had with the ADEM attorney about specifying Professional Geologists in ADEM's regulations concerning Coastal Permits.

Planning for Board-Sponsored Continuing Education: The Board discussed sponsoring a continuing education program in late August-September to allow time to schedule speakers and the Board agreed to move forward with the planning of the CE program.

Neathery Award: Chairman Perry deferred the matter until later in the meeting when Dr. King was available to participate virtually in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Review and Approval of Request For Proposals (RFP) Specifications for Administrative Services: Chairman Perry reported that Mr. Wisniewski had prepared specifications to solicit proposals to provide administrative services to the Board. The current contract was scheduled to expire March 31, 2024.

Dr. King joined the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Mr. Warren and staff of Smith Warren Management Services left the meeting at 10:30 a.m. as a potential vendor to respond to the request for proposals for administrative services.

Dr. Brande joined the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

The Board discussed the specifications presented by Mr. Wisniewski.

MOTION: Chairman Perry made the motion to authorize the issuance of a request for administrative services for the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists and to give the Board Chairman the authority to approve any changes necessary to the RFP and contract documents after consultation with Board Counsel. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

The staff of Smith Warren Management Services joined the meeting at 10:48 a.m. Mr. Wisniewski reported that the proposals would be due on April 19, 2024, and the Board agreed to hold a special/called meeting on May 9, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., for the purpose of reviewing responses to the RFP and to discuss further plans for the Board-sponsored continuing education program.

Neathery Award: Chairman Perry asked Dr. King to present the report on the Neathery Award. Dr. King commented on the best time to request nominations from the university department chairs and department staff and he mentioned self-nominations as an option for the Board to consider. The Board agreed that the deadline for nominations would be May 1st. Dr. King commented on discussions by the Board during the 2023 award about developing publicity about the recipient of the award. The Board discussed identifying sources of monetary award for the recipient, and Mr. Katz reported on the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration (SME) as a potential source. Chairman King asked Mr. Katz to present a proposal to SME to request funding and the Board further discussed whether to ask the nominated student to prepare a “use of funds” concerning any funds that might be awarded. The two scholarships offered by the Alabama Geological Society was also mentioned as an additional award opportunity. The Board agreed to create a section on the Board’s website to promote the annual award of the Thornton L. “Tony” Neathery Award of Outstanding Geology Student in the State of Alabama. Mr. Warren indicated that he would send solicitation letters to the universities indicating a May 1st deadline for nominations for the Neathery Award.

Mr. Griebel left the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Dr. King left the meeting at 11:07 a.m.

Mr. Wisniewski left the meeting at 11:07 a.m. due to a scheduling conflict.

Review and Approval of Applications for Licensure: Mr. Warren presented 7 Professional Geologist applications and 1 Geologist in training application. Chairman Perry called for a motion to approve the applications (a copy available in the Board’s official Book of Minutes).

MOTION: Mr. Katz made a motion to approve 1 GIT and 7 PG applications as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Noble and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Board Meeting: Chairman Perry announced that the Board was scheduled to meet on May 9, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. for a special/called meeting and regular business meetings were scheduled for July 11, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. and October 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, Ms. Nobel made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Chairman Perry adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Troy J. Perry, Jr.
Board Chair

Keith E. Warren
Executive Secretary

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Approved on _____ (date)/_____