



Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

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MINUTES

Board Meeting
October 10, 2024

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

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 10:01 a.m. Mr. Warren called the Board member roll and indicated that a quorum was present to conduct business. Chairman Perry welcomed board members and staff. 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 October 10, 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: Dr. Brande made the motion to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant 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 July 11, 2024 regular meeting. A copy of the minutes was provided to the members prior to the meeting for their review.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made a motion to approve the July minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and, following a roll call vote, was unanimously approved by the Board.

Executive Secretary Report: Mr. Warren presented the Executive Secretary's Report to the Board and reported on the number of licensees:

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| 1. Professional Geologists (PGs): | 532 |
| (comprised of 222 Alabama licensees and 310 out-of-state licensees) | |
| 2. Licenses not renewed (October 2023 through May 2024) | 25 |
| 3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs) | 9 |
| 4. Retired | 18 |
| 5. Temporary License (current) | 1 |

He commented on the good speakers and licensee attendance at the Board-sponsored continuing education program held in Pelham on September 10, 2024. The Board discussed the opportunity for

licensees to obtain, at no cost, continuing education credits for licensure. Mr. Warren also reported on other activities performed by the staff since the last Board meeting held in July (report available in official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Littleton, CFO at Smith Warren, reported on financial activities of the Board. He presented a report on fourth quarter receipts and expenditures:

1. Revenue	\$ 12,375.00
2. Expenditures to-date	\$ 12,081.04
3. Cash Balance	\$ 32,328.30

He indicated that the final expenditures for the fourth quarter would not be available until the end of the 13th accounting period. He presented the anticipated expenditures remaining for the fourth quarter of FY 2024, with a projected cash balance of \$21,908.04. He presented first quarter projections for FY 2025 (report available in the Board's official Book of Minutes), and Mr. Warren reported that the State Comptroller fees had increased in FY 2025.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Coastal Permits: Mr. Wisniewski reported that ADEM's statute, Chapter 335-8-2 related to coastal activities, did not match the Board's language concerning a qualified geologist. The Board inquired about the number of coastal permits and examples of individuals performing the work, and scale of the work impacting the coastal areas. Mr. Wisniewski indicated that he could request a copy of the permits for the Board to review in making further determinations.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made the motion to request public information, if necessary, for review of coastal plains drilling. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Update on Board-Sponsored Continuing Education and Survey Results: Mr. Bryant reported that all food charges for the Continuing Education Program at the Pelham Civic Center had been paid by sponsors. Mr. Warren reviewed the invoice for \$3,000 for equipment rental and it was the unanimous consensus of the Board to include the \$3,000 invoice in the cost allowed for the program and to pay the Pelham Civic Center for these services. The Board complimented the members involved in the planning and operation of the CE program and discussed the survey responses received from 78 of the 118 attendees.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Terms: Mr. Warren reviewed the terms of the Board members and presented an announcement to be posted on the Board's website notifying the licensees about the vacancies on the Board and the process of registering online with the Governor's office about serving on the Board. The Board discussed various individuals who had indicated an interest in serving on the Board. Chairman Perry encouraged diversity in candidates and participation at Board meetings.

2025 Board Meeting Calendar: Chairman Perry presented a list of dates in 2025 for the Board to conduct regular business.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made the motion to approve January 9, April 17, July 10, and October 16, in calendar year 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Annual Election of Board Officers: Mr. Warren reported that the annual election of Board officers was due.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made the motion that the current Board officers remain the same, with Mr. Perry as Board Chair, Mr. Griebel as Board Vice Chair, and Dr. King as Board Secretary/Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Review and Approval of Applications for Licensure: Mr. Warren presented seven (7) Professional Geologist (PG) applications and one (1) Geologist-In-Training application for the Board's approval. The Board reviewed and discussed the applications and commented on the examination results cited in the Board's audit report. It was the consensus of the Board to encourage the universities to include the ASGOG examination as part of the department's graduation curriculum.

Chairman Perry called for a motion to approve the applications (a copy available in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

MOTION: Dr. Brande made the motion that PG applicant Gagat be conditionally approved for licensure pending verification of ASBOG examination in Tennessee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant, and following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made the motion to request PG applicant Downer for more transcript information. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made the motion to approve the one (1) GIT application and the five (5) other PG applications as reviewed by the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Sunset Audit: The Board discussed the significant findings of the Sunset audit and the issues raised from questionnaire responses submitted by Board members and licensees. Mr. Littleton commented on the financial projections for FY 2025 in monitoring expenses vs. revenue. The Board discussed the effect on the budget from the licensing fee increase that began in second quarter of FY 2024. The Board agreed to review at the next Board meeting the eligible number of license renewals in upcoming quarters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Board Meeting: Chairman Perry announced that the Board was scheduled to meet on January 9, 2025. Mr. Warren reported that he was discussed with University of South Alabama (USA) Geology Program staff about holding the Spring Board meeting on USA campus and inviting students and faculty to the Board meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Brande made the motion to hold the April 17, 2025 meeting at the USA campus. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Chairman Perry reported that the January Board meeting would be held at the Board's office.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Brande made the motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Chairman Perry adjourned the meeting at 11:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Troy J. Perry, Jr.
Board Chair

Keith E. Warren
Executive Secretary

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Approved on _____(date)/_____