

LOUISIANA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

9643 Brookline Ave, Ste. 101, Baton Rouge, LA 70809



REGULAR MEETING OF LBOPG

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

1:00 P.M.

Louisiana Engineering Society Building, Conference Room
9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809

MINUTES

Chairman Kumar called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m., January 13, 2015, noting that this is the first meeting for the year 2015. He then commenced Roll Call.

Present: William Finley, Madhurendu Kumar, Lloyd Hoover, Arthur Johnson, William Meaney, Board Members. Georgeann McNicholas, Executive Secretary to the Board. Ethel Graham, Legal Counsel.

Absent: Kelli Hardesty, John Johnston, Daisy Pate, and Todd Perry, Board Members. Quorum established. Roll Call sheet was circulated for signatures.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes of 12/23/2014 were reviewed. Motion made by Johnson to accept the minutes, seconded by Finley. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Johnson presented the Treasurer's Report for December 2014. Finley moved it be approved. Hoover seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Johnson presented a report of the meeting with L.A. Champagne & Co., CPA's, held here on January 7th at 9:30 a.m. with Micheal Tham, Jenne Fecke, Arthur Johnson and Georgeann McNicholas present. Insurance for LBOPG employee requirement and review/audit procedures are being researched by L.A. Champagne & Co. and 2015 – 2016 budget documents will be provided by L.A. Champagne & Co. LBOPG 2014-2015 budget was presented.

Licensing Application Review Committee – Finley, acting as Temporary Chair in Hardesty's absence, read the numbers of applicants recommended for approval for professional geoscientist licensing in Louisiana as follows: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 74, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 87, and 88 of the Licensing Review Committee List for January 13, 2014. Motion was made by Meaney to accept the recommended list of applicants. Seconded by Johnson. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion ensued concerning denied applicants.

Licensing Examination Committee - No report at this time. Discussion ensued concerning applications without grandfathering. Fees need to be paid first, then ASBOG results will be reviewed.

Complaint Review Committee – No report at this time.

Hearing Committee – No report at this time.

Comity/Reciprocity - No report at this time.

Office Committee – Banking: Credit Card in the name of Louisiana Board of Professional Geoscientists with a \$1,000.00 limit has been received. McNicholas can now pay annual Payroll fee of Quickbooks and has paid for the Norton AntiVirus annual fee. Part-Time Position: McNicholas confirmed with the Civil Service Liaison that we can hire a part-time employee in one of two ways:

- 1.) The Board is allowed one more full or part-time unclassified employee; and
- 2.) The Board can hire a part-time employee through what is called a WAE. A WAE is an employee that can work 1,245 hours per year for one year and can be renewed annually.

Seal: Request has been made by a PG for a computer aided drafting design (CADD) for electronic sealing of a document. More information will be collected by McNicholas and presented to the Board. Graham noted that date, name, license number and signature is all that need to be on report according to the Louisiana Professional Geoscience Practice Act. Applicants who have passed ASBOG Exam: An applicant has a complete license application. He did not apply for grandfathering since he has passed the ASBOG exams. He has been told that, at this time, his application status will remain “Pending” as we are first working with applicants who have grandfathered. Board discussion ensued. McNicholas to notify the fee must be paid and results of ASBOG exam provided for Licensing Application Review Committee to recommend approval of license.

Rules Committee – Finley provided Rules to Ethel Graham, Legal Counsel, for review.

Website – McNicholas’ reported the following projects have been completed: Session Time Extension or Auto Save; Reviewer Report; Reviewer Notes, Quick Search, Application – Work History section; and Application Sections. Usable Creative still working on References Response Alternate form. McNicholas introduced Authorize.net and discussion ensued as to the cost per transaction. Tabled until Board may review in detail. Usable Creative will be adding definitions acknowledgement page to be read by applicant before applying for a license, a renewal application, GIT application, and notification of expired application status, expiring applications list and ASBOG application form to website in the future as needed. Discussion ensued concerning the need for a Temporary License. Finley will review need and report to the Board. Discussion ensued concerning fees associated with credit cards and legality of LBOPG charging handling fees. Graham will research and report to the Board.

Legal Counsel’s Comments – Kumar met with Graham concerning the revised rules. Graham explained that the draft rules were changed as follows: “Complaint Investigation Officer” changed to “Complaint Review Committee”; Deletion of inapplicable sections; Change of “panel” to “committee” where appropriate, “ Presiding Officer” to “Committee Chairman” and formatting as needed. Rules are now in review by Graham’s supervisor, Ryan. Graham also met with legislative registrar and registrar will review after Ryan completes his review.

Other Business – Should there be a grandfathering period for GIT? Finley presented his review of Act regarding this matter and found it would be contrary to the Act. Graham further confirmed that grandfathering was for Professional Geoscientist licensing only.

Next meeting will be at 1:00 p.m., January 27, 2015 at the Louisiana Engineering Society Building Conference Room, 9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA. The following meeting will be February 10th, 2015. Discussion ensued concerning alternative meeting locations on the two occasions that this conference room will not be available for use in 2015.

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Johnson, seconded by Meaney. Motion passed unanimously. Kumar adjourned meeting at 2:45 p.m.