

MEETING OF THE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS

2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95833
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June 5, 2012

Board Members Present: Paul Wilburn, Vice President; Carl Josephson; Mike Modugno; Philip Quartararo; Hong Beom Rhee; Patrick Tami; Michael Trujillo; and Erik Zinn.

Board Members Absent: Jerry Silva, President; Ray Satorre

Board Staff Present: Ric Moore, (Executive Officer); Joanne Arnold (Assistant Executive Officer); Nancy Eissler (Enforcement Manager); Celina Calderone (Board Liaison); Linda Brown (Administrative Manager); and Gary Duke (Legal Counsel).

I. Roll Call to Establish a Quorum – Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

II. Public Comment

There was no comment from the public.

III. Exams/Licensing

A. Refund Policy for Overpayment of Application Fee

Mr. Moore indicated that regulations changed with regards to the new fees, referencing board rule 407 and 428. They were signed by the Secretary of State and were made effective Friday, April 27, 2012. These regulations revised and clarified the application and examination fees. Board staff became aware of these new regulations Monday, April 30 and had concerns with how it conflicted with the final filing date of Tuesday, May 1 that was published for the October 2012 examinations. The Board received approximately 1,200 new or comity applications between March 1 and May 1, 2012 all under the old fee schedule. He added that beginning with the October 2012 examinations in accordance with national administration of exams, all applicants are required to pay NCEES directly if a national exam is required for licensure in California.

In consideration of the timing of this new implementation, board staff consulted with legal counsel and NCEES, looked at system constraints, considered the budget and the fairness to the applicant population. The Board came up with a proposal on how to handle those applicants that submitted their applications prior to the new effective date. The Board is proposing to issue a refund of a portion of the former application fee. The former application fee was \$275.00 and the Board is now proposing to refund certain applicants \$150.00 of the \$275.00 fee. The retained portion of \$125.00 is equivalent to the Board's new application fee. It will affect applicants in the following manner, if the candidate is a traffic or

geotechnical applicant, there will not be a refund as they will be paying a total of \$275.00 under the new fee schedule. For civil engineer applicants, the board will not offer a refund but will have an opportunity to sit for seismic principles and engineering surveying examinations rather than requiring additional fees. Structural engineers will receive a refund of \$150.00. All other professional engineers will receive \$150.00 refund as well as the land surveyor candidates. Candidates that register with NCEES will have to pay NCEES their fees.

Mr. Moore asked the Board to consider the issuing of these refunds.

He added that the national examination registration for October 2012 opens June 15. May 1 is when the new applications had to be in to the Board office but NCEES registration does not open until June 15. Refile applications are due July 30, 2012.

Motion: Mr. Zinn and Mr. Trujillo moved to adopt proposal

Vote: 8-0, motion carried

B. October 2012 Examination Administration (Possible Action)

Mr. Moore indicated that up until this time the Computer Based Test (CBT) examinations have concentrated on one date because of the populations of the geotechnical engineer, professional geologist and the professional land surveyor candidates. The civil engineer population is much larger. The board would have to coordinate for an open window of time. At the same time the board has the geotechnical and traffic engineering examination with smaller populations. Staff worked with Prometric, the CBT vendor, to plan on the best possible dates, the length of the open window and coordinate the development accordingly. This would be a nation-wide offering through all the Prometric centers. Therefore, Mr. Moore proposed a three week timeframe that starts October 17 through November 7, 2012. It overlaps with the National examinations that will be administered October 26-27, 2012. Due to the population of the geotechnical and traffic examinations, it is proposed that one day is selected for each examination. For the civil engineer examinations, the board is developing more items and having more examinations available. As a result, the odds of those sitting next to each other, taking the exact same examination is very rare.

Motion: Mr. Modugno and Mr. Quartararo moved to adopt October examination schedule

Vote: 8-0, motion carried

Mr. Moore discussed the examination expenses from the rescheduled April 2012 engineering surveying examination. Total costs were \$154,259.00. The original contract with the Office of State Publishing, OSP to print the two examinations was \$9,488.00. Mr. Duke is assisting the Board in coordinating open discussions with OSP and what the Board can do to mitigate the costs the Board did not foresee.

Mr. Alameida indicated the Board's budget is tight and is working on extending several invoice payments until the next fiscal year for examination development services with Prometric. Because this narrows the board's budget towards the end of the fiscal year, the board is cutting back on purchases and general day-to-

day operating expenses.

IV. Other Items Not Requiring Board Action

Mr. Moore reminded all in attendance the next board meeting to be held on June 28 & 29, 2012, in Sacramento.

V. Adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

PUBLIC PRESENT

None available