

DRAFT

Minutes of the Meeting of the Professional Engineering
Committee of the Board held June 12, 2003 at 1931
Second St., SW, Albuquerque, NM.

Members Present: Severiano Sisneros, III, PE
Dr. Rola Idriss, PE
Subhas Shah, PE
Patricio Guerrerortiz, PE
Stevan J. Schoen, Public Member

Members Absent: No one.

Others Present: Elena Garcia, Executive Director
Amanda Quintana, Manager
Hank Rosoff, PE
Margaret Keller, Executive Director, NMSPE

1. **CONVENE, ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Mr. Shah convened the meeting at 9:25. A roll call was taken. Mrs. Garcia indicated Mr. Sisneros had called and indicated he would be a bit late.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Mr. Guerrerortiz, seconded by Mr. Schoen and unanimously,

VOTED: To approve the agenda as presented.

3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

8.1 Minutes of the May 8, 2003 Meeting - It was moved by Dr. Idriss, seconded by Mr. Guerrerortiz and unanimously,

VOTED: To approve the minutes as presented.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

8.1 Ratification of FE and PE Scores- Mrs. Garcia reported that the examination scores and the statistics of both the PE and FE examinations had been received. She indicated that the Board office gets a large number of questions pertaining to how each exam is scored. She presented a sample memorandum that is used to explain NCEES' grading. She indicated the passing rates for New Mexico will be posted on the web site very soon. Mr. Shah asked why the names and social security

numbers of the candidates are obscured in the lists provided in the notebooks. Mrs. Garcia explained that the social security numbers are confidential and the names were covered because they included the failed as well as the passed candidates and the office had not yet released the scores when the copies were made. Mr. Shah requested that the Board Members receive a complete listing of the candidates that passed the exam. Mr. Schoen asked if a listing of the candidates that passed were considered to be public information. Mrs. Garcia responded that they were. Mr. Hank Rosoff, PE on behalf of the New Mexico Society of Professional Engineers stated that according to the Boards rules it is required that the Board publish a newsletter once or twice a year, and that would be an excellent way of publishing information such as the exam scores. Elena Garcia explained that a lot of information is published on the web site, but that Mr. Rosoff is correct in that a newsletter has not been published for quite a while. This has been due to a lack of personnel resources. Last September the Board asked for another full time position in its budget request to the Legislature which was approved for fiscal year '04. Mr. Shah asked Mrs. Garcia to explain the converted score. She explained that 70 is always used as the converted or scaled passing score. It is not a percentage. The converted score is based on a uniform scale that always sets 70 as the minimum passing score. Examinees are not judged against other candidates who took the exam but rather against a standard of minimal competency that is set as a converted score of 70. Raw scores are no longer provided to the Board. Mr. Rosoff explained that the previous Board was very active and involved with the NCEES Western Zone looking into the question of whether this exam was made to protect the public or made to protect the profession from entrance. Mrs. Garcia stated that the Board does have the authority to choose what the passing grade will be in New Mexico. If New Mexico does not accept the national passing recommended cut-off score, licenses in this state would be at a disadvantage when applying in other states since they would not recognize the score if it is less than their minimum passing.

It was moved by Dr. Idriss, seconded by Mr. Guerrerortiz and unanimously,

VOTED: To ratify the April 2003 FE and PE scores that have been reported to the Board.

4.2 Election of Officers [July 1, 2003-June 30, 2004] – It was moved by Mr. Schoen, seconded by Dr. Idriss and unanimously,

VOTED: To re-nominate and re-elect Mr. Shah as Chairman of the Professional Engineering Committee and Mr. Guerrerortiz as Vice Chairman of the Professional Engineering Committee by acclamation.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

8.1 Correspondence issued - For information

5.1.1 Thank you letters to proctors of licensing examinations – Mrs. Garcia presented the letters that were sent to Dr. Paul Ricketts, PE at NMSU, Dr. Tom Engler, PE at New Mexico Tech, and Dr. David Kauffman, PE at UNM thanking them for their services and informing them of the Board's decision

to contract with NCEES for the administering of examinations. Mrs. Garcia explained that Board staff and NCEES are working on the transition to ELSEES and that it is crucial that we get the word out about the change of application deadlines, especially the August 1, 2003 deadline for first-time applicants for the PE examination.

5.2 Kenneth E. Case, Ph.D., PE, OSU, RE: Graduate-level Certificate Program – Dr. Case wrote to the Board inquiring as to the appropriateness of their proposed graduate-level certificate program to be named “Certificate in Engineering and Technology Management (CETM).” The program is a distance-based, 10-semester credit hour program that would appeal to individuals who do not desire a graduate degree, such as their 32-semester credit hour Master of Science in Engineering and Technology Management Program, but to those who would like to gain specific knowledge in selected areas as well as to companies who wish to better prepare their technical employees. After some discussion, it was determined that the proposed Certificate in Engineering and Technology Management program would not meet the educational requirements for licensure as a professional engineer in New Mexico. It would, however, be applicable to the Board’s professional development program. The term “certificate” could be misconstrued by the public as a certification of competency to provide engineering services to the public; therefore the Board recommended that a different title be applied to this program, more along the lines of an educational program, or degreed program. The Board asked Mrs. Garcia to write a letter to Dr. Case expressing the Board’s opinion.

6. OLD BUSINESS

No Old Business

7. CLOSED SESSION (Complaints and Violations)

It was moved by Mr. Guerrerortiz, seconded by Dr. Idriss and unanimously,

VOTED: to go into closed session pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(1) to discuss cases 02-02-26, 02-02-28, 02-02-18, and 02-02-25 as listed on the agenda. A roll call vote was taken: Voting yes- Mr. Sisneros, Dr. Idriss, Mr. Guerrerortiz, Mr. Shah. Voting No: No one. Motion carried unanimously.

Guests and staff were asked to exit the room.

7.A. OPEN SESSION

Guests and staff were invited into the meeting room.

It was moved by Mr. Guerrerortiz, seconded by Mr. Schoen unanimously,

VOTED: To reconvene in open session. Only the cases listed on the agenda were discussed in closed session.

8.1 Case 03-03-06 A – It was moved by Mr. Guerrerortiz, seconded by Mr. Sisneros and unanimously

VOTED: To dismiss as unfounded.

8.1 Case 03-03-06 B – It was moved by Mr. Schoen, seconded by Mr. Sisneros and unanimously

VOTED: To dismiss as unfounded, insufficient evidence.

8.2 Case 02-AD-53 – For information only, no action taken.

7.B. APPOINTMENT OF HEARING OFFICER(S)

None needed

8. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

8.1.1 Licensing Requirements/Use of Licensing Chart – Mrs. Garcia explained in detail the “Requirements for Professional Licensure” chart. A few revisions were recommended and will be applied to the second printing.

8.2 Review of Applications – The Committee reviewed 25 applications. A list of the applicants and the decisions are on file.

9. ADJOURNMENT – Chair Shah adjourned the meeting.

Date Approved

Mr. Subhas Shah, PE Committee Chairman

Elena Garcia, Executive Director