

## Meeting Minutes

## MEETING OF THE NEW MEXICO BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS held at

9:00 a.m., Friday, April 11, 2025,  
Toney Anaya Building, Hearing Room 1  
2550 Cerrillos Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87505  
& Virtual

**Members Present –** Emilie Dohleman, PE, Chair  
John Wayne, PS, Vice Chair  
Maxine McReynolds, Esq., Public Member, Secretary  
Elizabeth McNally, PE  
Karen Nichols, Public Member  
Robert Gromatzky, PS  
Gabe Flores, PE

**Members Absent –** Benjamin Aragon, PS  
Dr. Ahmed Elaksher, PEPS  
Mark Dubbin, PE

**Others Present –** Perry Valdez, BLPEPS, Executive Director  
Crystal Bustamante, BLPEPS, Budget/Finance Manager, CPO  
Miranda Gonzales, BLPEPS, Administrative Manager  
Ralph Vincent, Project Manager  
Chris Pena

### 1. Convene, Roll Call and Introduction of Audience

Mr. Valdez read the meeting script regarding the virtual meeting protocols. Ms. Dohleman convened the meeting at 9:04 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was noted. Audience introductions were made at this time.

### 2. Meeting Notification

Mr. Valdez informed the Board the meeting was noticed on the Board's website and at the Board Office.

### 3. Approval of Agenda

**MOTION** by Mr. Gromatzky to approve the agenda as presented, **SECONDED** by Ms. McReynolds,

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Voting 'Aye':** Ms. Dohleman, Mr. Wayne, Ms. McReynolds, Ms. McNally, Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Flores

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**a. Minutes of January 17, 2025**

**MOTION** by Ms. Nichols to approve the minutes of January 17, 2025, as presented, **SECONDED** by Ms. McReynolds,

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Voting 'Aye':** Ms. Dohleman, Mr. Wayne, Ms. McReynolds, Ms. McNally, Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gromatzky

**Abstained:** Mr. Flores

The motion **PASSED**.

**5. Requested Public Comment/Correspondence**

**a. Anderson, F. – 61-23-21 NMSA in regard to Limited Partnerships with no Human Partner**

Ms. Gonzales informed the Board that they received an inquiry from Ms. Anderson requesting guidance on section 61-23-21. B. of the NM Engineering and Surveying Practice Act. "In the case of practice through a business entity that is a partnership, at least one of the partners shall be a professional engineer pursuant to the Engineering and Surveying Practice Act." The question that was brought to the Board staff is if the company that is signing the Engineer of Record was made up with two businesses that formed a limited partnership, how do they meet the requirements if there is no human entity?

Mr. Gromatzky stated that at one point there is a responsible party for one of those businesses. He noted that the rules state that there needs to be a professional engineer that has to be in responsible charge of the company. If they are the responsible in charge they must fill out the affidavit.

Ms. Gonzales stated that Ms. Anderson was going to fill out the Engineer of Record affidavit but based on how the rule reads, it says if it was through a partnership, that one of those partners has to be the registered engineer. Furthermore, she is wanting guidance on how they file an affidavit if the partnerships are just companies and not a human entity.

Mr. Gromatzky stated that the entity would need to have an identified person that is in responsible charge of that new entity that is made up of the two companies.

Ms. McReynolds noted that she would need to use section 61-23-21 D NMSA as it does not have any limitation on how they got their partnership.

Ms. Dohleman stated that the Board should have the language from 61-23-21 B. NMSA reviewed by legal counsel.

**b. Price, J. – Geomatic Engineering Discipline Inquiry**

Ms. Dohleman introduced an email from Mr. Price asking the appropriate path to licensure in New Mexico in regard to geomatic engineering licensure. He noted that he has a bachelors in hydrology and a master's degree in surveying engineering.

Mr. Valdez informed the Committee that there was an applicant who applied for a civil engineering license with a geomatics engineering degree and the previous Board had approved him with civil discipline.

Mr. Gromatzky thought that Mr. Price doesn't fit into what the Committee has accepted for licensure as a professional surveyor because there is no experience and the education dealing with the legal descriptions of the boundary surveys. He asked if the Professional Engineering Committee has a path for Mr. Price.

Ms. Dohleman stated that the Board does not have the civil geomatics or hydrology discipline. She noted that without knowing more information on his experience and background it's hard to answer that question.

Ms. McReynolds asked if the Board may consider another discipline if recognized by NCEES as outline in the New Mexico Administrative Code.

Ms. Dohleman stated that the Committee would be willing to explore a new discipline if the Board reviewed the background you would need to have to be a geomatic engineer. She noted that we should inform Mr. Price that we will be researching geomatic engineering with NCEES.

**6. Director's Report**

**a. License Status Report**

Mr. Valdez gave the following licensing status report:

**April 2025**

Number of Active Licenses: **11,063** as of April 4, 2025

- **Professional Engineers**
  - Number of active PEs: **10,489**
    - In State: **1,934**
    - Out of State: **8,555**

- Professional Surveyors
  - Number of active PSs: **568**
    - In State: 208
    - Out of State: 360
- Professional Engineers/Professional Surveyors
  - Number of active PEPS: **6**
    - In State: 5
    - Out of State: 1

*\*Of the number of engineers and surveyors listed above, these are individuals licensed as both engineers and surveyors with two separate license numbers (dual licensees).*

- Licensees with two numbers: 41\*
  - In State: 22
  - Out of State: 19

#### 2024 License Renewals

Number of Licenses for the 2024 License Renewal: **5,425** as of September 11, 2024

Number of Licenses that lapsed for the 2024 License Renewal: **530** as of March 1, 2025

- Professional Engineers
  - Lapsed PEs: **515**
    - In State: 51
    - Out of State: 464
- Professional Surveyors
  - Lapsed PSs: **15**
    - In State: 5
    - Out of State: 10
- Professional Engineers/Professional Surveyors
  - Lapsed PEPS: **0**
    - In State: 0
    - Out of State: 0

#### **b. Staff Vacancies**

Mr. Valdez informed the Board that the Executive Assistant position is still vacant. After careful consideration of the position, it was determined that the Executive Assistant position was no longer needed. However, he noted that there is a need for an additional licensing position. After considering the circumstances the Executive Assistant position would be reclassified to a licensing position to help with the large volume of applications that are being received.

Ms. McReynolds asked if there was any issue on the budget side if we reclassify the position.

Mr. Valdez stated that there is no issue on the budget side.

**c. Financial Report**

Ms. Bustamante reported that the Board has used 43% of the total budget as of April 2025. She broke down each category's percentage of the budget to 66% expensed in the 200's (Personal Services), 29% expensed in the 300's (Contractual), and 14% expensed in the 400's (Other Costs). She noted that the Board has received \$1,154,000 in revenue with \$802,400 expensed.

**7. Old Business**

Mr. Valdez reported that there was no old business at this time.

**8. New Business**

**a. FY26 Meeting Calendar**

Mr. Valdez presented the draft FY26 meeting calendar.

Ms. McReynolds asked if there was a change from some of our further locations.

Mr. Valdez stated that the change was to include only one travel meeting throughout the fiscal year. He noted that the reason was because of Board member attendance.

Ms. Dohleman stated that she would like to have at least one to two meetings outside of the Albuquerque and Santa Fe area.

Mr. Valdez noted that the August meeting may be a tentative date depending on how the project for the licensing system goes.

Ms. Gonzales also informed the Board that the reason for no travel meetings in November or January is because if staff has to do paper renewals the travel would create a backlog on the renewals and daily functions.

Ms. McNally stated that the Board meetings should be scheduled around the new system and possible chance of paper renewals. The if the meeting need to be delayed or moved to Albuquerque or Santa Fe that is what Board staff should do.

Ms. McReynolds asked if we could change the April 2026 meeting to Las Cruces.

Mr. Valdez stated that the April meeting could be scheduled in Las Cruces.

**MOTION** by Ms. McReynolds to approve the draft FY26 meeting calendar with the revisions to the April meeting location being in Las Cruces, **SECONDED** by Mr. Gromatzky,

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Voting 'Aye':** Ms. Dohleman, Mr. Wayne, Ms. McReynolds, Ms. McNally, Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Flores

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

**b. Emeritus Status Request**

**1) Bohannon, R.**

**MOTION** by Ms. Nichols to approve Mr. Bohannon's emeritus status request, **SECONDED** by Mr. Gromatzky,

Ms. McReynolds expressed gratitude to Mr. Bohannon for renewing his emeritus status request.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Voting 'Aye':** Ms. Dohleman, Mr. Wayne, Ms. McReynolds, Ms. McNally, Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Flores

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

**c. NCEES Meetings**

**1) Western Zone Meeting (Albuquerque, NM – May 15-17, 2025)**

Mr. Valdez gave a brief update on the NCEES Western Zone meeting. He had been meeting with the NCEES Vice President Aaron Blaisdell and Central Zone Vice President Jason Suelter. At this time, he has to choose the menu for the hotel dinner reception. He noted that the staff has identified some gifts to provide for the funded members. The meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites and the Friday event is being held at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

**2) Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA – August 19-22, 2025)**

Mr. Valdez introduced the NCEES Annual Meeting and asked who would be willing to attend the meeting as a funded delegate.

None of the board members indicated their intention to attend the August 2025 New Orleans NCEES Annual Meeting.

**d. Proposed update to the Fines and Penalties Guideline Table**

Mr. Valdez reported that the Fines and Penalties Guideline Table was updated to include failure to report disciplinary action and failure to meet the PDH renewal requirements. He noted that the table was discussed by both Committees and accepted for recommendation to the Full Board.

**MOTION** by Mr. Gromatzky to approve the proposed update to the Fines and Penalties Guideline Table as presented, **SECONDED** by Mr. Wayne,

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Voting 'Aye':** Ms. Dohleman, Mr. Wayne, Ms. McReynolds, Ms. McNally, Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Flores

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

**e. University Support Applications**

**1) NMSU – Garcia, G.**

**2) NM Tech – Carrico, C.**

**3) NM Tech – Leclerc, C.**

Mr. Valdez introduced the three university support applications that were received. He noted that Dr. Garcia from NMSU is requesting \$49,395, Dr. Carrico from NM Tech is requesting \$48,993, and Dr. Leclerc from NM Tech is requesting \$50,000.

Ms. McReynolds asked if the estimates that the programs submitted fall in a reasonable range.

Mr. Gromatzky stated that the price and the type of equipment was reasonable.

**MOTION** by Ms. McReynolds to approve the University Support applications, **SECONDED** by Ms. Nichols,

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Voting 'Aye':** Ms. Dohleman, Mr. Wayne, Ms. McReynolds, Ms. McNally, Ms. Nichols, Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Flores

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

**9. Committee Reports**

**a. PS Committee**

Ms. McReynolds reported that there were two members in attendance at the meeting. She noted that the Committee addressed one matter of public correspondence and covered old business items which include the SPCS 2020 update and Committee outreach activities. In new business, the Committee discussed and recommended additional updates to the fines and penalties guideline table to the Full Board.

Ms. McReynolds stated that the Committee acknowledge the subcommittee review applications which included 4 PS endorsements and 1 PS reinstatement. In addition, the Committee acknowledge the staff reviewed application which includes 5 PS expedited endorsements.

Ms. McReynolds concluded that the Committee went into closed session and there were 2 disciplinary cases, 4 PDH audit concerns and had a status review of complaints and NCAs.

**b. PE Committee**

Ms. Nichols reported that the Committee recommended approval of the proposed updates to the fine and penalties guideline table. She noted that they reviewed and acknowledged the subcommittee and staff reviewed applications.

Ms. Nichols concluded that the Committee went into closed session and reviewed 4 disciplinary cases, 10 self-reports and 6 PDH audits. There were 6 applications that were reviewed, 3 PE endorsements, 1 PE reinstatement, 1 PE renewal and 1 PE retired request.

**c. Executive Committee**

Mr. Valdez reported that the Executive Committee had not met.

**d. Joint Practice Committee**

Mr. Valdez reported that the Joint Practice Committee had not met.

**e. Public Information, Exam and Licensure Promotion Committee**

**1) Newsletter**

**2) Presentation(s)**

Ms. McNally reported that the Committee has not met. She informed the Board that Dan Flack and herself presented in March at the NMSPE chapter meeting. She noted that she provided a Board update where Mr. Flack presented on the investigation process.

She noted that she is trying to get the word out to NMSPE, other entities and schools on the importance of getting the students to take the FE exam. She discussed how NCEES has created a virtual practice exam for the FE exam. After looking at the information that was provided by NCEES they noticed that these exams have enhanced the pass rate for the first time takers.

Ms. McReynolds noted that this information mirrors what she sees for the passage rates for the bar exam as well, with repeat test takers having a lower passage rate.



Ms. McNally also noted that in June NMSPE will be having their annual meeting. She is hoping that the dates do not overlap with the Boards scheduled meeting. The Professional Surveyors conference will be in Tucson in May. She also reminded the Board that this is the time to work on the spring newsletter.

Ms. Bustamante noted that she is working on the newsletter and will send out the articles to Ms. McNally.

**f. Legal Enforcement Committee**

Mr. Valdez reported that the Legal Enforcement Committee had not met.

**g. Penalties and Fees Committee**

Mr. Wayne reported that the Penalties and Fees Committee had not met but the Fines and Penalties Guideline table was approved in New Business.

**h. NCEES Committee Members**

Mr. Valdez reported that he is on the MBA Committee and had attended the Board of Directors meeting in February. He noted that the Board of Directors discussed the mechanical plumbing exam which was going to be offered in 2027. NCEES is finalizing the PS exams and using the BLM reference for that exam. He stated that NCEES is looking at the influence of AI and how it may impact the profession. This is something that NCEES is wanting to get ahead of.

Mr. Valdez stated that NCEES discussed lobbying for state boards. This came up because Arizona asked NCEES to help them lobby for their Board. NCEES has developed a fund of \$25,000 to help with lobbying efforts.

He added that NCEES is looking at the structural exam. He noted that the lateral and vertical breadth exam first time pass rates were 39% and 45% respectively, slightly lower 6% than what was reported for the first half of the year. That the first-time pass rates for lateral depth buildings and bridges were 23% and 48% respectively, with a 7% increase for building and no change in bridges. For vertical depth building and bridges the pass rate were 14% and 36%, respectively no change for building and 8% increase for bridges.

Mr. Valdez added that NCEES is launching a fundamentals exam ambassador program which was launched in February. This is a student who would be the ambassador to promote the FE exam for each of the campuses. Currently there are only a couple of campuses since NCEES is in the initial phase. NCEES plans on trying to reach all universities.

**i. Project Steering Committee**

Mr. Gromatzky reported that the Project Steering Committee has not met since September. The Committee has delayed the meeting since the closeout of the contract. He asked the Board staff if the contract had been closed out.

Mr. Valdez informed the Board that the project contract has been closed out. Since the closeout the Board has gone before the Project Certification Committee (PCC) and asked for a change in the project. He noted that the PCC has assisted with the change and approved the project with a clause stating that the Department of Information of Technology be involved with discussion with the new vendors.

Ms. Dohleman asked if vendors had been selected.

Mr. Valdez stated that the vendors had not been selected and that at this time staff is working on finalizing the documents so that the request for demonstrations and quotes can get sent out.

Mr. Gromatzky asked if the Committee should start meeting regular schedule meetings.

Mr. Valdez noted that once a vendor and contract has been signed then we will have the regular scheduled meetings.

**10. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: June 6, 2025 – Santa Fe/Virtual**

**11. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

s/Miranda Gonzales  
Miranda Gonzales, Administrative Manager

s/Emilie Dohleman  
Emilie Dohleman, Board Chair

June 20, 2025 **Approved Date**