JOINT PRACTICE COMMITTEE

DRAFT JPC Hybrid Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2025
Santa Fe, NM

Members Present:

- Ray Vigil, RA, BEA Chair
- Robert Loftis, PLA, BLA Vice-Chair
- Barbara Felix, RA, BEA Treasurer
- Martin Romero, Bureau Chief, CBO, CID
- Ben Aragon, PS, BLPEPS
- Emilie Dohleman, PE, BLPEPS

Others Present:

- Melarie Gonzales, Executive Director, BEA
- Angelo Lucero, Board Manager, BEA
- Miranda Gonzalez, BLPEPS
- Aaron Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshall
- Tamara Kuykendall, CID
- Naomi Baldonado, RLD

1. Convene, Roll Call, and Introduction of Audience

Chair Vigil called the meeting to order at 2:08 PM. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the meeting agenda.
By: Robert Loftis
Second: Ben Aragon
Committee Vote: Passed unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: To approve the February 7, 2025, meeting minutes.
By: Emily Dohleman
Second: Barbara Felix
Committee Vote: Passed unanimously

4. Boards and Committee Reports

a. Board of Examiners for Architects: Chair Vigil reported has had an uneventful year. National Council of Architectural Registration Boards held their annual meeting in June. Several members of board attended. No major announcement general items discussed some licensure issues discussed with options for international candidates. Chair Vigil reported the Board has been with disciplinary matters related to unlicensed practice. Assistance from the Department of Justice has been received so Board is actively working to resolve those issues. Barbara Felix reported that the State of Utah has passed legislation allowing Municipality plan check to be done by AI.

b. Board of Landscape Architects: Robert Loftis reported the Board had a successful Sunset renewal during the last legislative session. Mr. Loftis reported that a Uniform Standards bill to make some modifications died in committee. Mr. Loftis reported upcoming rule changes in process primarily by RLD. Mr. Loftis reported the CLARB Annual meeting will be next week in Kentucky, he will be representing the Board. Mr. Loftis reported that the Attorney General's office is not consistent in board meeting and is hoping for more interaction with the Board.

c. Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers & Professional Surveyor: Benjamin Aragon reported Western Zone Meeting was held in Albuquerque and hosted by the Board. Mr. Aragon reported that Perry Valdez was elected to Secretary of the Western Zone. Mr. Aragon reported the NCWS conference was held in August. Mr. Aragon reported the Board has seen an increase in Surveyors applying for licensure.

Mr. Aragon reported that NMSU currently has over 120 students in the Surveying program. NMSU has increased to three professors from two. Emilie Dohleman reported they are looking for a vendor to develop and install licensing software. Ms. Dohleman reported there was a renewal rate increase that passed at the last regular Board meeting.

4. Public Comment/Correspondence

No public comments or correspondence.

5. Old Business

Chair Vigil reported the handbook for building officials was updated. Mr. Vigil thanked the Board of Engineers and Surveyors for assisting in the printing of the handbook.

6. New Business

State Fire Marshall representative Aaron Garcia introduced self. Mr. Garcia reported that Randy Varela is the acting State Fire Marshall. Mr. Garcia elaborated on requirement for kitchen/lunchrooms etc. and regulations per elaboration request by Chair Vigil. Mr. Garcia verbalized the eagerness of the State Fire Marshalls office to be part of this Joint Practice Commission. Discussion was had with difficulties with use of outdated measures being used by organizations and contractors. Mr. Garcia reported that the State Fire Marshall's office has approved nine million square feet in construction for fiscal year 2025. Next goal is 10 million. Mr. Garcia reported the Fire Marshall's office has had a push on public education they have set up multiple forums for public education on who and what the Fire Marshalls office is and their purpose.

Chair Vigil reported that the next JPC Committee chair will be transferred to the Landscape Architects Board. Nominations were initiated for the following, Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer.

Motion to nominate Robert Loftis as JPC Chair
By: Ray Vigil
Second: Emile Dohlman
Committee vote: Passed unanimously

Motion to nominate Barbara Felix as JPC Vice-Chair
By: Ray Vigil
Second: Robert Loftis
Committee vote: Passed unanimously

Motion to nominate Tamara Kuykendall as JPC Treasurer
By: Ray Vigil
Second: Ben Aragon

Committee vote: Passed unanimously

7. Next Scheduled Meeting Date

Meeting to be determined.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Submitted by: Approved by:

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Melarie Gonzales, Executive Director Ray Vigil, Chair

__________________ Approved Date