

**MEETING OF THE PROFESSIONAL SURVEYING
COMMITTEE of the Board Licensure of Professional
Engineers and Professional Surveyors held at**

9:00 a.m., Thursday, June 11, 2026,

**Toney Anaya Building, Rio Grande Conference Room, 2nd Floor
2550 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505**

& Virtual

Members Present- Robert Gromatzky, PS, Committee Chair
Benjamin Aragon, PS
John Wayne, PS

Members Absent- Maxine McReynolds, Esq., Public Member, Vice Chair

Others Present- Perry Valdez, BLPEPS, Executive Director
Miranda Gonzales, BLPEPS, Administrative Manager
Jessie James, BLPEPS, Compliance Officer
Stephen Martinez, BLPEPS, Licensing Administrator
Madison Martinez, BLPEPS, Licensing Administrator
Leon Ritcher-Freund, Legal Counsel, NMDOJ
Earl F. Burkholder, PEPS
Mark Marrujo, PS, NMDOT
Scott Farnham

1. Convene, Roll Call and Introduction of Audience

Mr. Gromatzky read the meeting script regarding the virtual meeting protocols and convened the meeting at 9:00 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 Committee the meeting was noticed on the Board's website and at the Board Office.

3. Approval of Agenda

MOTION by Mr. Aragon to approve the agenda as presented, **SECONDED** by Mr. Wayne,

Roll Call Vote:

Voting 'Aye': Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Wayne, Mr. Aragon

The motion **PASSED unanimously.**

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Minutes of April 16, 2026

b. Minutes of May 14, 2026

MOTION by Mr. Aragon to approve the Minutes of April 16, 2026, and May 14, 2026, as presented, **SECONDED** by Mr. Wayne,

Roll Call Vote:

Voting 'Aye': Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Wayne, Mr. Aragon

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

5. Public Comment/Correspondence

a. Burkholder, E.

Mr. Burkholder stated that he had received an email from Mr. Gromatzky. He noted that he read it prior to the start of this meeting and he provided a response to that email. He praised Mr. Gromatzky for identifying the issues in regard to the SPCS 2022 proposed language.

b. Farnham, S.

Mr. Farnham stated that he had sent an email out to Mr. Gromatzky regarding the SPCS 2022 proposed language. He noted that he wanted the inclusion of layer 3 zones included as an authoritative zone within the proposed legislative language. He encourages robust discussion on the inclusion of layer 3 zones and future zones that come into play.

6. Old Business

a. Use of Affidavit for Recordation of Plat

Mr. Gromatzky reported that this item was presented at the previous meeting and was tabled pending review by Legal Counsel. He stated that the Committee sought guidance on whether the use of an affidavit certifying a document as true and correct would violate the certification language required for plats prepared by non-licensed individuals.

Mr. Ritcher-Freund stated that with what is presented to the Committee is unclear what this affidavit is. He noted that if there is not an original plat filed with the county, the county clerk's filing rules require something to be filed, like an affidavit about why a duplicate is being filed instead of the original document. He emphasized that, because the specific circumstances are unknown, any conclusions would be speculative. He further observed that the affidavit language appears generic, and if someone attempted to file a fraudulent surveying affidavit, the language would likely be more specific. He suggested

that the Committee could investigate further by contacting the county clerk's office to clarify the process for filing a duplicate affidavit.

Mr. Gromatzky asked if there was a standard form that the State of New Mexico prescribes for affidavits.

Mr. Ritcher-Freund responded that while standardized affidavits exist for certain activities, there is no universal form for general affidavit needs. He noted that Section 14-8-4(C)(10) NMSA specifies five required elements for affidavits used in filing duplicates. He also added that the existence of a standard does not guarantee that it is always followed.

Mr. Gromatzky stated that the Committee could reach out to the county to discuss the affidavit process.

Mr. Aragon reminded the Committee at the last meeting they discussed contacting the Association of Counties. He suggested that the Board could develop an informational pamphlet and coordinate meetings with counties to help provide education on the process.

Mr. Gromatzky requested that this matter be added to the Board Directives.

b. SPCS 2022 Proposed Legislation

Mr. Gromatzky reported that the proposed language has been posted on the Board website. He noted that the blue highlighted area's is language that is proposed, red highlighted area is existing language that will be removed, and the purple highlighted area is new language that he recently added. He stated that he did receive an email from Mr. Farnham regarding inclusion of layer 3 zones.

In response to Mr. Farnham's email, Mr. Gromatzky stated that our existing laws regarding state plane coordinates contain more than just the definition of coordinate systems. The proposed language is an effort to preserve the existing laws, update portions of the law to match other existing laws, and define the New Mexico Coordinate System of 2022 as it applies to the licensed practice of surveying for making authoritative locations per our administrative code, which is the same as a being able to make a legal location. It has been expressed to me by many licensed surveyors and former NMBLPEPS board members that any changes or new zones for the purpose of the defined practice of licensed surveying in this state be approved by New Mexico prior to adoption. The proposed draft language provided by NGS appears to hand over that control to NGS. Additional zones with new projection scales are not going to change the need to scale state plane grid coordinates to ground using a grid-to-ground scale

factor to meet the current requirements in New Mexico. The New Mexico licensed surveyor in responsible charge of the survey work is responsible for reporting a ground distance in accordance with our accuracy standard (0.10' to 0.25' inclusive of the difference between grid and ground). The proposed legislative language does not prevent the creation or use of new zones defined by NGS for uses outside of the definition of the practice of surveying.

The Committee and those in the public audience had a lengthy discussion regarding SPCS 2022.

Mr. Aragon noted that he had set up a meeting with Senator Figueroa and Board staff to discuss the changes with her. However, he noted that the Board will need to send in the finalized proposed changes by November to the Legislative Counsel.

Mr. Gromatzky stated that he would possibly be out of the country from the end of July to September.

Mr. Aragon requested that the language be nearly finalized by the end of July so that, upon Mr. Gromatzky's return, they can complete the final revisions by October.

c. Proposed Outreach – FFA, 4-H Youth Groups, and Boy and Girl Scouts

Mr. Aragon reported that Dr. Elaksher and himself attended the early college academy, where they provided a presentation to students about engineering and surveying. He stated that he met with FFA, and they noted that the best time to reach out is during their yearly conference. This year they had one in March and May. Mr. Aragon stated that he would work with them at the end of the year to either have a booth or give a presentation to the groups.

Mr. Valdez informed the Committee that during a presentation at the NCEES Western Zone meeting, the presenter noted that there was a function with the Boy Scouts to learn and earn a merit badge for surveying. He noted that he spoke to Julia Bustamante, who is a Troop leader for the girl scouts in Santa Fe. She is very interested in having the girls learn and earn merit badges in surveying. She noted that she would discuss the possibility with the leader of New Mexico girl scouts. Mr. Valdez stated that we can involve the Board members and NMPS.

7. **New Business**

a. **Election of Officers**

1) **Committee Chair**

MOTION by Mr. Aragon to nominate Mr. Wayne as Committee Chair,
SECONDED by Mr. Gromatzky,

Roll Call Vote:

Voting ‘Aye’: Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Wayne, Mr. Aragon

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

2) **Vice Chair**

MOTION by Mr. Gromatzky to nominate himself as Committee Vice Chair,
SECONDED by Mr. Wayne,

Roll Call Vote:

Voting ‘Aye’: Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Wayne, Mr. Aragon

The motion **PASSED unanimously**.

8. **Application Review – Recommended Approval**

a. **Acknowledgement of Sub-Committee Reviewed Applications**

The Committee acknowledged the sub-committee reviewed applications.

b. **Acknowledgement of Staff Reviewed Applications**

The Committee acknowledged the staff reviewed applications.

9. **Closed Session**

MOTION by Mr. Gromatzky that the Committee enter into closed session at 10:13 a.m. to discuss the items listed on the agenda pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1 (H) (1) and (3) to discuss matters pertaining to the issuance, suspension, renewal or revocation of a license and to deliberate on pending cases. **SECONDED** by Mr. Aragon.

Roll call vote taken, voting ‘Yes’: Mr. Gromatzky, Mr. Aragon, Mr. Wayne

10. **Action on Items Discussed During Executive Session**

Mr. Gromatzky brought the Committee back into open session at 10:23 a.m. and affirmed that while in closed session it discussed only those matters specified in the motion to close the meeting and listed on the agenda under executive session, in accordance with NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 (H) (1) and (3).

a. **Status Review of Complaints and NCA's**

A status was reviewed on the status of pending cases and referrals for Notice of Contemplated Actions.

11. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: August 13, 2026 – Santa Fe/Virtual

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Miranda Gonzales, Administrative Manager

Robert Gromatzky, Committee Chair

_____ **Approved Date**