



Oregon

**State Board of Examiners for
Engineering & Land Surveying**

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EXAMINATIONS & QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

December 12, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m. in the conference room of the Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying (OSBEELS) office at 670 Hawthorne Avenue SE, Suite 220, Salem, OR 97301.

Members present were:

Ed Butts, Chair

Ken Hoffine

Amin Wahab

Mari Kramer (excused absence)

Staff present was:

Mari Lopez, Executive Secretary

Jenn Gilbert

Others present:

Bob Neathamer, PLS

Joanna Tucker-Davis, Assistant Attorney General

Katharine Lozano, Assistant Attorney General

Guest Discussion:

Four-hour Oregon Specific Land Surveying Examination – Bob Neathamer, PLS

Bob Neathamer attended the meeting to discuss proposed revisions to the four-hour Oregon Specific Land Surveying Examination syllabus. He stated that the two main purposes for the revisions were to update the syllabus to correlate to the current exam process and to also change the form and content of the examination. Mr. Neathamer noted that the six-hour National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) professional land surveying portion was revised to reflect the current examination administration by the Engineering and Land Surveying Examination Services (ELSES). He also informed the Committee that the four-hour Oregon Specific portion of the examination was revised from seven examination items to five examination items that distribute questions related to the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORSs) and the Oregon Administrative Rules (OARs) throughout the examination. He further suggested, if approved by the Board, that the syllabus be sent to the approved candidates with approval letters from the Board. After a brief discussion, **the Committee agreed to present the revised four-hour Oregon Specific Land Surveying Examination syllabus during the January Board meeting for approval.**

New Business:

Portland State University

The Committee received correspondence from Scott Wells, Department Chair and Professor from the Portland State University (PSU) Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. He is requesting the students in the PSU Environmental Engineering Bachelor of Science program (BSEE) who are applying for the April 2009 Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) and the Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FLS) examination be allowed entrance to the examination. He stated that this is a new program that has not yet been evaluated by the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET) but will undergo an ABET visit in 2012. An ABET requirement is at least one student should have graduated from the program before submitting it for evaluation. Mr. Wells further stated that if the program is successful in the accreditation upon completion of the evaluation, the program will be considered retroactively accredited from the time of the first student completing the program. Mr. Wells also mentioned considering the applications with submittal of the Educational Credential Evaluations, Inc (ECEI) application and fee. It was noted that the degrees from PSU are not considered foreign degrees and therefore, it is not necessary for an applicant to obtain an evaluation. After a brief discussion, **the Committee agreed to recommend approving entrance for individuals applying for the April 2009 FE or FLS examination currently in the BSEE program and compliant with ORS 670.010 during the January Board meeting for approval.** Staff was also directed to inform Mr. Wells that the ECEI course-by-course evaluation is not necessary.

The Committee also received correspondence from Mr. Wells regarding PSU students whose applications for professional engineering (PE) examinations have been denied. It was noted that the denial letters state;

“The official transcript from Portland State University (PSU) shows completion of a Master’s degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering which does not have an ABET accredited undergraduate program, and therefore does not satisfy the OAR 820-010-0230(3).”

After discussion, the Committee determined to invite Mr. Wells to discuss the matter further during the January Board meeting.

Acoustical PE Examination

The Committee briefly reviewed the information received from the graders of the Acoustical PE examination and the applicant. The Committee noted that the examination was graded independently by two acoustical engineers. There was no further action.

Informational:

NCEES Change

The Committee received a memorandum dated November 3, 2008 from NCEES regarding the change to the organization of the FE Exam specifications. The memorandum informed that the Engineering Mechanics topics of the FE examination will be divided into two distinct groups under a *Statics* heading and a *Dynamics* heading. There was no further action.

Letter to Engineering Board – Tom Pettit

The Committee reviewed an email from Tom Pettit regarding the continuing professional development requirements as a condition of registration renewal. The members noted that

continuing education has become universally accepted by most professions and, at this time, will continue for registration with the Board.

Notice of Future Changes to NCEES Exams

The Committee reviewed a memorandum dated November 5, 2008 from NCEES regarding future changes to the Mining and Mineral PE examinations and the Civil PE examinations. It was noted that the changes are still pending action from NCEES. There was no further action,

Review of Applications:

Comity Applications –

The Committee reviewed a comity application from Geoffrey Lance Cooke for registration as a professional civil engineer. Mr. Cooke successfully passed the NCEES Structural I examination in addition to obtaining the other minimum requirements. After review of the documentation submitted, the Committee will recommend Mr. Cooke to be placed on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the January Board meeting.

The Committee reviewed a comity application from Christopher Cox for registration as a professional electrical engineer. Mr. Cox met the minimum requirements for licensure, excluding successful passage of the PE examination. He was awarded 5 Veteran's points in the State of Georgia in which he was subsequently issued a professional electrical engineering license. After discussion, the Committee denied his application. Staff was directed to inform Mr. Cox accordingly and invite him to sit for a PE examination as required by ORS 672.102(2).

The Committee reviewed a comity application from Richard Hall for registration as a professional civil engineer. Mr. Hall submitted information related to previous law enforcement matters in other jurisdictions. After a brief discussion and review of the documentation submitted, the Committee determined to place Mr. Hall on the list of comity applications for approval by the Board during the January Board meeting.

The Committee reviewed a comity application from Jason Waters for registration as a professional civil engineer. Mr. Waters requested to receive 1 year of credit towards the 4-year experience requirement due to his Master of Science degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering degree from PSU. Due to the discussion held earlier, the Committee denied his request. Staff was directed to respond accordingly.

The Committee reviewed a comity application from Scott McDonald for registration as a professional mechanical engineer. Mr. McDonald met the minimum requirement for licensure, excluding successful passage of the FE examination. After a brief discussion, the Committee denied his application. Staff was directed to inform Mr. McDonald accordingly and invite him to sit for the FE examination as required by ORS 672.102(1).

Examination Applications –

The Committee received applications for the April 2009 FE examination from the following 7 individuals that submitted course-by-course evaluations of foreign degrees. After discussion and review of the documentation submitted, it was determined that these individuals met the minimum requirements for entrance to the FE examination pursuant to the OAR 820-010-0225 and OAR 820-010-0227.

Yun, Bang Yeol
Park, Tae Soo
Yong Hee, Park

Choi, Jin Young
Lee, Nam Suk

Park, Kwanpill
Hyung Joong, Joo

The Committee received applications for the April 2009 FE examination from the following 4 individuals that submitted course-by-course evaluations of foreign degrees. However, the documentation stated the degrees awarded were not equivalent to degrees recognized by the ABET. After a review of the submitted documentation, it was determined that an additional eight years of qualifying work experience would be required to gain admission to the FE examination pursuant to the OAR 820-010-0227(4). Staff will respond accordingly.

Hwang, In-Jun
Hwang, Jung Hyun

Song, Euy

Yi, Taeyual

The Committee received an application from Jea Hyok Chang for the April 2009 FE examination. Although a course-by-course evaluation was received, the documentation stated the degree awarded was not equivalent to a degree recognized by the ABET. Therefore, the Committee determined that an additional four years of qualifying work experience would be required to gain admission to the FE examination pursuant to the OAR 820-010-0227(4). Staff will respond to Mr. Chang accordingly.

The Committee received an application from Duck Soo Kim for the April 2009 FE examination. Although a course-by-course evaluation was received, the documentation stated the degree awarded was not equivalent to a degree recognized by the ABET. Therefore, the Committee determined that an additional two years of qualifying work experience would be required to gain admission to the FE examination pursuant to the OAR 820-010-0227(4). Staff will respond to Mr. Soo accordingly.

The Committee received an application from Juan Gregorio for the April 2009 Civil PE examination. Mr. Gregorio submitted the required documentation; however, 2 of the 5 references received contained less-than-positive remarks. After discussion, the Committee determined to request Mr. Gregorio to submit an additional 2 references and further explanation of the matters discussed by the references. Staff will inform Mr. Gregorio accordingly.

Re-Applications –

The Committee reviewed re-applications from John Haglund and Paul Savage for the April 2009 examination administration. These individuals did not achieve a passing grade in their first and second written examinations. As stated in OAR 820-010-0465, they were required to submit valid evidence of further preparation. Evidence reviewed consists of additional experience gained, special training, courses taken and study materials reviewed. After review of the documentation submitted, the Committee approved both applications. Staff will respond to Mr. Haglund and Mr. Savage accordingly.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.