



# Oregon

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

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## EXAMINATIONS & QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

June 14, 2013

### Members present:

Carl Tappert, Chair

Steven Burger

James Doane

Dan Linscheid

### Staff present:

Mari Lopez, Executive Secretary

Jenn Gilbert, Executive Assistant

Jenn O'Neill

Brianna Weekly

Joy Pariente

### Others present:

Kyle Martin, Assistant Attorney General

The meeting of the Examinations and Qualifications Committee meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. in the OSBEELS Conference Room at 670 Hawthorne Avenue SE, Suite 220, Salem, OR 97301. Dan Linscheid participated as a temporary member of the Committee.

### **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **Informational**

#### **2013 NCEES Engineering Award**

Staff shared a news release from June 10, 2013 regarding Cleveland State University winning the 2013 NCEES Engineering Award. There was no discussion.

### **New Business**

#### **Clark College Surveying/Geomatics AAS Degree Program**

Clark College requested authorization for their Surveying/Geomatics AAS Degree Program to be considered as qualifying education for entrance to the FLS examination. This program is not ABET accredited. Mr. Tappert recommended that graduates from this program continue to be evaluated under Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 820-010-0228, rather than under a blanket

policy, as is the policy with other students applying for examinations with non-ABET accredited degrees.

#### Daniel Pool's FE Exam – Letter from Oregon Tech dated May 24, 2013

Oregon Tech wrote to inform the Board that university staff made an error and told Mr. Pool he would be graduating in December 2012, when he wouldn't actually be receiving his degree until a later date. Oregon Tech requested the Board grant Mr. Pool an extension to provide his transcripts showing a qualifying degree awarded, in accordance with his Dean's Stamp application. Mr. Linscheid pointed out that the Board isn't authorized to grant extensions to the law. Mr. Burger said he appreciates the sense of responsibility of the school.

### **Review of Applications**

#### Comity

*Boynton, Blane* – Mr. Boynton submitted an application for a Mechanical PE registration by comity. Mr. Boynton has submitted five complete references. However, none of the references provided are registered in a NCEES jurisdiction pursuant to OAR 820-010-0200(2)(b). Mr. Boynton's references did not show current registration, however, they are all involved in the engineering field. AAG Martin asked what sort of qualifying information is usually used when approving or rejecting references. Mr. Burger said they look for references spanning the applicants time of experience, at a minimum. Mr. Tappert pointed out that references aren't required under statute, only rule. AAG Martin said under rule, exceptions can be made if appropriate evidence is provided. After discussion, the Committee waived the registration requirements in OAR 820-010-0200(2)(b) and recommends the Board approve Mr. Boynton's application for Mechanical PE registration by comity.

*Pedersen, Hans* - Mr. Pedersen submitted an application for a PLS registration by comity. Mr. Pedersen has ten years and two months of his land surveying experience verified by his professional references. Additionally, Mr. Pedersen has provided an official transcript from the Oregon Institute of Technology demonstrating coursework he has completed. The Committee determined that the coursework Mr. Pederson completed was substantially equivalent to the 1 year and 10 months of additional experience Mr. Pedersen needed for a total of 12 years of qualifying experience. Based on this information, the Committee recommends the Board approve Mr. Pedersen's application for PLS registration by comity and allow him to sit for the October 2013 Oregon Specific Land Surveying Examination.

*Pettigrew, Christopher* – Mr. Pettigrew did not have a current Civil PE registration in Utah, which is required to obtain his Civil PE registration by comity in Oregon. However, this is because Utah removes the Civil PE designation when it is superseded by a structural registration, as in Mr. Pettigrew's case. The Committee recommends the Board approve Mr. Pettigrew's application for Civil PE registration by comity.

*Weldon, James* – Mr. Weldon submitted an application for a Civil PE registration by comity. Mr. Weldon provided official verification from the Colorado State Board verifying successful passage of an 8-hour state-specific PE examination in 1979. At that time, Oregon required the NCEES 8-hour PE examination. Based on this information and the statement provided by the

Colorado Board, the Committee recommends the Board approve Mr. Weldon's application for Civil PE registration by comity.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Registration Applications

*Oshiro, Yoshinori* – Mr. Oshiro submitted an application for registration as a Civil PE by 1<sup>st</sup> Registration. Mr. Oshiro provided an official evaluation of his degree from NCEES Credential Evaluators. The evaluation determined that Mr. Oshiro's degree is deficient 8 semester credit hours in general education. Ms. Lopez pointed out that, in the past, the Committee has approved individuals who were deficient in their general education credits. NCEES defines general education credits as "16 credit hours in subjects such as philosophy, religion, history, literature, fine arts, sociology, psychology, political science, anthropology, micro and macroeconomics, ethics and social responsibility." Mr. Burger asked if the other Committee members believed that general education credits are critical to performing engineering tasks. Mr. Tappert said, in that case, why does the Board require accredited degrees at all? Why not just look for fulfillment of engineering requirements in college coursework? Mr. Linscheid also questioned if an ABET-accredited degree was really necessary for registration.

Mr. Burger said the degree shows they can complete the coursework provided. Mr. Linscheid recommended bringing this situation to the full Board for discussion. Mr. Tappert asked if other Boards require degrees or waive general education credits. Ms. Lopez said it varies by Board – some excuse missing humanities credits and others require them for registration. Following considerable discussion, **the Committee determined to bring this topic to the full Board for discussion.**

### Continuing Professional Development Audit

#### Kerber, Nick

Mr. Kerber, a mechanical engineer, was found to be deficient in his PDHs during the most recent audit. He had claimed a number of PDHs for research and development-related activities performed as part of his primary employment. He requested the Committee to consider his situation and grant him an exception by allowing activities performed during the execution of his job to be counted towards his PDH requirements. The Committee members determined that the rules don't allow credit for doing any task you're paid to complete. The Committee directed Staff to draft a letter to Mr. Kerber **to be reviewed at the July Board meeting.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.