

MINUTES
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING
TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
1917 S. IH 35
Austin, Texas 78741
August 22, 2019—9:30 AM

Discuss and Possibly Act on the Following Agenda Items:

1. Preliminary Matters:

A. Call to Order.

Elvira Reyna, Chair, called the Legislative Issues Committee meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers to order at 9:30 a.m. on August 22, 2019, at the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, 1917 S. IH 35, Austin, TX. A quorum was present. (NOTE: all votes are unanimous unless noted.)

B. Roll Call.

Ms. Bodden called the roll. It was noted for the record that a quorum was present.

The following committee members were present:

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| Elvira Reyna | Chair |
| Ademola Adejokun, P.E. | Member |
| Albert Cheng | Member |
| Sina Nejad, P.E., P.Eng. | Member |

Veena Mohan, Assistant Attorney General, was present to provide legal counsel to the Board. Edmundo Gonzalez, P.E., R.P.L.S., and Govind Nadkarni, P.E., Advisory Members were present. Board Members Lamberto Ballí, P.E.; Catherine Norwood, P.E.; Rolando Rubiano, P.E.; Kiran Shah; and Dr. Daniel Wong, P.E., were present.

The following staff members were present:

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| Lance Kinney, Ph.D., P.E. | Executive Director |
| Rick Strong, P.E. | Director of Licensing and Registration |
| Michael Sims, P.E. | Director of Compliance and Enforcement |
| Elissa Mazza | Staff Attorney |
| Cristabel Bodden | Executive Assistant |

C. Excuse absent committee members. All committee members were present.

D. Welcome Visitors.

Terry Bilderback, P.E., Texas Society of Professional Engineers (TSPE); Heather Sides, LIA Surveying/Texas Society of Professional Land Surveyors; Scott Simmons, ACEC Central Texas; Trish Smith, P.E., TSPE; Nancy Ellen Soteriou, Test Masters; and Peyton McKnight, ACEC Central Texas, were present.

E. Public Comment. None.

2. May 23, 2019 Legislative Issues Committee Meeting Minutes.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Cheng/Adejokun) to approve the May 23, 2019, Legislative Committee minutes as submitted. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

3. Update on bills relating to the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and the Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying passed during the 86th Texas Legislative Session.

Dr. Kinney relayed that the report is included as an exhibit for the Committee.

Dr. Kinney discussed those bills that directly affected the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and the Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying.

Dr. Kinney relayed that staff tracked many bills that impact the agency directly and those that affect the agency indirectly. Dr. Kinney has highlighted those bills that would impact the agency directly and what action must be taken.

An important one is HB1342 involving changes to criminal convictions, policies, and modifications to Occupations Code 53. This will require a rule change which will come forward at the next round of rule changes in November.

HB2110 involves agency changes to the measurement and management of the customer satisfaction survey. New communication questions will be added to the survey.

SB1217 involves changes to the criminal background review process regarding arrests. This agency does not take any action on arrests but we will incorporate these changes as needed.

4. Update on implementation of HB1523 related to the merger of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and the Texas Board of Professional Land Surveying.

Dr. Kinney relayed that the report is included as an exhibit for the Committee.

Dr. Kinney stated that work on the implementation of the merger had begun 6 months prior and will continue past the September 1, 2019, merger date.

The agency name will change on September 1, 2019. Work has begun on changes and updates to the Act and rules. Staff are working diligently on these and other changes to agency programs and policies.

Residency requirements for the LSLS license will be removed and will go into effect on September 1, 2019.

Dr. Kinney reported that there are changes coming to the registration, renewal, and complaint processes.

Dr. Kinney relayed to the Board that staff will begin reviewing rule changes and may begin proposing them at the November Board meeting.

5. Issues for consideration at future board meeting. None.

6. Adjourn.

It was MOVED/SECONDED (Adejokun/Nejad) to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 a.m. A vote was taken and the MOTION PASSED.

Date Board accepted minutes:

November 14, 2019