

MINUTES

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

DATE: June 3, 2015

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: 500 N. Calvert Street
Room 308
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

PRESENT: John Mettee, Chairman
John Jensen
Donald Ocker
Daniel Lavelle
Thomas Orisich
Brian Dunne

OTHERS

PRESENT: Pamela J. Edwards, Executive Director
James Baseman, Assistant Executive Director
Milena Trust, Assistant Attorney General
TJ Frazier, MSS
Matthew Brien

CALL TO ORDER

John Mettee, Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

ACTION ON MINUTES

A motion (I) was made by Don Ocker, seconded by John Jensen, and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2015 meeting with one change by Tom Orisich. The first sentence of the 5th paragraph on page 3 should read as follows:

Mr. Orisich noted that the current law requires 32 academic credits but CCBC (Catonsville Community College of Baltimore County) only requires 30 credits in their program to receive a certification.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ocker noted that the Complaint Committee did not meet today and provided the status of three open complaints as follows:

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- 15-LS-04 In pre-charge review.
15-LS-07 The Consent Order has been executed but the complaint will remain open until the fine is paid.
15-LS-08 The Consent Order has been executed and CPC audit approved, complaint closed.

A motion (II) was made by John Jensen, seconded by Dan Lavelle, and unanimously carried by the Board to accept the complaint committee's report.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the response prepared by Milena Trust which was sent to Fred Price.

NEW BUSINESS

John Mettee presented Milena Trust with the pen Governor Hogan used to sign the firm permit bill into law. Mr. Mettee and Ms. Trust thanked Mr. Frazier and the Maryland Society of Surveyors for their participation and hard work in getting the bill passed into law.

The Board discussed revisions to House Bill 702 (Education Bill) and entertained several options to licensure presented by the members. The Board agreed upon the following paths to licensure:

1. 4-year degree in Land surveying plus 2 years of experience.
2. 4-year degree in physical sciences accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools plus 4 years of experience.
3. 4-year degree accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and 30 hours of Land Surveying credits plus 2 years of experience.
4. High school diploma, 4 years of experience and passage of the Fundamentals exam, plus 4 more years of experience and passage of the Principles and Practice exam.

All options would require the applicant to pass the Fundamentals, Principles and Practices, and State Specific exams.

The Board agreed that the current option under 15-305(d), which accepts candidates for licensure with a high school diploma, 12 years of experience, and without passing the Fundamentals exam (but passing Principles and Practices), should be deleted.

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Milena Trust will draft these proposed revisions.

Don Ocker asked if email was subjected to the open meetings law. Milena Trust stated that emails that include herself as an addressee are not discoverable. She also noted that emails between members of the Complaint Committee are not discoverable as well as ones on which Susan Cherry is copied.

A motion (III) was made by Tom Orisich, seconded by many, and unanimously carried by the Board to send Milena Trust to the NCEES Annual meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Matthew Brien appeared before the Board as requested. There were no questions or concerns. The Board thanked him for his appearance.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Pamela Edwards noted that the vacancy for the Administrative Specialist III position (PLS Board Secretary) is being posted on the website today. Also, the Secretary has approved submission of the hiring freeze exemption for the second Administrative Specialist III position (CID Board Secretary).

Ms. Edwards reported that Board meeting minutes have been posted on the DLLR website. She also noted that exam grades were received and that six people are eligible for licensure.

The firm permit bill was discussed briefly. Ms. Edwards noted that the bill requires a firm to designate a licensee in responsible charge of surveying for the firm. The bill also contains a provision for a reinstatement fee to be instituted. Ms. Edwards is waiting to hear from the Secretary's office as to whether a reinstatement fee can be set. The Board discussed the possible amounts of that fee.

BOARD COUNSEL REPORT

Milena Trust had nothing new to report.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Milena Trust had nothing new to report.

MARYLAND SOCIETY OF SURVEYORS

Mr. Frazier stated that the Society will meet in St. Michaels at the end of this week. He noted that there will be an SHA seminar on June 12th and the minor engineering exam workshop will be held in early September.

REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications for firm permits were approved:

Production Builder Services Inc. 21788
King's Point Surveys 21789

One application for examination was denied because the applicant lacked the required amount of minor engineering experience.

Following a review of the above applications by a minimum of two board members, a motion (IV) was made by Don Ocker, seconded by Dan Lavelle, and unanimously carried to accept the above actions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion (V) was made by John Jensen, seconded by Tom Orisich, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Without Corrections

With Corrections



John Mettee, Chairman

Date: 6/3/2015