
Maryland Board for Professional Land Surveyors

Business Meeting

Meeting Minutes

DATE: October 20, 2023

TIME: 10:00 AM

LOCATION: Princess Royale Oceanfront Resort
9110 Coastal Hwy,
Ocean City, MD 21842
(Teleconference via Google Meet)

MEMBERS PRESENT: John V. Mettee III, *Chair*
Tammy Rollins, *Vice-Chair*
Thomas M. Orisich, *Land Surveyor*
T.J. Frazier, *Land Surveyor*
Jeanne Nebre, *Land Surveyor*

MEMBERS ABSENT: Derrick McLaughlin, *Consumer Member*

STAFF PRESENT: Zevi Thomas, *Executive Director*
Raquel Meyers, *Assistant Executive Director*
Matthew Venuti, *Board Counsel*
Faith Green, *Board Counsel*

Meeting Called to Order

Chair John V. Mettee III called the business meeting of the Maryland Board for Professional Land Surveyors at 10:27 a.m. Mr. Mettee modified the following agenda items: 5C to Joint Chairs, added 5D as Ad-hoc Committee, and 5E as Questions and Answers.

Approval of September 6, 2023 Minutes

Members of the Board reviewed the meeting minutes for September 6, 2023. Motion (I) was made by Mr. Orisich, seconded by Ms. Rollins, and unanimously carried by the Board to approve minutes with corrections.

Executive Director's Report

State-Specific Exams

Mr. Thomas stated that the State-Specific Exams occurred on October 11 – 12, 2023. There were 18 examinees. A total of 9 out of 9 examinees passed the Law & Ethics exam. A total of 10 out of 15 examinees passed the Road Grade and Storm Drain Design exam.

E-Blast

Mr. Thomas notified the Board members and town hall attendees of an upcoming e-blast to remind licensees to maintain their contact information and records updated with the Maryland Board. The email is scheduled in the next two weeks. If they don't receive this email in a few weeks, licensees should check email spam or contact the Board to update their contact information.

Board Counsel's Report

Mr. Venuti stated there was no report from the Board Counsel.

Mr. Mettee inquired if there was any legislation that the Board needed to be aware of. Mr. Venuti responded that the legislative sunset extension has been submitted, and any updates will be given in the coming months.

Licensing Board's Presentation

Board's Presentation of Certificates to New Licensees

Mr. Mettee announced the following new licensees that were present with their wall certificates: Shawn Jones, PLS; Ernest Opoku, PLS, and Ricky Mwanza, PLS.

Briefing of National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Annual Meeting and the Proposals for National Exams

Mr. Mettee provided a briefing on the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) annual meeting and the proposals for national exams.

Joint Chairs of Design Boards

Mr. Mettee explained the number one role of the Joint Chairs of Design Boards is to monitor the budget, since the professional design boards (architects, certified interior designers, landscape architects, professional engineers, and land surveyors); have agreed to manage their revenues and cost . He also mentioned that the Board of Architects created a handbook for review by the various Design Boards. He continued to state that Maryland already has a Guide for Overlapping Practice among Design disciplines. The Architect's Handbook references these practices and aims to expand the description of each design discipline for the benefit of code officials.

The Surveyors Board is going to look at what the Architects provided, and offer any commentary. Also, to see if the Board would do likewise for the Code Officials.

Ad-hoc Committee

Ms. Nebre stated that the Committee started meeting in April when it was agreed to meet monthly. To date, the Committee has reviewed the standard of certification in comparison to what the Maryland Board for Professional Engineers currently has in place.

Questions and Answers

Attendee #1 inquired if modules were added to the national exam, how would it affect the Maryland license, and if someone can pass only the Core exam to be licensed. Mr. Mettee stated that no it is not possible to be licensed by only taking the Core module of the exam. They are measuring for competency.

Attendee #2 inquired if passing the boundary is the same as becoming a Property Line Surveyor. Mr. Mettee responded that Maryland no longer licenses Property Line Surveyors. The Practice Act determines how many modules an individual must pass.

Attendee #3 inquired if incidental drainage were to pass, and how it would affect the Maryland State-Specific exams. Mr. Mettee that if either the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying or Colonial States pass it, it will be fully recognized by the Maryland Board, and the Board will no longer be in the business of creating and administering these exams.

Attendee #4 stated that over the past several years, there's been a trend toward deregulation and making it easier to achieve reciprocity between states. He further inquired about what role NCEES is playing. Mr. Mettee stated that mobility has been a topic of discussion with NCEES for

a number of years. He added that there is a Model Law Surveying with NCEES which aims to expedite licensure by comity, but what is being implemented by each jurisdiction's Practice Act can vary significantly.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Motion (II) was made by Mr. Frazier, seconded by Mr. Orsich, and unanimously carried by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

Chair's Signature: Signature on File

Date: 11/01/2023