

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
Minutes of the Legislative Committee Meeting
Held virtually, Tuesday, June 9, 2020

Committee Chairman Angelo Spata, PE, called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Committee members joining via video conference: Karen Purcell, PE; Brent Wright, PE/SE; Michael Kidd, PLS. Also participating were: Patty Mamola, Executive Director; Christopher MacKenzie, Board Counsel; Murray Blaney, Operations/Compliance; and Louisa Kern, Administrative Assistant.

1. Meeting conducted by Committee Chair Angelo Spata, call to order and roll call to determine presence of quorum

2. Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

3. Approval of May 5, 2020, Legislative Committee meeting minutes

LGC 20-12 Mr Wright made a motion to approve the May 5, 2020 Legislative Committee meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Ms Purcell. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Discuss potential changes to Nevada Administrative Code chapter 625 related to mandated ten-year review, refer to attached addendum A

Mr Spata referred to addendum A which listed the regulations the committee had recommended for change. He said the board had considered the proposed amendment language and voted to approve the items listed moving forward in the public review process.

5. Consider the following changes to Nevada Revised Statute 625, 327:

Mr Spata said the items listed in this section were longer-term changes the committee was considering. He asked for updates from committee members and staff on progress since the last meeting.

- **NRS 625.500—utility company exemption**

Ms Mamola said there was no progress since the last meeting.

- **NRS 625.530—public works exemption from using a licensed professional engineer**

Ms Mamola said there was no update.

- **NRS 625.175—discipline specific vs PE state (discipline specific language added in 1975, AB 604— Committee on Judiciary)**

Ms Purcell said there was no update.

- **NRS 327—Nevada Coordinate System; Geographic Names**

Mr Kidd said there was no update at this time.

Mr Spata said the regulatory review had been the focus of the committee to date. He added that at the next meeting the committee would review above items and discuss setting tentative timeframes for action. (ACTION item)

6. Discuss bill draft request for changes to NRS 625. 270, decoupling of exams from experience requirements for professional land surveyor applicants

Ms Mamola said that she was connecting with Ms Fischer from McDonald Carano and Mr MacKenzie about the best path forward with a bill draft request and the options for a bill sponsor. (ACTION Item)

7. Consider results of Small Business Impact Survey related to regulation changes and resultant draft Small Business Impact Report

Ms Mamola discussed the categorization of the regulations proposed for amendment. She said a survey was sent out for each of the five categories and the draft Small Business Impact Statements were compiled following review of each survey's results and additional comments emailed and mailed. Ms Mamola said staff is presenting the draft reports for feedback and consideration by the committee.

Mr Spata asked if there were any issues that the survey highlighted.

Ms Mamola said some expressed concerns about the possible cost and/or availability of continuing education content for Nevada rules and regulations and the ethics component. She added that the committee had discussed offering take-home exam options.

Mr Wright said offering a take-home or web based option highlighting rules and regulation changes, along with the proposed amendment allowing self-study should eliminate the cost concern.

Ms Mamola said some comments also had issue with the removal of citizenship requirement for licensure. She said even though the bill from the last legislative session mandating the removal was referenced, respondents interpreted it as something the board has enacted – which is entirely incorrect.

LGC 20-12 Ms Purcell made a motion that the draft Small Business Impact statements move forward, as presented, to the board with a recommendation of approval. Motion was seconded by Mr Kidd. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Discuss regulatory process timeline and next steps in the process

Ms Mamola reviewed the next steps in the process and explained how the virtual public workshop would be facilitated. She added that a legislative committee meeting would likely need to be scheduled to consider the public comment from the workshops, and to determine if edits need to be made to the draft SBI statements as a result. Ms Mamola said she would poll committee members about a meeting date and time. (ACTION Item)

9. Discussion on status of committee and staff assignments

Ms Mamola reviewed and reported on the status of the listed action items.

10. Public Comment Period

There was no public comment.

11. Adjourn

Mr Spata adjourned the meeting at 4:30pm.

Respectfully,

Patty Mamola
Executive Director