NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
Held virtually, on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 9:15 AM

Board members participating were Chairman Angelo Spata, PE; Thomas Matter, public member; Karen Purcell, PE; Michael Kidd, PLS; Robert Fyda, PE; Jay Dixon, PE; Board members Greg DeSart, PE; Matthew Gingerich, PLS; and Vice Chair Brent Wright, PE/SE, were excused.

Also participating were Mark Fakler, Executive Director; Chris MacKenzie, Board Legal Counsel; Murray Blaney, Operations and Compliance; Derek Vogel; Communications; and Jasmine Bailey, Licensing.

1. Meeting conducted by Chair Angelo Spata, call to order and roll call of board members to determine presence of quorum—board members Brent Wright, Michael Kidd, Thomas Matter, Karen Purcell, Matt Gingerich, Robert Fyda, Greg DeSart, Jay Dixon.

Mr Spata called the meeting to order, and a quorum was determined.

2. Public comment.

There was no public comment virtually or via email.

3. Consideration of initial licensure applicant requests to waive certain requirements of Nevada Revised Statutes and Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 625.

Ms Purcell recommended approval of the request to waive NRS 625.183 (4)(b) made by Jordan Johnson applying for mechanical engineering licensure.

25-21 A motion was made by Ms Purcell, seconded by Mr Fyda to approve the waiver request. The motion passed unanimously. Mr DeSart, Mr Gingerich, and Mr Wright were excused from the vote.

4. Board approval of non-appearance applications for initial licensure. Refer to Addendum A for list of applicants.

The Board reviewed fourteen applications in the board packet for initial licensure and recommendations were made.

25-22 A motion was made by Mr Spata, seconded by Ms Purcell to approve the applications for initial licensure contained in the board packet with recommendations noted. The motion passed unanimously. Mr DeSart, Mr Gingerich, and Mr Wright were excused from the vote.

The Board reviewed three additional applications in the supplement to the board packet for initial licensure and recommendations were made.

25-23 A motion was made by Mr Kidd, seconded by Mr Fyda to approve the applications for initial licensure contained in the board packet with recommendations noted. The motion passed unanimously. Mr DeSart, Mr Gingerich, and Mr Wright were excused from the vote.

5. <u>Discuss Senate Bill 78 which eliminates the Board and assimilates its functions into a new combined board of Engineering, Surveying and Environmental Health under the purview of Business & Industry.</u>

Mr Spata
Moving on to agenda item 5. This is to discuss the status of Senate Bill 78. There is not a lot of action there. I'll give a couple of quick updates and then, Mr Fakler, you could step in if you've got anything more to add. At our last Board meeting, I believe I gave an update where literally that day, if not the day before, I'd gotten an email of some changes that were taking place. The main update since then is that they memorialized that in a memo which they've sent out. I think we may have included that in the board packet if I recall.

Mr Fakler
That is correct.

Mr Spata
Outside of that, you know, we've been working with them on some of the financial requests and just validation of our finances, along with all the other boards. Mr Fakler, I know you're heavily engaged with both our lobbyists as well as, you know, B & I. So, any further updates you want to share?

Mr Fakler
Thank you very much. So, the board packet does include the memo related to the amendments to SB 78. There's also Business and Industry's background paper of how they set up the new revised board for the Engineers and Environmental Health Specialists.

On Monday night the bill was introduced to the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. And I'll give you some of the highlights of what Business and Industry presented, and then kind of give you what I think our next steps are going to be. So, with that, some of their key points: they believe that, and we've heard this before, that this will solve the antitrust and the dominance issues; this will modernize government boards, and provide transparency to the public; and B & I believes that this will save 15 million in licensee revenues, but they did not provide any backup detail on how. They are using Arkansas and Iowa for models on the proposed websites. If passed, it'll be a 2-year implementation. Mr

Sanchez says he's still committed to working with everybody because, at the end of the day, if this bill does get passed, he wants, and is committed to, successful reform and successful turnover. One of the other things is, in several of their presentations, they've represented budgets, and they've shown several boards operating in the red. And it's disappointing to me that they don't go into a little bit more detail. We operate in red, but we do that by purpose, as we're working on some deferred projects like going from paper to paperless, and our firm registration and licensing platform. So, we are spending down some of our reserves. But that's modeled into our plan.

As for the next steps, early on we identified a two-pronged process; one where Angelo, and I, on behalf of the Board, continue to work with Business & Industry. If this bill goes through, we need to work with them to craft the best bill we possibly can for engineers and land surveyors. And the second prong is to continue with our public outreach and educating the public and having them communicate with their representatives any issues they have with the bill. So I think that's still very important, and I will try to, I'll reach out with you after this meeting, Angelo, to arrange our next meeting time with Business and Industry because I think that's our next step. (ACTION Item)

Mr Spata
Any questions or comments from the Board members?

Mr Kidd
Just one comment Mr Chair. Just would ask that you guys continue the request for a second land surveyor member of the board. Looking, watching the hearing that they had this week, it looks like it's 4 engineers, one surveyor, 2 environmental, and one public member. I would ask that we continue to try to get that second land survey member for the reconfigured board, please. (ACTION Item)

Mr Spata
That we agree. We agree and that's noted, Mr Kidd.

Mr Fakler
And one thing I might add. I think we're also going to try to get another engineer, but that's important. And on the PLS side, we agree that 2 is important. We need representatives from the North and the South. And then one of my questions is the need for a chief medical officer. It's just a question that I'd like Business and Industry to answer is that one doesn't make total sense to me. (ACTION Item)

Mr Fyda
I believe, if I can maybe speak a little bit to that. I think that it comes from the REHS Board, the Registered Environmental Health Specialist board, so… I do hold both licenses, so I'm kind of a little bit familiar with both boards.

Mr Spata
Might be good for Mr Fakler to kind of interview Mr Fyda on some of that stuff, because I know we were

asking some questions on that. (ACTION Item)

Mr Fakler
Yes, will do.

Mr Spata
Thank you, Mr Fyda. We'll continue to update the board as things develop. I know we've had our past PAL meetings, and some of the industry are involved with this. I know we've got further upcoming meetings as well.

Mr Fakler
That's correct.

6. <u>Consider the board member nomination process for board leadership positions (Vice Chair and Board Chair).</u>

Mr Fakler said the process for nominating was discussed at the APOC meeting. The recommendation was that the executive director send an email out to all board members who have not held leadership positions in the past to identify those members that would have an interest in serving in a leadership role. He added he would work with the immediate past chair – Mr Kidd – to get an understanding of the task and time commitments of the leadership positions so he could be informed in discussions with and answering questions from potential candidates. (ACTION Item)

Mr MacKenzie added there is guidance in regulation in NAC 625.100, where the actual nomination or nominations would need to come from board members, with a subsequent vote.

Mr Spata said it is important for potential candidates to understand the role because of the time commitment required. He added elections for leadership positions would be on the agenda at the May regular board meeting. (ACTION Item)

7. <u>Public comment.</u>

There was no public comment virtually or via email.

8. <u>Adjournment.</u>

Mr Spata thanked the board members for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 9:33 am.

Respectfully, Mark Fakler
Executive Director