

Nebraska Board of Geologists
Board Meeting Minutes
January 29, 2020

215 Centennial Mall South, 5th Floor Small Conference Room, Lincoln, NE

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was held at 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chairperson Maher called the meeting to order at 1:01pm and noted the location of the Open Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on January 22, 2020, and on the Board's website in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

This is a re-scheduled meeting of the January 15, 2020, which was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum after the attending members arrived.

Roll Call: Andrew Grimm, Douglas Hallum, Charles Joyce, Martha Link, Harmon Maher; Absent: Ralph Martin, David Svingen

Staff Present: Jean Lais, Administrative Assistant (AA)

PUBLIC COMMENT/APPOINTMENTS

No members of the public were present.

A CONSENT AGENDA

October 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Action

Motion by Hallum, second by Joyce to approve the Consent Agenda as provided. Voting Yes:Grimm, Hallum, Joyce, Maher; Voting No: None; Abstain: Link

B REPORTS

ASBOG

A recap of the annual meetings and the fall Council of Examiners (COE) Workshop from ASBOG and AA Lais were provided for review. Thirty-nine individuals attended the Administrator's Workshop, fifty-seven attended the Annual Meeting representing twenty-six states, Washington DC, and Canada. Fifty-three participated in the COE Workshop of which 23% were new subject matter experts (SME) and 25% were women.

The Sherman Award was presented to Dennis Anderson (former NEBOG member) for his meritorious support provided to the ASBOG organization and community. "Dennis' dedication to the geosciences, and his contribution of expertise and perspective, continues the tradition of service that began with Charles R Sherman and other early founders of ASBOG."

Office/Staff

AA Lais informed the members a new Compliance Officer, Amy Habe, has been hired for the Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA). She began her work with the board on December 10, 2019, and comes to us from the Department of Health and Human Services. She replaces Lindy Rauscher who left the agency in November 2019.

NBEA Executive Director (ED) Wilbeck has begun initial communications with a new vendor for the boards' database.

C OLD BUSINESS – None

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D NEW BUSINESS

ASBOG

Approval of ASBOG Spring Council of Examiners (COE) Delegates

Joyce was approved pending reappointment to the Board. Hallum was also approved to attend the ASBOG Spring COE Workshop in Cheyenne WY, April 16-18, 2020. In case of unavailability of either, a alternate person may be approved by the chairperson.

Action

Motion by Joyce, second by Link to approve Joyce and Hallum as primary approved delegates to attend the ASBOG COE Workshop in Cheyenne WY, April 16-18, 2020 with an alternate being approved by Chairperson Maher if either is unable to attend. Voting Yes: Grimm, Hallum, Joyce, Link, Maher; Voting No: None

Exam Registration Deferrals

Notice from ASBOG with regards to allowing one exam deferral starting with the October 2020 exam administration was provided for review. Discussion was held on whether to allow the deferral of the Board's exam seat reservation fee.

Question was raised as to whether the deferral is for the next exam only or if at the examinees' choice and how the deferral would be requested. AA Lais will contact ASBOG to see if the process has been determined.

Board Rule 1.4.8 states the exam seat reservation fees are non-transferrable to a future examination. After discussion, the fee will continue to be required even if the candidate defers their exam with ASBOG. No action taken.

Strategic Plan

A copy of the current Strategic Plan was provided for review. The following updates were noted:

- Hallum requested AA Lais send him any information she has obtained related surrounding states newsletters.
- Hallum also reported the Nebraska Geological Society (NGS) is currently reviewing its website with the possibly of adding a quarterly update for which members of NGS could help write and the Board may be able to post updates as well..
- AA Lais informed that she plans to send out the requested notice on the possible statute revisions out to the licensees in the next month or so.

Other New Business

Title 4, Chapter 2 NAC Designation of Individuals Required to File Statements of Financial Interests

Correspondence between the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission (NADC) and AA Lais related to the proposed revisions was provided for review along with a copy of the proposed language. The proposed language would require the members to file an annual *Statement of Financial Interests*. The formal hearing of the proposed revisions is scheduled for March 6, 2020, at 9:00am, 1526 K St Lincoln, Hearing Room 4D. Written comments are to be submitted no later than February 27, 2020.

The members raised the observation that it appears the requirement is not being consistently applied across all boards and commissions and why some agency directors have been eliminated. They

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requested AA Lais contact the with the observation and notify NADC of the Board's correct name. No action taken.

E COMPLIANCE - None

F APPLICATIONS

Copies of the Core Course Equivalency Chart and Rationale were provided for review.

Licensure/Examinations

Licensure from Other Jurisdictions Applications

Approved: Kelly K Greaser, CO

Licensure by Experience Applications

Approved: Douglas M Burge, MO

FG Exam Applications

Approved: Kirby P Hobbs, NE; Kian P McIntosh, NE; Sara K Parcher, NE; Emily J Persinger, NE; Matthew D Pritchard, ID; Joseph W Warth, NE; Jeffrey P Westrop, NE

Deferred: Kameron R Daehling, NE – deferred on the basis only has twenty-nine semester hours of geology course work. Board Rule 2.2.1 requires an applicant for the FG exam have a minimum of thirty semester hours of geology course work.

PG Exam Applications

Approved: Matthew A Graesch, IA; Ryan M Korth, NE

Renewal Disclosure

Adam Neumann disclosed he was convicted of a misdemeanor which was set aside and nullified. The members approved his renewal and asked AA Lais to communicate the offense did not required reporting in the future as the offense was nullified, therefore, not required to be reported.

Action

Motion by Hallum, second by Link to approve the applications as reviewed and discussed with the exception of Kameron Daehling. Voting Yes: Grimm, Hallum, Joyce, Link, Maher; Voting No: None

Action

Motion by Link, second by Joyce to defer the application of Kameron Daehling due to only having twenty-nine semester hours of geology course work. Voting Yes: Grimm, Hallum, Joyce, Link, Maher; Voting No: None

Action

Motion by Link, second by Hallum to approve license renewal of Adam Neumann. Voting Yes: Grimm, Hallum, Joyce, Link, Maher; Voting No: None

G FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports

Budget Status Report – October, November, December 2019

MTD General Ledger Detail Report – October, November, December 2019

Fund Summary Report – October, November, December 2019

FY 2019-20 Financial Profile – October, November, December 2019

BM Weaver was unable to attend the meeting, but provided a written report to the members. As of December 31, 2019, with just over 50% of the fiscal year lapsed, 54.15% of the appropriated funds has been spent and 75% of the projected revenue had been received.

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The Cash Fund was at \$75,124 as of December 31st. This is approximately \$2,000 less than the same time last year. The reduction brings the fund balance close to meeting the goal of the Board to maintain a fund balance of two times the expenditures.

As of January 17, 2020, 280 professional geologists (PG) have renewed their license, which is 91.5% of the projected revenue. Twenty-two PGs have not renewed or indicated they will not be renewing.

A spreadsheet was provided showing the estimated expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. The additional mileage related to having two meetings scheduled in January has been added. If travel is close to projections for the Spring ASBOG COE, it appears expenditures will be approximately \$1,400 less than projected. Any unused appropriation will roll over into the 2020-21 fiscal year.

Action

Motion by Link, second by Hallum to approve the Financial Reports as presented and discussed.
Voting Yes: Grimm, Hallum, Joyce, Link, Maher; Voting No: None

Other Financial Matters

A current Internal Controls Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is required by the Department of Administrative Services. The MOU requires agencies to have an internal controls plan over financial reporting. It must also include performance of risk assessments.

Action

Motion by Link, second by Joyce to accept the Internal Controls Memorandum of Understanding.
Voting Yes: Grimm, Hallum, Joyce, Link, Maher; Voting No: None

Revision in Mileage Rate

A copy of the memo from the Department of Administrative Services reducing the personal vehicle mileage when conducting business for the State from \$.58 to \$.575.

H GENERAL INFORMATION

A schedule of upcoming meetings and events was provided for review. The next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2020, (rescheduled from April 15th) at 215 Centennial Mall South, beginning at 1:00pm.

A roster of the Board members was provided.

A letter from Joyce to the Governor's office seeking reappointment was provided for review.

Licensing and Certification Trends

Individuals and organizations authorized to practice in Nebraska as of January 9, 2020:

Professional Geologists: 275

Certificates of Authorization: 61

Temporary Permits: 1

Other information

The website dashboard reports showed the following number of total visits:

October: 230

November: 175

December: 324

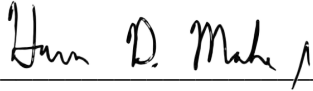
A copy of the approved Board Policies as of January 9, 2020, was provided for review.

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ADJOURNMENT: Chairperson Maher adjourned the meeting at 2:02pm

The next Board of Geologists board meeting is currently scheduled for April 22, 2020, at 1:00pm at 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska, fifth floor, small conference room.



Board Member

4/22/2020

Date