

Nebraska Board of Geologists  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 14, 2021**

WebEx Conference

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was held via WebEx in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 21-02. Chairperson Hallum called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and noted the location of the link to the Open Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on March 31, 2021, and on the Board's website in accordance to the Open Meetings Act.

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

**Staff Present:** Gail Parris, Administrative Assistant (AA), Jean Lais, Business Manager (BM), Jon Wilbeck, NBEA Executive Director (ED)

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Per Board Policy G-P13.01, Joyce will become Chairperson, Grimm was nominated as Vice Chairperson, and Hallum was nominated as Secretary. The new officers will assume their duties at the end of this meeting.

**Action**

Motion by Maher, second by Svingen to elect Joyce as Chairperson, Grimm as Vice-Chairperson, and Hallum as Secretary. Voting Yes: Maher, Svingen, Grimm, Joyce, Hallum; Voting No: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT/APPOINTMENTS**

**A CONSENT AGENDA**

January 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

**Action**

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

**B REPORTS**

**ASBOG**

*Spring COE Workshop*

Hallum attended the workshop. He stated due to Covid-19, the attendance was smaller than usual and he participated in the fundamentals exam group. Kenneth Bradbury, the Wisconsin state geologist gave a presentation, and there was also a virtual field trip to the Baraboo, WI area.

*Computer Based Testing (CBT) Survey*

ASBOG has been engaged with a potential vendor to provide computer-based testing (CBT) services for the administration of the ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and Practice of Geology (PG) examinations. They are working toward developing a timeline for conversion from paper and pencil to CBT, and developing a new workflow for the CBT examination administration. A copy of the submitted survey questions and answers was provided. Svingen asked if changes may have to be made to statutes and contracts to accommodate CBT. BM Lais explained that rules do not need to be changed.

**Office/Staff** - None

**C OLD BUSINESS**

*Strategic Plan*

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A copy of the current Strategic Plan was provided for review. No updates were made.

**Legislative**

Chairperson Hallum and Maher reported no work has been done at this time to seek a sponsor for the proposed statute revisions. A summary of the legislative actions on LB83 was provided. As of April 9, 2021, the bill is awaiting final reading. Summaries of the legislative actions on LB 112, LB213, and LB262 were also provided.

**D NEW BUSINESS**

*Unified/Allied Board Discussion*

A copy of an email from Jon Wilbeck, Executive Director, Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA), to the chairs of the Nebraska Board of Geologists (NEBOG) and Nebraska State Board of Landscape Architects (NSBLA) asking if NEBOG would be open to discussing the possibilities of a combined board.

ED Wilbeck enumerated the advantages such as one budget, and accounting and time-tracking efficiencies. He discussed the interactions and initial non-interaction with the interior designers related to their bill introduction in 2020 as an example where showing a consolidated front would be beneficial. On the administrative side, there would be cost savings as there would only be one budget and financials to prepare instead of three.

Chairperson Hallum questioned the composition of the combined board and the number of geologists that will be members. Svingen asked about continued support for ASBOG. The board agreed to continue discussion with the NBEA. No action was taken. Joyce and Svingen were selected to represent NEBOG in any discussion that may take place.

ED Wilbeck left the meeting at 1:45pm.

**E COMPLIANCE - None**

**F APPLICATIONS**

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

**Administratively Approved**

*Certificates of Authorization*

**Approved:** Brice Engineering, LLC, AK – CA0109; Brice Environmental, AK – CA0110

**Licensure/Examinations**

*Licensure by From Other Jurisdictions*

**Approved:** Richard Anthony, SC; Jonathan Bell, NV; Shaun Cwick, CO; Stephen Hoffine, MO

*Licensure by Experience Applications*

**Approved:** Dale Robl, KS; Matthew Wilson, TN

*FG Exams*

**Approved:** Kameron Daehling, NE; Alexander Deters, NE; Jacob Kokesh, NE

**Action**

Motion by Joyce, second by Svingen to approve the applications as reviewed and discussed. Voting Yes: Maher, Grimm, Joyce, Svingen, Hallum; Voting No: None

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**G FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**Financial Reports**

*Budget Status Report*

*MTD General Ledger Detail Report*

*Fund Summary Report*

*FY 2019-20 Financial Profile*

BM Lais reported that with just over 75% of the fiscal year elapsed as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 59% of appropriated expenses have been used and just over 100% of the projected revenue has been received.

The Cash Fund balance is \$74,361, which is approaching the desired level of two times the annual budget. Staff will continue to monitor.

**Action**

Motion by Maher, second by Svingen to approve the financial reports as presented and discussed.

Voting Yes: Joyce, Grimm, Svingen, Maher, Hallum; Voting No: None

**Other Financial Matters**

*Administrative Services Contract with the Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA)*

The contract between the Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA) and the Nebraska Board of Geologists (NEBOG) beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022, provides for administrative support. Attachments A-D of the proposed FY 2021-22 contract were provided to the Board for review. The proposed new weighted hourly rate for FY 2021-22 is \$19.14. The proposed contract amount is \$18,277 or \$4,569.25 per quarter. This is an \$1,186 yearly decrease from the previous contract. The contract was approved by the NBEA at its meeting on February 19, 2021.

**Action**

Motion by Maher, second by Svingen to approve the Administrative Services with the NBEA for FY 2021-22. Voting Yes: Grimm, Maher, Joyce, Svingen, Hallum; Voting No: None

*ASBOG Exam Proctor Contract with Stan Fehlhafer*

The contract between the Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA) and Stan Fehlhafer provides for proctoring services for ASBOG examinations during FY 2021-22 at a maximum fee of \$17.00 per hour and meals or related travel expenses as approved by the Board. A copy of the contract was provided for review.

**Action**

Motion by Joyce, second by Maher to approve the ASBOG Exam Proctor contract with Stan Fehlhafer. Voting Yes: Joyce, Svingen, Maher, Grimm, Hallum; Voting No: None

*Review of Fee Schedule*

The Board reviewed the fee schedule. It was determined no adjustments are needed at this time.

**Action**

Motion by Maher, second by Joyce to accept the fee schedule. Voting Yes: Svingen, Grimm, Maher, Joyce, Hallum; Voting No: None

**H GENERAL INFORMATION**

A schedule of upcoming meetings and events was provided for review. The next meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2021, at 215 Centennial Mall South, beginning at 1:00 pm.

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A roster of the Board members was provided.

**Licensing and Certification Trends**

Individuals and organizations authorized to practice in Nebraska as of 03/31/21:

Professional Geologists: 302

Certificates of Authorization: 63

Temporary Permits: 0

**Other information**

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

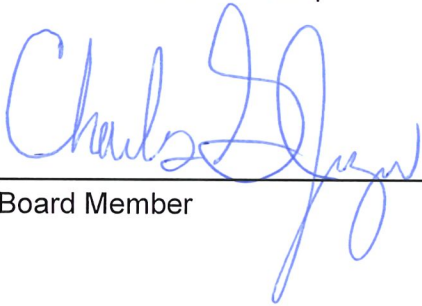
January: 312

February: 231

March: 245

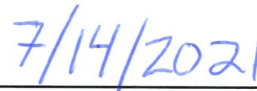
A copy of the approved Board Policies as of October 9, 2019 was provided for review.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairperson Hallum adjourned the meeting at 2.39 p.m.



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Board Member



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Date