

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & ECONOMIC GROWTH
2501 Woodlake Circle, Okemos, MI 48864-5955

Professional Engineers

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 27, 2007

In accordance with the Open Meeting Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended, the Board of Professional Engineers met in Regular Session on September 27, 2007, at the Department of Labor & Economic Growth, Bureau of Commercial Services, 2501 Woodlake Circle, Room 1, Okemos, Michigan. The business meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Regine Beauboeuf, at 9:07 a.m., immediately following the Public Hearing held at 9:00 a.m. regarding Administrative Rules.

ROLL CALL

Present:	Regine Beauboeuf	Chairperson
	Mahmoud El-Gamal	Member
	Gwendolyn Hale	Member
	Ronald Hausmann	Member
	George Karmo	Vice Chairperson
	John Kraus	Member
	Kevin Prihod	Member
Absent:	Karol Grove	Member
	Robert Stempien	Member
Staff:	Jean Boven	Licensing Director
	Michael Pillow	Assistant Licensing Administrator
	Jackie Jernigan	Secretary to the Licensing Administrator
	Amy Shell	Policy Specialist
Visitors:	Alessandro Beghini	Petitioner
	Raghad Farah	Petitioner
	Ghassan Khalaf	Petitioner
	Petr Kotrba	Petitioner
	Kamran Syed	Petitioner
	Mujeeb Musavi	Petitioner
	Gary Reynolds	Public
	Alla Volovsky	Petitioner for the November Board Meeting

ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM AGENDA

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD JUNE 7, 2007

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Hausmann and supported by Mr. El-Gamal that the Engineering Board Meeting Minutes from June 7, 2007 be approved as written. The motion carried unanimously.

PETITIONS

Examination

Dr. Alessandro Beghini is applying to sit for the PE exam. Dr. Beghini doesn't meet the education requirements of holding an ABET/EAC accredited degree. Dr. Beghini holds a Bachelor of Science Degree (2001) in Civil Engineering from Politecnico di Milano Technical University in Italy; Master of Civil Engineering Degree (2001) from University of Tokyo in Japan and Doctor of Philosophy Degree (2005) in Civil Engineering from Northwestern University. His ECEI evaluation shows deficiencies of (16) semester hours in Humanities/Social Sciences and (2.5) semester hours in Engineering Design.

Dr. Beghini maintains that his degree is equivalent to an ABET/EAC accredited degree since ECEI did not include coursework from his Master or Doctorate degrees and that should qualify him to sit for the PE examination in Michigan.

Dr. Beghini appeared before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Hausmann and supported by Mr. El-Gamal to overturn the Department's denial and grant Dr. Beghini's request to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination based upon the evidence presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department concurred.

Reciprocity

Salvatore Bono meets experience, education and examination requirements. He has a NCEES Council Record and is identified as a Model Law Engineer. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering (1994), Master of Engineering Degree in Civil Engineering (1996) and a MBA Degree in Management (2002) all from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY. The Department denied Mr. Bono's application based upon his criminal conviction history.

Mr. Bono maintains that he has demonstrated sufficient evidence/length of rehabilitation and his licensed engineering experience in New York should be taken in consideration for reciprocal licensure in Michigan.

Mr. Bono did not appear before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Karmo and supported by Mr. El-Gamal to overturn the Department's denial and grant Mr. Bono licensure by reciprocity based on the applicant's demonstration of rehabilitation. The motion carried with Mr. Kraus voting no.

The Department concurred.

Examination

Raghad Farah is applying to sit for the PE examination. Ms. Farah doesn't meet the education requirements of holding an ABET/EAC accredited degree. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree (2001) in Civil Engineering from Technion – Israel Institute of Technology in Israel and a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science (2002) from Technion in Israel. Her CPEES evaluation shows deficiencies of (13) semester hours in Humanities/Social Science.

Ms. Farah maintains that her degree is equivalent to an ABET/EAC accredited degree and that nearly (5) years of engineering work experience should qualify her to sit for the PE examination in Michigan.

Ms. Farah appeared before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Karmo and supported by Mr. El-Gamal to overturn the Department's denial and allow Ms. Farah to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination based upon the evidence presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department concurred.

Examination

Andrew Hawk is applying to sit for the PE exam. Mr. Hawk doesn't meet the education requirements of holding an ABET/EAC accredited degree. Mr. Hawk holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree (1999) in Physics from Wittenberg University in Ohio and a Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering (2003) from the Ohio State University. The Master of Science Degree is not from a program that is ABET/EAC accredited at the Bachelor level.

Mr. Hawk maintains that his degree is equivalent to an ABET/EAC accredited degree and that nearly (5) years of engineering work experience should qualify him to sit for the PE examination in Michigan.

Mr. Hawk did not appear before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Ms. Hale and supported by Mr. Prihod to uphold the Department's denial and not grant approval for Mr. Hawk to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination on the basis that the applicant has not demonstrated equivalency for the deficiencies in his education. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department concurred.

Examination

Ghassan Khalaf is applying to sit for the PE examination. Mr. Khalaf doesn't meet the education requirements of holding an ABET/EAC accredited degree. Mr. Khalaf holds a Bachelor of Science Degree (1999) in Civil Engineering from University of Baghdad in Iraq. Mr. Khalaf's ECE evaluation shows deficiencies of (5.5) semester hours in Humanities/Social Sciences and (13.5) semester hours in Math/Basic Sciences.

Mr. Khalaf has taken 18 additional semester hours in Civil Engineering at Wayne State University and 6 hours at Lawrence Technological University. He requests the Board to allow him to sit for the PE examination in Michigan.

Mr. Khalaf appeared before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. El-Gamal and supported by Mr. Karmo to overturn the Department's denial and grant Mr. Khalaf approval to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination based upon the evidence presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department concurred.

Examination

Petr Kotrba is applying to sit for the PE examination. Mr. Kotrba doesn't meet the education requirements of holding an ABET/EAC accredited degree. Mr. Kotrba holds a Bachelor and Master of Science Degrees (1998) in Civil Engineering from Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic. Mr. Kotrba's ECE evaluation shows deficiencies of (8.75) semester hours in Humanities/Social Sciences and (5.75) semester hours in Math/Basic Sciences.

Mr. Kotrba maintains that his degree is equivalent to an ABET/EAC accredited degree and the evaluation report miss-categorized several courses that accounted for the deficiencies. He also states that (5) years of engineering work experience in North America offset the deficiencies and should qualify him to sit for the PE examination in Michigan.

Mr. Kotrba appeared before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Hausmann and supported by Mr. Kraus to table consideration of Mr. Kotrba's petition for a period not to exceed 18 months from the date of the September 27, 2007 Board Meeting to allow Mr. Kotrba the opportunity to take and pass the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) examination. Mr. Kotrba will be approved for admission to the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) examination if he passes the FE examination within that time period. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department concurred.

Reciprocity

William Roberts meets experience and examination requirements. He holds an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Electrical Technology from Hudson Valley Community College, Troy, NY (1972). The Department denied Mr. Robert's application because he does not possess an ABET/EAC accredited Baccalaureate Degree.

Mr. Roberts maintains his education and extensive engineering experience should be equivalent to an ABET/EAC accredited degree. He has taken (60) quarter hours of additional coursework in electrical engineering from the ABET/EAC accredited program at Rochester Institute of Technology. He also states that his PE licensure in New York for 12 years and engineering work experience for 27 years, establish equivalency to qualify him for reciprocal licensure in Michigan.

Mr. Roberts did not appear before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Karmo and supported by Mr. Hausmann to uphold the Department's denial, and deny Mr. Roberts licensure by reciprocity based upon the applicant not presenting sufficient evidence of meeting the education requirements of an ABET-accredited degree in engineering. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department concurred.

Examination

Dr. Kamran Syed is applying to sit for the PE examination. Dr. Syed doesn't meet the education requirements of holding an ABET/EAC accredited degree. Dr. Syed holds a Bachelor of Science Degree (1985) in Civil Engineering from NED University of Engineering & Technology in Pakistan; Master of Science (1994) and Doctor of Philosophy (1999) Degrees in Hydrology from the University of Arizona. While Dr. Syed's education was evaluated by a Canadian evaluator, Dr. Syed did not comply with the Board's requirement to have his Bachelor Degree evaluated by CPEES.

Dr. Syed maintains that his degree is equivalent to an ABET/EAC accredited degree and that should qualify him to sit for the PE examination in Michigan.

Dr. Syed appeared before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Hausmann and supported by Mr. El-Gamal to table Dr. Syed's request to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination for up to six months from the September 27, 2007 Board meeting in order to allow Dr. Syed time to provide the Department with a CPEES evaluation of his education. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department concurred.

Examination

Mujeeb Musavi Syed is applying to sit for the PE exam. Mr. Musavi doesn't meet the education requirements of holding an ABET/EAC accredited degree. Mr. Musavi holds a Bachelor of Science Degree (1993) in Civil Engineering from NED University of Engineering & Technology in Pakistan. Mr. Musavi's CPEES evaluation shows deficiencies of (8) semester hours in Humanities/Social Sciences and (11) semester hours in Math/Basic Sciences.

Mr. Musavi maintains that his degree is equivalent to an ABET/EAC accredited degree and that (6) years of engineering work experience in North America offset the deficiencies and should qualify him to sit for the PE examination in Michigan.

Mr. Musavi Syed appeared before the Board.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. El-Gamal and supported by Mr. Karmo to overturn the Department's denial and allow Mr. Syed to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination based upon the evidence presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The Department concurred.

NEW BUSINESS

Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) Subcommittee

Chairperson Beauboeuf directed Board Members to National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) continuing Professional Competency Guidelines. She reported that the Board of Professional Surveyors, at their recent Board meeting, adopted the NCEES Continuing Professional Competency Guidelines and is seeking the consensus of the Engineer's Board. The Architect's Board is reviewing the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)'s requirements and will be formulating their own guidelines. Board member Kraus volunteered to contact the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE) for their position on continuing professional competency. Board members agreed that Continued Professional Competency should be on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting for further discussion.

Accrediting Board of Engineering Technology Visits (ABET)

Mike Pillow, Assistant Licensing Administrator, advised that the Board has been invited to participate as observers for upcoming ABET accreditation visits. The following individuals volunteered to serve as representatives from the Board during accreditation visits to the following institutions.

- a. October 21 – 23, Andrews University (Michael Pillow)
- b. October 28 – 30, Calvin College (John Krause)
- c. October 28 – 30, Western Michigan University (Michael Pillow)

Board Meeting Schedule for 2008

The Board reviewed the following schedule for business meetings in 2008.

January 10, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Conference Room 1
April 17, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Conference Room 1
June 5, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Conference Room 1
September 25, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Conference Room 1
November 13, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Conference Room 1

Jean Boven, Licensing Director, asked Board members if they would want to consider holding quarterly Board meetings instead of meeting five times a year.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Karmo and supported by Mr. El-Gamal to hold quarterly Board meetings. The Board also agreed to omit the November 13, 2008 meeting and approve the remainder of the schedule for business meetings in 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

Legislative Update

Amy Shell, Policy Specialist, provided Board members with a handout of the Legislative Summary for pending bills. She advised that HB 4937 which increases penalties for unlicensed activity specifically for the Design Boards has been referred to committee. HB 4842 which removes sunsets on licensing fees has passed the House and will be voted on in the Senate.

ITEMS OF CONSIDERATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Regine Beauboeuf, Chairperson

Date:_____

Jackie Jernigan, Recording Secretary

Date:_____