

**MINUTES**

**STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
January 14, 2020  
At 8:30 a.m. in Room W064  
Indiana Government Building South, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204**

**Members Present:**

Vincent Drnevich  
Stephen Gillman  
Opal Kuhl  
Harold Snead - Via SKYPE

**Members Absent:** none

**Attending Administrative Staff:**

Amy Hall - Board Director  
Chris Shea-Russell – Assistant Board Director  
Donald ‘Ned’ Hannah - Board Counsel  
Tonya Esparza - Court Reporter

**CALL TO ORDER** – Steve Gillman called to order the meeting at **8:32 a.m.**

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA** – A motion was made and seconded to adopt and approve the amended agenda –

Motion made by Opal Kuhl and seconded Vince Drnevich to approve the amended agenda.  
Motion carries 4/0/0

**ROLL CALL**

Vincent Drnevich	Yay
Stephen Gillman	Yay
Opal Kuhl	Yay
Harold Snead	Yay

**ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 BOARD MEETING**

Motion made by Opal Kuhl and seconded by Vince Drnevich to approve the September 18, 2019 minutes.

Motion carries 4/0/0

**ROLL CALL**

Vincent Drnevich	Yay
Stephen Gillman	Yay
Opal Kuhl	Yay
Harold Snead	Yay

## REPORT FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Leif Johnson provided a report from the attorney general's office of current complaints. There are currently 3 open complaints. Discussion about investigators designated to the board was brought up by Vince Drnevich.

## ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

### **Firooz Zandi – Cause Number 2018SBRPE0003**

Petition for Renewal of Summary Suspension

The criminal case was heard and Mr. Zandi was found guilty on one felony 5 count – theft of over 50,000.00.

Motion made by Vince Drnevich and seconded by Harold Snead for the approval of the renewal of the summary suspension.

Motion Carries 4/0/0

ROLL CALL

Vincent Drnevich	Yay
Stephen Gillman	Yay
Opal Kuhl	Yay
Harold Snead	Yay

### **Firooz Zandi – Cause No: 2018SBRPE0003**

Administrative Complaint

Motion made by Opal Kuhl and seconded by Steve Gillman for the approval of the notice of proposed default.

Motion Carries 4/0/0

ROLL CALL

Vincent Drnevich	Yay
Stephen Gillman	Yay
Opal Kuhl	Yay
Harold Snead	Yay

## PERSONAL APPEARANCE

### **Marlon Vogt – NCEES Central Zone Vice President**

Marlon appeared before the board and reviewed the NCEES mission and vision and how to get more involved. NCEES mission is to provide leadership with-in the professions of engineers and surveyors with primary goal to protect the public and support licensure. The licensure process is the key. Discussed the moving of the offices from Clemson to Greenville, SC. He also discussed the committees and advocated for participating and volunteering. Marlon

is a liaison member to two committees – education and law enforcement. Vince asked about any changes occurring with the education charges that are being discussed. Accreditation is the area that is being discussed pertaining to technical degrees. Vince asked about the pass rates of the FE exam by TEAC candidates. Decoupling was brought up by Marlon and he mentioned the pass rate of the PE exam. The Annual meeting has a one-vote-per-board policy. The next Zone Vice President can fall into the scope of being the NCEES President Elect. Threats to public protection is still a topic of discussion on the national scale.

ARPL – Association for Responsible Professional Licensing – Is a collaboration of various professional organizations to combat deregulation. NCEES is one of the founding members of this association.

## **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

### **CE Audit Status**

Final notice has to be sent out next week. There are currently 4 people out of 140 that have not complied, that will receive the notice of noncompliance.

Motion made by Opal Kuhl and Steve Gillman approve to send out the notice of non-compliance.

**Motion carries 4/0/0**

### **ROLL CALL**

Vincent Drnevich	Yay
Stephen Gillman	Yay
Opal Kuhl	Yay
Harold Snead	Yay

### **2020 Board Elections**

Motion made by Vince Drnevich and seconded by Steve Gillman approve Opal Kuhl as chair, Vince Drnevich as Vice Chair.

**Motion carries 4/0/0**

### **ROLL CALL**

Vincent Drnevich	Yay
Stephen Gillman	Yay
Opal Kuhl	Yay
Harold Snead	Yay

## **DECOUPLING**

There is a national push for decoupling the sitting for the PE/ Exam and completing the required practice experience. Multiple boards are in the process in decoupling due to the changes in exam processes. With computer-based testing, there is increased availability to take exams in lieu of being limited to two times a year. The board is willing to table this discussion to see what the future of the CBT effects on the exams.

## **INTERIM REPORT OF THE FE EXAM TASK FORCE**

Vince Drnevich reported on computer-based FE exams and created a chart how the FE exams takers have been affected by the switch from paper and pencil exams to CBT. Indiana dropped to 62% which is below the national. Indiana is lagging behind the national level which now has recovered to about 90% of those taking the FE exams prior to 2014 when CBT replaced paper and pencil exams. If Indiana is lagging then it is directly related to Purdue, since they have about 38% of BS engineering graduates in the state. Only 12% of the engineering BS degreed students at Purdue take the FE exam while nationally about 38% of BS degreed students take the exam. The drop in numbers started in 2014. The FE exam is not promoted as most educators are not licensed professional engineers.

Vince met with the undergraduate liaisons to the engineering departments in Purdue to promote the FE Exam and the importance of it to become licensed. Some departments of Purdue's engineering college are highly motivated to encourage their students to take the FE Exam. At the Purdue – Fort Wayne, there is a NSPE student chapter. Notre Dame – follow up on their introduction of paths to licensure presented to the junior students. Civil students are required to take the exam at Rose Hulman. Trine University – at least one third of the faculty are licensed engineers – Vince an Opal- are working on getting them engaged. The SBRPE needs to seek out more liaisons with all the various universities in the state and increase their awareness of the situation.

## **MEETING TIME START TIME**

It was discussed that the meeting times will be changed to 9:00 a.m. in lieu of the 8:30 a.m. start time of the previous the meetings

## **NCEES SUPER ZONE MEETING – Houston in April**

The board discussed and determined who the delegates would be to represent Indiana and the Super Zone Meeting being held in Houston in April. Harold Snead, Vince Drnevich and Opal Kuhl will be representing Indiana.

Motion to adjourn made by Vince Drnevich and seconded by Steve Gillman.

Motion 4/0/0

ROLL CALL

Vincent Drnevich	Yay
Stephen Gillman	Yay
Opal Kuhl	Yay
Harold Snead	Yay

**ADJOURNMENT 10:11 a.m.**