



Oregon

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
FOR ENGINEERING &
LAND SURVEYING

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OREGON SPECIFIC EXAMINATION TASK FORCE

Minutes of Meeting
October 9, 2015

Members present:

Oscar Zuniga, Chair
Ken Hoffine
Amin Wahab

Staff present:

Mari Lopez, Board Administrator
Jenn Gilbert, Executive Assistant
Jennifer O'Neill, Social and Communications Media Specialist
Brianna Weekly, Registration Specialist

Others present:

Katharine Lozano, Assistant Attorney General
Chris Aldridge (observer)
Logan Miles (observer)
Art Noxon, PE, Acoustical Exam Liason

The meeting of the Oregon Specific Examination Task Force (OSETF) was called to order at 12:10 p.m. in the OSBEELS Conference Room at 670 Hawthorne Avenue SE, Suite 220, Salem, OR 97301.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

AAG Lozano requested the agenda items be rearranged and that agenda item three, Exam Security, be considered before agenda item two, New Business.

Exam Security – AAG Lozano

The Board entered into executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(f) to discuss advice from legal counsel. All members of the audience were asked to leave the room and were invited to return upon resumption of the public meeting. Upon returning to public meeting, it was noted that no decisions were made and no votes were taken while in executive session.

New Business

Acoustical Examination / INCE discussion

The OSETF was provided with an email from Art Noxon, Oregon Specific Acoustical Engineering Exam (OSAE) Liason, regarding the Institute of Noise Control Engineering (INCE) decision to accept passing the Oregon Acoustical Exam as equivalent to passing their exam. Mr. Noxon stated that he is not familiar with the INCE process or how the determination of substantial equivalency was made. He indicated that he was advised by another PE who was associated with INCE that the acceptance occurred. Mr. Noxon also verified that the PE who is associated with INCE, Mark Bastasch, is also on Mr. Noxon's exam team and is, in fact, Mr. Noxon's alternate/ backup. Mr. Noxon also mentioned that previous OSAEE Liason, Kerrie Standlee, is currently on the Board of INCE. He suggested that the Board contact Mr. Standlee or Mr. Bastasch to see if someone at INCE would be available to explain the details in how the substantial equivalency was determined.

It was noted that the Board recently revised the rules to recognize the NCEES Architectural Engineering examination for registration in Oregon as a Building Systems engineer. After reviewing the syllabus for the NCEES Architectural Engineering examination, it was noted that acoustical aspects are also covered on this examination. A suggestion was made for the Board to consider discontinuing the OSAEE due to several factors such as, applicants may sit for the NCEES Architectural Engineering examination that covers acoustics, the low number of applicants for the OSAEE, and the concerns related to security of Oregon Specific examinations. Mr. Noxon expressed concerns with discontinuing the acoustical exam. AAG Lozano mentioned that by discontinuing the acoustical engineering exam it would require a rule change. She elaborated that as a result of a rule change, there is always the opportunity for a rules hearing. She also advised that even if the Board determined to discontinue offering the acoustical exam, it did not have to stop recognizing acoustical engineering as a discipline. Chair Zuniga clarified for Mr. Noxon that as the OSETF, they may only make recommendations to be considered by the full Board. As a result, this would also allow an opportunity for further discussion regarding the acoustical exam. It was moved and second (Wahab/Hoffine) to recommend the Board discontinue the administration of the OSAEE, but still recognize the acoustical branch. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hoffine requested more information regarding the conversations had with INCE, their roles, and any additional information regarding how the determination of substantial equivalency between the INCE exam and the OSAEE was made.

The meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.