



# **TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS**

## **Board Meeting**

*April 17, 2015, 8:30 a.m.*

William P. Hobby, Jr. Building  
333 Guadalupe Street, Room 102  
Austin, Texas 78701

## **MINUTES**

- A. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists was called to order at 8:32 a.m. in the William P. Hobby, Jr. Building, in Austin, Texas. Roll was called and a quorum was certified. Members present were Board Chair C.T. Hallmark, P.G., PhD, W. David Prescott, II, P.G., Vice-Chair, Becky Johnson, P.G., Secretary/Treasurer, Kelly Krenz-Doe, P.G., Joseph P. DeWoody, Christopher Mathewson, P.G., P.E., PhD. Member Greg Ulmer, JD, arrived at 8:40 a.m., and Member Charles Knobloch, P.G., was absent.
- B. The minutes from the January 30, 2015 Board Meeting were approved as corrected.
- C. No public comments were given. One comment was submitted by e-mail from Ms. Martha Creager Barnes regarding the request to resign or retire a P.G. license.
- D. Chairman's Report. Dr. C.T. Hallmark, P.G., reviewed parliamentary rules for Board meetings, and gave recommendations for Board discussions.
- E. Executive Director's Report: Mr. Charles Horton introduced TBPG's newest staff member, Ms. Allie Gregory; he reported on the upcoming TCEQ Trade Fair, and the March 2015 weather incident that affected the ASBOG® licensing exam.
- F. Reports on recent Committee meetings and activities:
  - 1. Application Review and Continuing Education Committee meeting report (4/16/15): Committee Chair David Prescott addressed the recent meeting and the Board's exam waiver request policy; the expiration of a reference statement relating to an applicant for P.G. licensure; Board staff will watch pending legislation that could amend TOC Chapter 55; TBPG's strategies to reach out to other states regarding reciprocity; the Committee is working on a draft template that will be used by the TBPG for future reciprocity agreements; the issue regarding how a license status is displayed on the TBPG website; and the Committee is reviewing the definitions of the terms "Professional Geoscience" and "Professional Geoscience Services" as found in TBPG Rules 22 TAC §§851.10 (30) and (31).
  - 2. Compliance and Enforcement Committee meeting report (4/16/15): Committee Chair Becky Johnson mentioned that the Committee is still working to update the "Penalties and Suggested Sanctions" table; reported that the requirements of SB 138 from the 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Regular Session 2013 have been fully implemented with a few additional trainings coming up; and the Committee reviewed the issue of when TWDB contracts with agencies such as USGS or the BEG for geoscience work, whether the employees of those agencies providing the work need to be licensed.
  - 3. General Issues Committee meeting report (4/16/15): Committee Chair Chris Mathewson discussed the issue of voluntary license resignation. The Board

requested that Mr. Horton work with Dr. Mathewson and Melissa Juarez regarding the submission of a request to the Office of the Attorney General for an opinion on whether TBPG has the authority to accept license resignations, and whether it can put conditions on those resignations. Dr. Mathewson also reported on the Committee's review of the definition of "full name" and the name a person may use on their PG license; and whether an individual performing the technical review of geoscience work submitted to a state agency in support of a permit or other application needs to be licensed.

G. Staff Reports:

- Licensing Report: Licensing Coordinator Elsa Paynes reported on the current licensing numbers, the equilibrium number, and recent ASBOG® exam statistics.
- Financial Report: Chief Financial Officer Leticia Kappel reviewed current revenues, expenditures to date, and the upcoming requirement for Board members to submit their Personal Financial Statement (PFS).
- Enforcement Report: Enforcement Coordinator T. Wesley McCoy addressed current enforcement numbers, and that Complaint Review Team (CRT) meetings are being scheduled each quarter

The Board next considered agenda item I, regarding legislative issues.

- I. Regarding legislative issues, Executive Director Charles Horton reported on Governor Abbott's "Blueprint Plan" for Occupational Licensing in Texas, and then gave an overview of pending legislation that could affect TBPG.
- H. Regarding the request for waiver from Mr. Daniel Cravens: The Board unanimously approved his request for waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals Geology Examination. The Board postponed action on Mr. Cravens' request for waiver of the ASBOG® Practice of Geology examination in order to obtain additional information.
- J. Proposed Agreed Board Orders:
  - 1. Complaint Case No. 2014036 was approved by unanimous consent, with Mathewson and Hallmark being recused.
  - 2. Complaint Case No. 2015004 was approved by unanimous consent, with Mathewson and Hallmark being recused.
  - 3. Complaint Case No. 2015006 was approved by unanimous consent, with Mathewson and Hallmark being recused.
  - 4. Complaint Case No. 2015009 was approved by unanimous consent, with Mathewson and Hallmark being recused.
  - 5. Complaint Case No. 2015014 was approved by unanimous consent, with Mathewson and Hallmark being recused.
- I. Regarding implementation SB 138, 83<sup>rd</sup> Legislative Regular Session 2013, this item was reviewed under Committee reports. No action was taken.
- J. Regarding the status of Texas Geophysics Exam, Member Krenz-Doe reported that the Geophysics exam is almost finished; they hope to schedule one more in-person meeting.
- K. Next Board meeting date is July 17, 2015, with the Committees scheduled to meet on July 16, 2015. No future topics were mentioned.
- L. The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

---

C.T. Hallmark, P.G., Ph.D., *TBPG Chairman*