



# TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

## **Board Meeting**

*November 7, 2014, 8:00 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 8:27 a.m., roll was called and a quorum was certified. Board members present were Board Chairman Charles Knobloch, P.G., JD, Vice-Chairman Charles T. Hallmark, P.G., PhD, Secretary/Treasurer Kelly Krenz-Doe, P.G., Becky Johnson, P.G., Christopher Mathewson, P.G., P.E., W. David Prescott, P.G., and Gregory Ulmer, JD. Member Joseph P. DeWoody was absent.
- B. The Appointed Board approved the minutes from the September 19, 2014 Board Meeting as written.
- C. Public comments. Two members of the public were present. Dr. Brent A. Elliott, and George Dunfield, P.G. No comments were offered at this time.
- D. Chairman's Report. Board Chairman Charles Knobloch summarized the rule review process, mentioned hearings that were conducted, and expressed gratitude for the comments received.
- E. Executive Director's Report. Executive Director Charles Horton reported on agency personnel and the addition of a new Administrative Assistant, Dana Cruz, who will assist in TBPG's enforcement efforts.
- F. Reports on recent Committee meetings and activities:
  - Application Review and Continuing Education Committee meetings on 10/17/14 and 11/7/14: Committee Chair Dr. Hallmark reported on public comments received regarding the proposed amendments, and the Committee's recommendations, which will be presented to the Board later in the agenda. Two waiver requests were considered by the Committee and will be presented to the Board.
  - Compliance and Enforcement Committee meeting on 10/17/14: Dr. Hallmark addressed the public comments received regarding the proposed amendments, and the Committee's recommendations, which will be presented to the Board later in the agenda.
  - General Issues Committee meeting on 10/31/14: Committee Chair Kelly Krenz-Doe discussed the Committee's review and recommendation regarding the applicability of firm registration requirements on a Professional Geoscientist doing business as a sole proprietor offering or engaging in the non-exempt public practice of geoscience. Also reported on were the public comments received regarding the proposed amendments, and the Committee's recommendations, which will be presented to the Board later in the agenda.
  - Financial Review and Strategic Planning Committee: Committee Chair Greg Ulmer presented information on the State's budget reporting cycle, including

highlights from the agency's Strategic Plan submitted for 2015-2019 and the Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) submitted for 2016-2017.

- G. Regarding requests for waiver for the following applicants for licensure:
- Donald Goddard: Request for waiver of the ASBOG® Practice of Geology exam; the Board approved his request in a vote of 6-1, with Member Prescott dissenting.
  - Robert Bruant: Request for waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology Examination; the Board unanimously approved his waiver of the FG exam.
  - Changbing Yang: Request for waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology Examination; the Board unanimously approved his waiver of the FG exam.
  - Rebecca L. Berger: Request for waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology and Practice of Geology Examinations; the Board unanimously approved her waiver of the FG exam. The Board denied her request for waiver of the PG exam in a vote of 2-4, with Members Johnson, Mathewson, Prescott, and Ulmer dissenting, and Chairman Knobloch abstaining.
  - Dr. Brent A. Elliott: Request for waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology and Practice of Geology Examinations; the Board unanimously approved his waiver of the FG exam. The Board denied his request for waiver of the PG exam in a vote of 4-2, with Members Johnson and Mathewson dissenting, and Chairman Knobloch abstaining.
- H. Regarding Proposed Agreed Board Orders:
- The Board unanimously approved the agreed Board order for Complaint Case No. 2014045.
- I. Regarding the rules review and amendments to 22 TAC Chapters 850 and 851:
- The Board unanimously adopted an amendment to §850.10 as edited; and it adopted the remainder of the amendments to 22 TAC Chapter 850 as published in the Texas Register.
  - The Board unanimously adopted amendments to §§851.10, 851.32, 851.103, 851.151, and 851.157 as edited, and it adopted the remainder of the amendments to 22 TAC Chapter 851 as published in the Texas Register.
  - The Board re-adopted the remainder of TBPG rules that were not amended as part of the four-year rules review.
- J. Regarding the applicability of firm registration requirements on a Professional Geoscientist doing business as a sole proprietor offering or engaging in the non-exempt public practice of geoscience, the Board proposed amendments to 22 TAC §§851.10, 851.30, 851.80 for posting to the Texas Register for public comment.
- K. Regarding a report on felony conviction and subsequent imprisonment of a P.G. licensee, the Board took no action.
- L. Regarding Compliance and Enforcement Committee and Board staff activities related to implementation of changes to the Texas Geoscience Practice Act, Sections 1002.201-1002.207, as amended by SB 138, 8<sup>3rd</sup> Regular Legislative Session 2013, the Board took no action.
- M. The date for the next Board meeting was approved for January 23, 2015 (*Note*: the date was later rescheduled to January 30, 2015). No future topics were mentioned.
- N. The Board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.



Charles Knobloch, P.G., J.D., TBPG Chairman