



# **TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS**

## **General Issues Committee Meeting**

*August 22, 2014, 3:00 p.m.*  
333 Guadalupe Street, Room 400A  
Austin, Texas 78701

### **MINUTES**

- A. The meeting of the General Issues Committee was called to order at 3:08 p.m., roll was called and a quorum was certified. Members in attendance were Committee Chair Kelly Krenz-Doe, P.G., Christopher Mathewson, P.G., P.E., Board Chair Charles Knobloch, P.G., JD, and Joseph P. DeWoody.
- B. The minutes from General Issues Committee meeting held on February 26, 2014 were approved as written.
- C. Public comment. No comments were given.
- D. Public Hearing for the rule review per Texas Government Code 2001.039 (Administrative Procedure Act—agency four-year rule review) regarding rule sections assigned to the Committee. No public comments were given.
- E. Regarding the applicability of the firm registration requirements for a Professional Geoscientist doing business as a sole proprietor offering or engaging in the non-exempt public practice of geoscience, the Committee approved a four-point summary that it will use to draft its recommended revisions to the rules. The summary is that 1) a licensed P.G. is automatically classified as a sole-proprietor; 2) a P.G. must report an assumed name on the license renewal application, and if the P.G. is a legally recognized entity, the entity must be registered as a Geoscience Firm; 3) there is no need for firm registration if a licensed P.G. is providing non-exempt geoscience services as a sole-proprietor; and 4) if a P.G. optionally wants to register their sole-proprietorship as a firm, they may do so and thereby be subject to all rules, regulations and requirements for registered Geoscience Firms as a result. The Geoscience Firm registration fee is recommended to be \$300. The Committee will continue to work on a draft recommendation of their suggested amendments to the firm registration regulations to be presented to the Appointed Board for consideration.
- F. Regarding Advisory Opinion Request #11 was submitted via email and it requested advice as to the jurisdiction of the Board over certain activities being contemplated by the requestor. The Committee carefully considered the request and decided that more information is needed to develop a reasonable response. The requestor failed to provide enough information regarding the request, and has failed to respond to staff emails. The Committee decided not to take any further action since the requestor did not provide enough information to meet the criteria for an advisory opinion request including a lack of contact information.
- G. Future meeting date and agenda items. The next Committee meeting will be held on October 17, 2014 in Austin, Texas. Items for consideration will be the issue of sole proprietorship, and a review of other Committee activities including information on the equilibrium number.
- H. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.