



# **TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS**

## **General Issues Committee Meeting**

*July 13, 2012 at 3:30 p.m.*

333 Guadalupe Street, Tower II, Room 500  
Austin, Texas 78701

### **MINUTES**

- A. The regularly scheduled meeting of the General Issues Committee was called to order at 3:50 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was certified. Committee Members present were Committee Chair Kelly Krenz-Doe, P.G., and Members Charles Knobloch, P.G., J.D., Christopher Mathewson, P.G., P.E., PhD, and Justin McNamee. TPG Staff present were Charles Horton, Executive Director, and Molly Roman, Operations Manager. Members of the public in attendance were Matthew Cowan, representing the Texas Association of Professional Geoscientists and Barry Cohn, P.G.
- B. The minutes from the General Issues Committee meeting held on May 17, 2012 were approved as written.
- C. No comments from the public were offered at this time. Barry Cohn, P.G. has offered his assistance to the TPG in any capacity that the Board may need that is related to the public practice of geoscience. Matthew Cowan requested that he be allowed to speak, if necessary, during some Agenda items.
- D. Regarding 22 TAC §851.30 (c)(7), regarding Firm Registration, the Committee unanimously approved to recommend to the full Board an amendment to 851.30(c)(7) for posting to the Texas Register for public comment.
- E. Regarding 22 TAC §851.156, regarding a Professional Geoscientist's Seal and electronic sealing requirements, the Committee reviewed the electronic seal requirements. It was determined that Dr. Mathewson would consult with Mr. Kevin Coleman, P.G., and draft recommended language for the Committee to consider at its next meeting.
- F. Regarding 22 TAC §851.104(d), regarding Dishonest Practice, the proposed amendment to this rule, which strikes the words "or agency" to provide clarification to the rule, was posted to the Texas Register for public comment. No public comment has been received to date. Contingent that no public comments are submitted prior to the end of the public comment period, the Committee unanimously approved a recommendation of adoption to be presented to the full Board for consideration at the next scheduled Board meeting.
- G. Regarding 22 TAC §851.152, regarding Firm Compliance, which clarifies application requirements for Geoscience Firms, adds language to include sole proprietors as business entities, adds the words "non-exempt" and "public" when referring to the regulated practice of geoscience in Texas, replaces the word "supervision" with the words "responsible charge", clarifies the filing of assumed name certificates, removes the words "preliminary documents", and specifies that Geoscience firms are responsible for ensuring that documents released by their firm are sealed in accordance with the P.G. Seal requirements, the proposed amendment to this regulation was posted to the Texas Register for public comment. No public comment has been received to date. Contingent that no public comments are submitted prior to the end of the public comment period regarding this amendment, the Committee unanimously approved a recommendation of adoption to be presented to the full Board for consideration at the next scheduled Board meeting.
- H. Regarding 22 TAC §851.156, regarding a Professional Geoscientist's Seal, which clarifies the requirements for using a PG seal, replaces the word "original" with the word "separable", adds the words "maps, drawings, cross sections or other figures representing geoscientific work", and removes the words "plans or drawings" and "if the plans or drawings are intended to be or are removed from the report", the proposed amendment to this regulation had been posted to the Texas Register for public comment. No public comment has been received to date. Contingent that no public comments are

submitted prior to the end of the public comment period regarding this amendment, the Committee unanimously approved a recommendation of adoption to be presented to the full Board for consideration at the next scheduled Board meeting.

- I. Future agenda items will include a review of 22 TAC §851.30(c)(8), 22 TAC §851.156(f)(3)(a-d), and possibly items F, G, and H from this agenda if any public comments are received regarding the proposed amendments.
- J. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.