

**TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS
BOARD MEETING**

*November 18, 2005 10:30 AM
William P. Hobby Jr. Building
Tower II, Conference Room 225
Austin, Texas*

Summary of Minutes

Video of this meeting can be seen at www.tbpg.state.tx.us

Per Agenda Item A, the Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m. November 18, 2005. Madame Vice Chairman Kelly Krenz-Doe conducted roll call. Present were Chairman Gordon Ware, Vice Chairman Kelly Krenz-Doe, Members Kimberly R. Phillips, Shiela Hall, Y. Lynn Clark, and Dr. Murray Milford. Members Glenn R. Lowenstein, and Dr. Danny Perkins were not present; Secretary/Treasurer Pena arrived late.

Per Agenda Item B, Vice Chairman Krenz-Doe certified quorum.

Per Agenda Item C, The Executive Director's report was made. Executive Director Hess introduced two new members of staff: Mr. Alberto Jimenez, P.G., Investigator, and Ms. Molly Roman, Administrative Assistant. Executive Director Hess advised of the restrictive monetary budget, and discussed options for future Board meetings to be held the same day as Committee meetings; discussed option of teleconferencing/videoconferencing Board meetings if it could reduce expenses.

Per Agenda Item D, the Board amended the minutes of the August 5, 2005 meeting to reflect that Member Hall voted against liability insurance, and David Klebieko's name was spelled wrong. The amended minutes were approved.

Per Agenda Item E, the Chairman requested public comments, but none were submitted.

Per Agenda Item F, the Board denied waiver of exam for Gary D. Moore. The application for Kathleen L. O'Reilly was remanded to staff. The Board approved the waiver request for submission of official transcripts and application of Paul Dunster.

Per Agenda Item G, Committee reports were provided:

The Compliance and Enforcement Committee Report on the Meeting of September 20, 2005 was given by Mr. Ariel Juarez, Program Specialist. It included an addition of the seal sample to the rules; addressed some pending amendments; State agency response letters; violations of seal use.

The Applications Review Committee Report on the November 15, 2005 meeting was given by Committee Chairman Dr. Murray Milford. He addressed questionnaire development regarding license reciprocity with other states.

The General Issues Committee Report on Meeting of October 11, 2005 was provided by Committee Chairman Y. Lynn Clark. Policy statement adopted regarding the waiver of examinations; addressed adding additional disciplines to licensing; FAQ's on geoscientist seal; postponement of Geoscientist-In-Training (GIT) program until next agenda.

Per Agenda Item H, the Joint Committee with the Texas Board of Professional Engineers (TBPE) was addressed. The introductory meeting was tentatively set for January 16, 2006 at TBPE. Chairman Ware and Members Clark and Phillips will be on the Joint Committee. The agenda will be forthcoming; Members will submit suggestions for agenda items.

Per Agenda Item I, the Proposed Rule 22 TAC §851.30 for Firm Registration was presented by Member Clark. Rule was proposed and adopted.

Per Agenda Item J, the Proposed Amendment to 22 TAC §851.80 Fees (Firm Registration Fee) was presented by Member Clark: the proposed fees are: firm registration \$75, with a yearly renewal of \$150. The amendment was proposed and adopted. The Board discussed the need for clearer definitions of “firm” and “individual”.

Per Agenda Item K, the Proposed Amendment to 22 TAC §851.28 License Renewal and Reinstatement was presented by Mr. Ariel Juarez and was proposed and approved for posting in the Texas Register.

Per Agenda Item L, the Proposed Rule 22 TAC §851.31 regarding Temporary Licenses was presented by Member Clark. It was proposed and approved for posting in Texas Register.

Per Agenda Item M, concerning the creation of the GIT Program: It will be addressed with the General Issues Committee first. Research needs to be done on the types of GIT programs regarding statutory changes. No action taken.

Per Agenda Item N, there was a discussion of adding *Petroleum Geology* as a licensed discipline. There was a discussion of the pros/cons: would additional tests be necessary for licensure? Would this be a certification in addition to the current license? A major problem may be in the lack of authority and jurisdiction in the area of petroleum. Statutory authority might be a major factor in such a decision. No action taken.

Per Agenda Item O, the Board discussed and adopted a policy regarding the Waiver of Examination Requirement.

Per Agenda Item P, Staff Reports, discussion and possible action:

Licensing: The licensing update was presented by Ms. Annita Herrera, Director of Licensing. The National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®) test was administered; test results are pending; plastic wallet card options addressed.

Enforcement: Start-up procedures presented by Mr. Alberto Jimenez, P.G. Addressed outreach activities; a plan to review records at other State agencies; will follow up on old enforcement cases.

Administration: Included a financial report by Mr. Vince Houston, Deputy Executive Director and CFO, with fiscal review and projected spending; Member Pena reported on budget and expenditures.

Per Agenda Item Q, the ASBOG® trip summary by Alberto Jimenez, P.G. reviewed his participation in an analysis of the most recent ASBOG® exam: discussed questions and statistics of the exam; possible revisions to it; evaluated test-taker comments; the possible creation of a national database and International ASBOG® association. The discussion then included whether a Board member should be an ASBOG® representative. Member Clark volunteered, but Member Lowenstein may have already volunteered previously.

Per Agenda Item R, the Council of Soil Science Examiners (CSSE) Trip Report by Dr. Murray Milford, P.G. included information on the pressure to reduce the size of the group; possible exam revisions. Upcoming exam dates are March 17th and October 20th; the summer meeting will be in July 2006 in Madison.

Per Agenda Item S: Recommendations for agenda items for the next meeting. The items for review and adoption discussed today include Firm Registration, Firm Registration Fees, License Renewal and Reinstatement, and Temporary licenses. Firm Compliance and Registration need to be separated for posting purposes per Mr. Ariel Juarez and will be addressed again.

Per Agenda Item T, the proposed date for the next Board Meetings is March 17th, 2006. Proposed locations for future meetings are Dallas and Houston. Again it was mentioned that committee meetings should be held the same day as Board meetings if possible. No action taken.

Meeting adjourned unanimously at 2:58 p.m.

Gordon Ware, P.G., Chairman
Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists