



TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

Emergency Board Meeting

September 28, 2017, 10:00 a.m.

William P. Hobby, Jr. Building
333 Guadalupe Street, Tower I, Room 530
Austin, Texas 78701

Minutes

Emergency Statement: In accordance with Government Code section 551.045, the Board will hold an emergency meeting. Due to Hurricane Harvey in August 2017, the reasonably unforeseeable nature of the event, and the impact on the public health and safety of Texas residents, including licensees of the Board residing in affected counties, an urgent public necessity exists for the Board to take immediate action to ensure Board licensees are available to assist in recovery and rebuilding. Immediate action is required to ensure certain licenses do not expire and to ensure licensees are not unduly penalized during the early months of this disaster as a result of a licensee's inability to meet certain administrative requirements during such time. The meeting will take place, in whole or in part, via telephone conference. The meeting is open to the public at the location noted on this agenda. This location will provide two-way communication during the entire conference-call meeting, and will be open to the public, except in the event a portion of the meeting must be closed for a reason authorized by the Open Meetings Act, Government Code Ch. 551.

- A. The Emergency Board Meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists was called to order at 10:03 a.m. in Tower I, Room 530 of the William P. Hobby, Jr. Building at 333 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas 78701. Roll was called, and a quorum was certified. Members in attendance were TBPG Chairman C. Thomas Hallmark, PhD, PG, and other members present via telephone were Secretary/Treasurer Becky Johnson, PG, Christopher Mathewson, PhD, PG, PE, Lindsey Lee Bradford, Steven Fleming, PG, Gregory Ulmer, JD, and Bereket Derie, PhD, PG.
- B. Public comment. No comments were given.
- C. Ratify statement justifying emergency meeting. The Board ratified the statement justifying the emergency meeting by unanimous consent.
- D. Adoption of emergency rules, including:
 1. Adoption of new 22 TAC §851.81, Certain Fees Temporarily Suspended
 2. Adoption of new 22 TAC §851.82, Certain Expiration Dates Extended
 3. Adoption of new 22 TAC §851.83, Certain Licensees Temporarily Exempt from Continuing Education RequirementsThe Board adopted the emergency rules 22 TAC §§851.81, 851.82, and 851.83 by unanimous consent.
- E. Temporary administrative adjustments to policies and procedures related to licensing, renewal, and enforcement actions. Executive Director Charles Horton outlined the guidance to staff regarding temporary adjustments to TBPG policies and procedures related to licensing, renewal, and enforcement actions due to the recent disaster.
- F. Proposed new rule for publication in Texas Register for public comment, 22 TAC §851.83, Certain Licensees Temporarily Exempt from Continuing Education Requirements. The Board approved proposed rule 22 TAC §851.83, Certain Licensees Temporarily Exempt from Continuing Education Requirements, by unanimous consent, for publication to the Texas Register for public comment.

- G. Date and agenda items for next meeting. Next Committee meetings will be held on November 16, 2017. The next Board meeting will be held on November 17, 2017.
- H. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.



C. Thomas Hallmark, PhD, PG
TBPG Chairman