



# TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

## **Board Meeting**

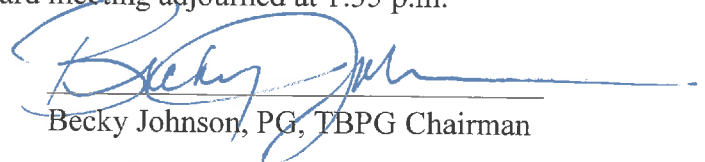
*November 30, 2018, 9:00 a.m.*

William P. Hobby, Jr. Building  
333 Guadalupe Street, Tower III, Room 102A, Austin, Texas 78701

## **MINUTES**

- A. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists was called to order at 9:05 a.m. Members in attendance were C. Thomas Hallmark, PhD, PG, Board Chairman, W. David Prescott, II, PG, Vice-Chair, Becky Johnson, PG, Secretary/Treasurer, Bereket Derie, PhD, PG, Steven Fleming, PG, Drusilla Knight-Villarreal, Lindsey Lee, Brandon Stowers, and Mark N. Varhaug, PG, CPG. A quorum of members was certified. Dr. Hallmark presented the Oath of Office and welcomed TBPG's new Board Members Drusilla Knight-Villarreal, Brandon Stowers, and Mark Varhaug. Dr. Hallmark also expressed appreciation to outgoing Board Members Christopher C. Mathewson, PhD, PG, PE, and Gregory Ulmer, JD, for their contributions to the TBPG and its mission. He presented an award to Dr. Mathewson, as a token of the Board's appreciation. Member Ulmer was not in attendance to receive his award.
- B. The minutes from the August 17, 2018 Board Meeting were approved as edited by unanimous consent.
- C. Public comment. There were no public comments.
- D. Chairman's Report: Dr. Hallmark addressed his recent attendance at the Fall ASBOG® Meetings, including the Annual Meeting, Administrator's Forum, and the meeting of the Council of Examiners.
- E. Executive Director's Report: Interim Executive Director T. Wesley McCoy, PG, addressed fiscal and budgetary matters, use of staff resources, and TBPG Performance Measures for Fiscal Year 2018.
- F. Reports on recent Committee meetings and activities.
  1. The Application Review and Continuing Education Committee meeting report (11/29/18). Dr. Hallmark outlined the discussion regarding the Texas Geophysics exam; its scoring methods, and a potential need for subject matter experts to meet to assist with updating the question bank.
  2. The Compliance and Enforcement Committee meeting report (11/29/18) was given by Committee Chair Becky Johnson, who reported on the updated TBPG Ethics video, discussed recent requests for Retired Status of a Texas P.G. license, upcoming rulemaking regarding Litigation Holds, and the report regarding TCEQ's rule-making process regarding coal combustion in Texas.
- G. Staff Reports:
  1. The Licensing Report, given by Licensing Coordinator Elsa Paynes, included current licensing data, ASBOG and TGE examination statistics, and efforts to enter into reciprocity agreements with other jurisdictions.
  2. The Financial Report, given by Chief Financial Officer Lisa Stockton, included information on revenues, expenditures, and travel updates.
  3. The Enforcement Report, given by Interim Executive Director and Enforcement Coordinator T. Wesley McCoy, PG, highlighted current enforcement numbers, the recent Complaint Review Team (CRT) meeting, staff dismissal of complaints, and the last of the SOAH cases being resolved.

- H. Applications for P.G. license received from the following individuals:
- a. Peter Todd Smith: The Board unanimously granted his request for waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals and Practice of Geology examinations.
  - b. Sanjay Sharma: No action was taken.
  - c. Chad Copeland (second review): No action was taken.
  - d. Michael Nibert: No action was taken.
  - e. Alfred Aird: The Board unanimously granted his request for waiver of the ASBOG® Fundamentals and Practice of Geology examinations.
- I. Proposed Default Orders
- The Board unanimously approved the default order for Complaint Case No. 2017022 as corrected, in a vote of 8-0; Member Lee was recused.
  - The Board unanimously approved the default order for Complaint Case No. 2018032, in a vote of 8-0; Member Lee was recused.
  - The Board unanimously approved the default order for Complaint Case No. 2017047, in a vote of 7-0; Members Lee and Johnson were recused.
  - The Board unanimously approved the default order for Complaint Case No. 2017048, in a vote of 7-0; Members Lee and Johnson were recused.
  - The Board unanimously approved the default order for Complaint Case No. 2018033, in a vote of 7-0; Members Lee and Johnson were recused.
- J. Proposed Agreed Board Orders
1. The Board unanimously adopted the Board Order for Complaint Case No. 2018034, in a vote of 7-0; Members Lee and Johnson were recused.
  2. The Board unanimously adopted the Board Order for Complaint Case No. 2018038, in a vote of 8-0; Member Lee was recused.
- K. Executive Director position. Member Becky Johnson reported on the progress of the search for the next Executive Director. The Board unanimously approved narrowing the applicant pool to candidates 7, 10, and 12. The Board unanimously approved that the Search Committee interview those selected candidates and select the top candidate to bring to the Board for a final interview.
- L. Sunset Advisory Commission review of TBPG, Sunset Decision Hearing and Recommendation. Dr. Hallmark gave an update regarding the recent decision hearing of the Sunset Advisory Commission. The Commission recommended to extend the regulation and the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists for six years, and to make some changes to the authorizing statute to correspond with their across the board recommendations for regulatory licensing boards.
- M. Officer elections. The Board held officer elections. The Board unanimously elected Becky Johnson to the office of TBPG Board Chair. The Board unanimously elected W. David Prescott, II, to the office of TBPG Vice Chair. The Board unanimously elected Steven Fleming to the office of TBPG Secretary/Treasurer.
- N. Date for upcoming meetings and agenda items for next meeting. The next Committee meetings are scheduled on January 31, 2019, and the Board meeting is on February 1, 2019.
- O. New TBPG Chair Johnson declared the Board meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

  
Becky Johnson, PG, TBPG Chairman