



# **TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS**

## **TBPG BOARD MEETING**

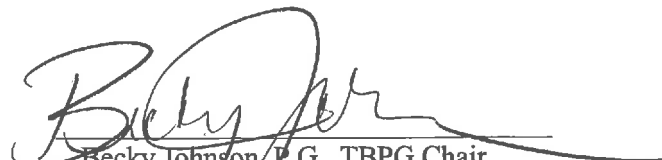
*April 29, at 8:30 a.m.*

Hobby Building, 333 Guadalupe Street, Room 102  
Austin, Texas 78701

## **MINUTES**

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists was called to order at 8:33 a.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was certified. Board Members in attendance were Secretary/Treasurer Mark N. Varhaug, P.G., CPG, and Board Members Margon Dillard, Steven Fleming, P.G., Ed Janak, P.G., and LaFawn Thompson. TBPG Chair Becky Johnson, P.G. and Vice-Chair W. David Prescott II, P.G. were not in attendance.
2. The minutes from the February 11, 2022 Board Meeting were unanimously approved as written.
3. Public comment. One public comment was received, but was assigned to the General Issues Committee for review before being considered by The Board`
4. Chair's Report: No report was given, TBPG Chair Becky Johnson, P.G. was absent.
5. Executive Director's Report: TBPG Executive Director Rene Truan gave an update on agency operations and open staff positions; the upcoming office move; ASBOG testing numbers and upcoming computer based testing; and the customer service survey results.
6. Reports on recent Committee meetings.
  - A. The Application Review and Continuing Education Committee Meeting Report from 04/28/22 was given by Committee Chair Mark Varhaug; The Licensing Report was outlined by TBPG's Licensing Coordinator Elsa Paynes, who reviewed licensing data, TGE exam statistics, CSSE exam. Locating additional outreach initiatives was discussed.
  - B. The General Issues Committee Meeting Report from 04/28/22 was given by Committee Chair Ed Janak. There was discussion related to the public inquiry related to licensing, related to additional licensing opportunities, but that no action was needed at this point. Potential outreach initiatives were also discussed.
  - C. The Financial Review/Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Report from 04/28/22 was given by Committee Chair Brandon Stowers. The Financial Report for FY 2022 was given by Financial Officer Pamela Parks. Also discussed at Committee was the 2022 Strategic Plan.
  - D. The Compliance and Enforcement Committee Meeting Report from 04/28/22 was given by Committee Member Margon Dillard, who was substituting for Committee Chair David Prescott, who was not in attendance. The Compliance Report was summarized by Elsa Paynes, who reviewed current compliance program statistics; complaints dismissed by staff; and enforcement penalties collected for General Revenue. Potential outreach initiatives were also discussed. Public comment regarding digital seals and signatures was discussed, and referred back to committee for more discussion.

7. Applications for P.G. license, including requests for waivers and substitutions.
  - A. Natalya Kharitonova: Applicant for P.G. licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals and Practice of Geology examinations. The Board unanimously approved the applicant's waiver request for both exams.
  - B. Melody Hacker: Applicant for P.G. licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals and Practice of Geology examinations. The Board unanimously approved the applicant's waiver request for both exams.
  - C. Craig Courtney: Applicant for P.G. licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals and Practice of Geology examinations. The Board approved the applicant's waiver request for both exams; six in favor, one opposed.
  - D. Amy Bush: Applicant for P.G. licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals and Practice of Geology examinations. The Board unanimously approved the applicant's waiver request for both exams.
  - E. Dr. Gretchen Miller: Applicant for P.G. licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology Examination. The Board unanimously approved the applicant's waiver request for the Fundamentals exam.
  - F. W. Odell Ward: Applicant for P.G. licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology examination. The Board unanimously approved the applicant's waiver request for the Fundamentals exam.
8. Proposed amendment to 22 TAC 851.22, regarding Waivers and Substitutions: Policy, Procedures, and Criteria. The Board unanimously approved proposal of the amendment to 22 TAC 851.22 and posting proposed amendment to the Texas Register.
9. Adoption of amendment to 22 TAC 851.158 regarding Complaint procedures. Proposed amendment was posted in the March 18, 2022 edition of the Texas Register for comment. No comments were received. The Board unanimously adopted this amendment without changes, as posted in the Texas Register.
10. Proposed Agreed Board Order for Complaint 2020-00007. No action was taken.
11. Potential public/private outreach initiatives. Recent and upcoming outreach was discussed.
12. Future Board meetings, including dates, arrangements, and agenda items. The next Meetings are scheduled to be on August 11 and 12, 2022.
13. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

  
Becky Johnson, P.G., TBPG Chair  
Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists