



TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

TBPG BOARD MEETING

December 6, 2024, 8:30 a.m.

1801 Congress Avenue, Conference Room 7.102
Austin, Texas 78701

Minutes

1. The regularly scheduled meeting of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists was called to order at 8:44am, roll was called, and a quorum certified. Board Members in attendance were TBPG Chair W. David Prescott, II, P.G., Vice-Chair Steven Fleming, PG, Secretary/Treasurer Mark N. Varhaug, P.G., CPG, Officer Presiding and Board Members, Ed Janak, P.G., Bereket Derie, Ph.D, P.G., Danny Kingham, PG, Sam McGee and LaFawn Thompson. Member Margon Dillard was not present.
2. Minutes from the August 09, 2024 Board Meeting were approved as written.
3. One Public comment was received from Mr. Cody Cash, G.I.T., regarding Qualifying Work Experience requirements, Applications and Official Transcripts. He also requested a list of documents that a P.G. can seal be posted to the website. Chair Prescott assigned the comment to the General Issues Committee for review and possible action.
4. Chair Prescott spoke regarding Education, Outreach, Board member terms and responsibilities, and Customer Surveys.
5. Executive Director Truan reported on Operations, Staff Updates, and Agency Records Retention schedule. Staff member Sunny Locke provided an overview of what the Agency Retention Schedule is and why it is important.
6. Chair Prescott decided to move up Agenda Item 8E, request for a waiver of the Education requirement for Ms. Tara Rodgers, who was present at the meeting. The Board unanimously approved Ms. Rodgers' Substitution of work experience for the Education requirement.

Break was taken at 9:28am

Meeting resumed at 9:36am

7. When the meeting resumed, Chair Prescott moved to Agenda item 14. Ms. Caroline Wachtman, P.G., presented the final report from the Carbon Capture and Sequestration workgroup.
8. Reports on recent Committee meetings.

- A. Application Review and Continuing Education Committee meeting report from 12/05/2024. The Licensing Report was outlined by Licensing Team Lead, Katie Colby: licensing data, ASBOG exam statistics, TGE exam statistics, and CSSE exam statistics.
 - B. Compliance and Enforcement Committee meeting report from 12/05/2024 was given by Committee Chair Stephen Fleming. The Compliance Report was provided by Enforcement Manager Gordon Magenheim
 - C. General Issues Committee meeting report from 12/05/2024 was given by Committee Chair Mark Varhaug. Enforcement Manager Gordon Magenheim discussed current and future Outreach presentations, requirements for ASBOG Fundamentals examination and analyzing the results from the October 2024 Fundamentals of Geology examination to discover areas that more outreach is necessary. Mark Varhaug also reported on the ASBOG Annual Meeting.
 - D. Financial Review/Strategic Planning Committee meeting met on 12/05/2024. The Finance Report was provided by Chief Financial Officer Dr. Coretta Briscoe.
Break was taken at 11:06am
Meeting resumed at 11:14am
9. Review of applications for exam, work experience, and education waivers/substitution received prior to the date of the committee meeting, including:
- A. Ronald Lujan Amao: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG exam(s). The Board unanimously approved Mr. Amao's request for a waiver of the Fundamentals of Geology examination.
 - B. Mary Jubb: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG exam(s) No Action was taken.
 - C. David Olutusin: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG exam(s). The Board unanimously approved Mr. Olutusin's request for a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals and Practice examinations.
 - D. Andrew Nugent: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG exam(s). The Board unanimously approved Mr. Nugent's request for a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals and Practice of Geology examinations.
 - E. Dr. Rahul Sahajpal: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG exam(s). The Board approved Dr. Sahajpal's request for the ASBOG Fundamentals examination only. Chair Prescott abstained from the vote. The Board took no action on Dr. Sahajpal's Practice exam request.
 - F. Jeffrey Allen: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the education requirement. No Action was taken.
 - G. Frank Sims: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG exams(s). No Action was taken.



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- H. Michael Willey: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the ASBOG exam(s). The Board unanimously approved Mr. Willey's request for a waiver of the ASBOG Fundamentals and Practice of Geology examinations.
 - I. Michael Nibert: Applicant for PG licensure requesting a waiver of the Soil Science exam(s). No Action was taken.
10. Proposed Agreed Board Order for Complaint #2024-00012 was approved unanimously by the Board. Mark Vahaug, P.G. was recused.
 11. Proposed Default Board Order for Complaint #2024-00014 was approved unanimously by the Board. Ed Janak, P.G. was recused.
 12. Proposed Agreed Board Order for Complaint #2024-00026 was approved unanimously by the Board. Steven Fleming, P.G. was recused.
 13. Board Member Training was postponed to the next Board meeting.
 14. Customer Survey Results. Enforcement Manager Gordon Magenheim reported on the customer survey results from the PG seal survey that was sent out. Licensing Specialist Katie Colby reported on the final results from the Customer Service Survey that ended on August 31st, 2024.
Chair Prescott directed TBPG Staff to continue work on the CCS report, put the various reports and surveys on the website. Chair Prescott also assigned additional consideration of the Emeritus or Retired status, possible creation of new ethics and continuing education videos, as well as continued analysis of the ASBOG examination results to the General Issues Committee.
 15. The Board went into Closed Session at 12:22pm to discuss Executive Director Compensation and Responsibilities. Open session was resumed at 12:53pm. No action was taken in closed session.
 16. The Board voted unanimously to approve a salary increase for the Executive Director.
 17. Public/private outreach initiatives were reported by Enforcement Manager Gordon Magenheim.
 18. Future Board meetings, including dates, arrangements, and agenda items were discussed. The next Board meeting is scheduled for February 6th and 7th, 2025 and will be a remote meeting.
 19. Meeting was adjourned at 1:06pm.

Mark Varhaug, P.G., Board Secretary, Officer Presiding