

Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

Meeting Minutes December 18, 2003

Board Members Present

John Steinmetz, Chair
Harlan Roepke
Chad Crabtree
Eric Fry (via telephone)

Others Present

Amanda Wilson, Secretary to the Board
Susan Gard, Attorney General's Office

Visitors Present

Larry Studebaker
John Clark
Kevin Strunk
Steve Poe

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm. A quorum of the Board was present.

Due to the passing of Board member James R. Harris, the Board is now short one member. A committee of Indiana Geological Survey staff and professional geological organization members has been established in accordance with IC 25-17.6 to make the nominations to Governor Kernan for a replacement member. Applications for the position will be solicited in the next newsletter.

Chad Crabtree moved that the minutes of the July 15, 2003 meeting be approved. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.

The Board discussed and voted on the following applications for licensure as a professional geologist in the state of Indiana:

James Bryant:	<i>Hal Roepke moved for approval. Chad Crabtree seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>
David Cornue:	<i>Eric Fry moved for approval pending receipt of an additional acceptable letter of reference. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>
Randy Curtis:	<i>Chad Crabtree moved for approval. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>
Dwayne Harris:	<i>Hal Roepke moved for approval. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>
Robert Harris:	<i>Eric Fry moved for approval. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>
Stephen Lindblom:	<i>Chad Crabtree moved for approval. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>
Dennis Townsel:	<i>Hal Roepke moved for approval. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>
Joseph Stephens:	<i>Eric Fry moved for approval. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>
Larry Scusa:	<i>Chad Crabtree moved for approval. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.</i>

John Steinmetz updated the Board on the comments received at the Public Hearing on LSA Document 03-212, Proposed Changes to Title 305 IAC. Comments were received from Larry Studebaker pointing out that it was illegal for the Board to leave out of the rule the amount of the fees that will be charged. Larry recommended adding a separate section with the fee structure in it, so that when fees need to be increased; only that section has to be changed. All other references to fees in the rule would refer to the new section. Amanda Wilson mentioned that the exam fees needed to be added to the list of fees for the new section. The Board approved the changes to the proposed legislation. The final rule will be forwarded to the Attorney General's office for review.

The annual election of Board Chair and Secretary were held. Hal Roepke moved that John Steinmetz remain Chair of the Board. Eric Fry seconded. Unanimously approved. Chad Crabtree moved that Amanda Wilson continue to serve as Secretary to the Board. Eric Fry seconded on the condition that the Attorney General's office approve that appointment. Unanimously approved with that condition.

The Board undertook the annual fiscal review of the licensing program. Hal Roepke moved that the proposed budget be approved with no changes of the licensing fees. Chad Crabtree seconded. Unanimously approved.

Discussion was held on the topic of who needs to be licensed as a professional geologist. Kevin Strunk provided the Board with an update on proposed legislation that State Senator Greg Server will be sponsoring in the next session to update the definition of the public practice of geology and add a "geologist-in-training" program.

Discussion was held on the topic of developing a policy to address penalties for infractions of the professional geologist licensing laws. The Board has the authority to suspend, revoke, or condition a license found to be in violation of the geologist licensing laws. Susan Gard, Deputy Attorney General, reminded the Board that the key is to develop a policy and apply it consistently to all cases. John Steinmetz presented a statement of procedure that the

Board will follow to address complaints. All complaints will be required to be notarized statements. No anonymous statements will be accepted.

Hal Roepke moved that the highlights from the ASBOG meeting be distributed by email instead of discussed in the meeting. John Steinmetz mentioned that they would be in the newsletter that would be sent out in a month or so.

Visitors were invited to give their comments and ask questions.

The next meeting of the Board is tentatively scheduled for April 8, 2004. The alternate date will be April 15, 2004.

Chad Crabtree moved that the meeting be adjourned. Hal Roepke seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Compiled by Amanda Wilson, Secretary to the Board.