

July 24, 2001 Minutes

Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 24, 2001

Members present:

Eric Fry
J. Richard Harris
Harlan Roepke
John Steinmetz

Others Present:

Amanda Wilson

Visitors:

David Nance, IDNR Division of Water
Kevin Strunk, Wabash Resources

The meeting was held in the Department of Natural Resources, Division of Reclamation Conference Room at the Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. John Steinmetz called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

The minutes of the January 17, 2001 meeting were distributed for Board member approval. Hal Roepke moved that the minutes be approved. Eric Fry seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

John Steinmetz gave an update on the status of the Governor's nomination of a Member at Large. Several reminders have been sent and there has been no response. Dick Harris reminded us that this is a problem for the Governor's office. Kevin Strunk mentioned that he had been informed that if the Board could suggest someone for the Governor to nominate that we might receive a more timely response. Dick Harris recommended that the Board members suggest a few names to submit to the Governor's office.

Dick Harris gave a summary report of the ASBOG® Council of Examiners Workshop that he attended in Memphis, Tennessee in April. He explained how ASBOG® makes the tests. He also recapped the history of ASBOG® and their 2000 Income and Expenditure Budget. John Steinmetz offered to write a letter to ASBOG® to address the concerns this Board has about ASBOG®'s Executive Committee expenses at ASBOG®'s next meeting in October. John Steinmetz also offered the opportunity for any of the Board members to attend ASBOG®'s annual meeting in October. John Steinmetz also thanked Dick Harris for his participation in the Workshop.

The Board discussed the possibility of establishing other categories of licensure such as “Inactive” and “Geologist in Training.” Amanda Wilson gave a synopsis of other states programs. The Board discussed the pros and cons of both. John Steinmetz and Amanda Wilson offered to investigate further both categories in other states. Hal Roepke moved that only the “Geologist in Training” category be researched. Dick Harris seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

John Steinmetz gave a brief overview of the Board’s progress toward adopting a code of professional conduct. He then presented a new draft code based on the Florida Association of Professional Geologists’ code. Hal Roepke moved that this new draft be adopted as the Board’s draft and submitted to the Indiana Licensed Professional Geologists for comment. Dick Harris seconded. The Board unanimously approved.

John Steinmetz briefly summarized the definitions of “public practice of geology” that had been compiled from other states laws. Kevin Strunk then addressed the Board regarding the definition in the Indiana statute, asking that the Board look at the Professional Engineers definition of “practice of engineering,” and rewording the definition of “public practice of geology” to resemble that definition. Dick Harris and Kevin Strunk will work on the language necessary and present it to the Board at the next meeting.

John Steinmetz began the discussion of the possibility of adding the “geologist-in-training” category of licensure. Hal Roepke suggested that the wording we use include language similar to Arkansas and Arizona’s definitions. John Steinmetz agrees that the category would convey a degree of professionalism to those who are not yet qualified to be licensed professional geologists. John Steinmetz and Amanda Wilson will put together a draft to present to the Board at the next meeting.

The Board then convened to executive session to discuss applications for licensure. The Board discussed the minutes from the April 20, 2001 executive session conference call. Dick Harris moved to accept those minutes. Eric Fry seconded. The Board unanimously approved. The Board then discussed applications for licensure. Eric Fry mentioned that the form used for reference letters needs revision to allow a space for the state of licensure for the person writing the reference.

The Board returned to open session to vote on applications. One application is still pending resolution of an ethics issue. Another request regarding payment of back dues because of a misunderstanding was considered and approved. Any other persons in this situation will be notified that they must pay back dues within sixty days to maintain licensure. The Board approved four applications pending receipt of their third letter of reference. The Board approved nine other applications.

The meeting was dismissed at 3:25 p.m.

Submitted by Amanda R. Wilson, Board Secretary, July 26, 2001.

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