

Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2004

Board Members Present

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

Others Present

Amanda Wilson, Licensing
Coordinator
Tracy Richardson, Attorney
General's Office

Visitors Present

Kim Forrester
Nancy Hasenmueller
Mark James
Matt Jordan
Eric McClees
Jerry O'Callahan
Guy O'Neal
Larry Studebaker
Kevin Strunk
Jim Uptigraft
Chris White

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

Hal Roepke moved that the minutes of the December 18, 2003 meeting be approved. Chad Crabtree seconded. Unanimously approved.

Amanda Wilson updated the Board on the status of LSA Document 03-212, Proposed changes to Title 305 IAC. Documents have been sent to the State Budget Agency for approval. Once their approval is received the rule will be forwarded to the Attorney General's office for review.

John Steinmetz updated the Board on the Governor's appointment of a person to fulfill the term vacated by Dick Harris' death. The nominating committee forwarded three names to the Governor's office, and we are awaiting his appointment of a Board member.

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

Andrew Alexander: *Chad Crabtree moved for approval. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.*
David Dahlstrom: *Eric Fry moved for approval. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Daniel Fisher: *Hal Roepke moved for approval. Chad Crabtree seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Steven Gerritsen: *Chad Crabtree moved for approval. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Susan Grover: *John Steinmetz moved for approval. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Pamela Jackson: *Eric Fry moved for approval. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Matthew Manka: *Hal Roepke moved for approval. Chad Crabtree seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Michael Maxwell: *Chad Crabtree moved for approval. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Ronald Parker: *Eric Fry moved for approval. Chad Crabtree seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Sean Paulsen: *Hal Roepke moved for approval. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.*
William Pickard: *Chad Crabtree moved for approval. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Dean Stefanczyk: *Eric Fry moved for approval. Hal Roepke seconded. Unanimously approved.*
Tom Timmermans: *Hal Roepke moved for approval pending receipt of a third letter of reference and completion of the questions on the application form. John Steinmetz seconded. Unanimously approved.*

The Board considered a complaint issued by Mr. Ronald Heymann against Mr. Eric McClees, LPG # 1911. After review of the materials provided, the Board agreed that there was no fault on the part of Mr. McClees. A determination will be issued and sent to the involved parties and placed in Mr. McClees' file.

Discussion on the proposed development of a policy to address penalties for infractions of Indiana rules related to the licensure of professional geologists was postponed until the next meeting of the Board.

Discussion was held on the topic of what the Board considers as the public practice of geology. Eric Fry proposed that the Board consider making a non-rule policy statement to flesh out the Board's determination of who needs to be licensed. The Board will discuss it among the members before the next meeting. Any non-rule policy document would be posted for public comment.

Discussion of overcharging for renewal fees was held. It was recently brought to the attention of the Board that because the licensing fees have to be stated in the Indiana Administrative Code, that the Professional Geologist Board

has been inadvertently overcharging for renewal fees. The Board voted in February 2001 to increase renewal fees for three years from \$60.00 to \$90.00 effective immediately. Discussion of how to refund those fees was held. The Board agreed that a postcard would be sent to all the licensees explaining the situation and informing them how to apply for a refund. Refund application forms will be posted on the Indiana Geological Survey website.

Visitor comments or questions were welcomed. The issue of unlicensed practice of geology was discussed. Tracy Richardson, of the Attorney General's office, noted that her office has jurisdiction over unlicensed individuals in the public practice of geology under the consumer protection laws. The Attorney General's office can issue injunctions through "cease and desist" orders. Alternatively, because it is a Class B misdemeanor to publicly practice geology with out a license, violations can be brought to the attention of the county prosecutors.

The next meeting of the Board was tentatively scheduled for September 9, 2004.
John Steinmetz adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Compiled by Amanda Wilson, Secretary to the Board.