

LOUISIANA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS
9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809



APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, January 26, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
via ZOOM

MINUTES

Application Review Committee Chair Melanie Stiegler called the meeting to order at 9:37 am and commenced roll call. Present were Application Review Committee members Melanie Stiegler, Elizabeth McDade, and David Williamson. Also present were Brenda Macon, LBOPG Executive Secretary, and guest Scott Meier.

Stiegler asked Meier if he would like to address the committee; he declined.

Stiegler then turned to the list of applications for consideration. She reported she had reviewed application 1 and would recommend for approval. McDade reported she had reviewed application 2 and would recommend for approval. Williamson reported he had reviewed application 3 and would recommend for approval. Stiegler said these recommendations would be made at the special board meeting that would follow the committee meeting.

Stiegler then reported she had reviewed the one remaining application for the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology (FG) exam and recommended approval. She reminded the committee members that the board had authorized the committee to approve testing candidates themselves and called for a motion to approve. Williamson moved to approve the application for testing; McDade seconded; the motion passed.

Discussion then turned to the pending waiver request, and Macon asked Board Member William Schramm to join the meeting. Stiegler then led the discussion of the waiver request. Williamson said he was not in favor of granting the waiver because he did not feel the explanation of good cause was sufficient; both Schramm and McDade agreed. McDade added that he had the opportunity to become licensed during the grandfather period and did not. She also that she had taken the exams to qualify to become licensed and did not feel that the applicant's reasons to be exempted from the examinations was compelling. Williamson asked, if the applicant took the exams and did not pass, would he be allowed to retake them; Stiegler and McDade said he could take the exams as often as he wanted until he passed. Stiegler then called for a vote on the decision; the committee voted unanimously to deny the waiver. Schramm suggested creating a bullet-point list on the reasons for the denial. Discussion ensued, with the consensus that the applicant should take the exams. Macon asked if the committee would like her to draft a letter for their review; the committee members agreed to that suggestion.

McDade asked what happens if an unlicensed person performs geoscience work and something bad results. Schramm, who is on the Compliance Committee, explained the investigation and adjudication process. Discussion ensued, with Schramm suggesting the committee members read the newly created Standard Operating Procedures for the complaint process.

Macon asked if the committee would like to discuss the newly created form for the recently adopted Louisiana State Employee Waiver Program and added that three seemingly eligible applicants had completed everything except the form. She explained that she and Schramm had drafted an instruction page to add to the website and that the form would be available for download as a PDF. Discussion ensued, with Williamson reporting that he had announced the new program at the recent Shreveport Geological Society meeting. Schramm reported that state agencies offer employees incentives for becoming licensed. Additional discussion ensued.

Stiegler then asked the committee members if they had other business to discuss or if they were ready to adjourn. Williamson made a motion to adjourn; McDade seconded; the motion passed. Stiegler adjourned the meeting at 10:15 am.

Received less than a 70% score on the practice test submitted by the applicant
Has not demonstrated a broad enough experiential base in geology
Statement of good cause is insufficient