

LOUISIANA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

9643 Brookline Ave., Ste. 101, Baton Rouge, LA 70809



REGULAR MEETING OF LBOPG

Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 1:00 P.M.

Louisiana Engineering Society Building Conference Room
9643 Brookline Ave., Baton Rouge, LA 70809

MINUTES

Chairman John Johnston called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 10, 2016. He then commenced Roll Call.

Present: John Johnston, Daisy Pate, Art Johnson, Todd Perry, Madhurendu Kumar, William Finley, William Meaney, Board Members. Thomas Klekamp, NOGS board member nominee. Georgeann McNicholas, Executive Secretary.

Absent: Lloyd Hoover, Board Members. Harry Vorhoff, Legal Counsel.

Quorum established. Roll Call sheet was circulated for signatures.

Meeting Minutes: Meeting Minutes of 01/12/2016 were reviewed. Motion made by Johnson to accept the minutes, seconded by Finley. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Johnson presented the February 2016 Treasurer's Report. He presented that the bank statements and credit card statements were not mailed because LBOPG's account status had been changed to electronic statements only. It has been reinstated and LBOPG should receive paper statements again going forward. He reviewed the December bank reconciliation and anticipates reviewing January and February's bank reconciliation before the next LBOPG meeting. Johnson also reported that it was discovered that eight grandfathered applicants applied twice and paid their licensing fees twice so LBOPG will be refunding the duplicate payments. Renewals are at approximately 80%. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Kumar, seconded by Perry. Motion carried unanimously.

Licensing Application Review Committee – Perry read the numbers of applicants recommended by the Licensing Application Review Committee for a Louisiana Professional Geoscientist license as follows: 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 of the Licensing Review Committee List for February 10, 2016. Johnson motioned to accept the recommended list of applicants as read. Seconded by Finley. Motion carried unanimously.

Licensing Examination Committee – Finley stated he needed more details regarding the ASBOG Spring CEO Workshop. He contacted University of Louisiana at Lafayette and found that they currently do not encourage their students to take the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology exam but it has been discussed. He invited Dr. Borak to attend today's LBOPG meeting to discuss that issue but he did not receive a response.

Johnston stated that he had invited Profs. Chacko John and Doug Carlson. Meaney asked what kind of input we are requesting. Finley explained that LBOPG is asking those Louisiana universities that have geology programs if they are encouraging their geology student to take the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology test. Meaney contacted Centenary and asked if they had a policy regarding the exam. He learned that some schools around the country confer credit to students who take and pass the basic exam. Finley noted that geology students will need to have passed the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology exam to be eligible to take the ASBOG Practice of Geology exam to be eligible to be licensed in Louisiana so it is in their best interest. Perry noted that all the LA Universities with a geology degree need to be notified. Johnston recommended that Finley work with McNicholas to draft correspondence to notify them of the ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology exam and Geologist-In-Training certification as the initial step to be a licensed PG in Louisiana. Klekamp suggested that the 2-year colleges be notified as well.

Complaint Review Committee – No complaints have been received.

Office Committee – Johnston reported that the Office Committee will need to make a personnel decision before the new Governor's board is in place since it will not occur before April 2016 when the temporary positions employment contract expires. He called a meeting of the Office Committee to follow the Board meeting.

Legal Counsel's Comments – Not present.

Other Business – Reciprocity: McNicholas noted that prior to today's meeting she sent the responses from Alabama, Minnesota and Nebraska. Alabama accepted and has been added to our dropdown list on the LBOPG licensing application. Minnesota and Nebraska declined because their legislation does not provide for reciprocity. It is anticipated that Mississippi will be returning a signed agreement in the near future. Kumar asked about Georgia and Florida. McNicholas responded that neither one of them have responded. Finley noted that everyone who is licensed in Minnesota must take the ASBOG exam. There is no grandfathering in Minnesota. Therefore, if they met our requirements, they can be licensed in Louisiana without reciprocity. *ASBOG Spring COE meeting field trip:* Klekamp reported on the findings of his research of a Wax Lake Delta trip. Pate reported on the findings of her research of a New Orleans Levees trip. Discussion ensued. Pate recommended Chris McClendon as the luncheon speaker to compliment the field trip. LBOPG's preference is the New Orleans Levees trip due to logistics but both trips are excellent and will be submitted to ASBOG for their determination. *PG license plate:* No action at this time. Perry to follow-up. *Journal:* The first Journal is posted on the website. Finley suggested that a notice be sent to all licensed PG's. Klekamp asked if it could be dropped into the New Orleans Geological Society newsletter. Agreed it is public information and could be linked or attached or dropped in. Discussion ensued as to whether the email should direct the licensees to the website to review the Journal or send the Journal itself. Pate noted that all licensed PG's should be visiting the website on a regular basis for current information. Further discussion ensued. Johnson recommended that the second edition should include the Spring ASBOG COE meeting, and LBOPG proctoring the ASBOG exam. Kumar noted other state boards where he is licensed use to send information by mail but now they all send the information electronically. Johnston suggested that, not more than monthly, an email be sent to all licensees of LBOPG news. Finley suggested LBOPG news should be on the website and licensees should be directed to the website. Pate suggested quarterly emails with relevant news. An email will be sent to all licensed geologist directing them to the website for information with the first edition of the Journal attached. *Louisiana Environmental Conference:* Perry to send information to McNicholas to distribute concerning an Ethics seminar given by Bill Schram March 17th at the Louisiana Environmental Conference in Lafayette. *Louisiana Government Agencies:* Perry to reach out to Louisiana EPA and Johnson to reach out to DNR regarding a policy that environmental reports require a PG signoff.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. Johnson motioned to adjourn meeting, seconded by Kumar. Motion carried unanimously.
Johnston adjourned meeting at 2:00 p.m.