

ALASKA AELS BOARD

February 2006

Quarterly Board Meeting

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AELS Quarterly Board Meeting

The Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AELS) held a quarterly board meeting on February 9-10, 2006 in Juneau.

Board members in attendance were: Kenneth Maynard, Chair; Craig Fredeen, Vice-Chair; Clifford Baker, Boyd Brownfield, Richard Heieren, Harley Hightower and Mark Morris. Also in attendance were newly appointed board members Charles A. Leet, PE, Civil Engineer, Burdett B. Lent, Landscape Architect, Daniel E. Walsh, PE, Mining Engineer and Terry Gorlick, Public member.

There are currently no vacant seats on the AELS Board.

Participating for portions of the meeting from Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing were:

- Richard Urion, Director
- Cathy Mason, Administrative Manager
- Richard Younkings, Chief Investigator
- Naseer Dhaamin, Investigator (by teleconference)

Present from the Department of Law was Assistant Attorney General David Brower

AELS Staff in attendance was:

- Ginger Morton, Executive Administrator
- Eleanor Vinson, Licensing Examiner
- Vern Jones, Licensing Examiner

Member of the Public in attendance were: Patrick Kalen, representing ACSM, Travis Arndt, representing DOT, Gary Eddy, representing DOT and himself, George Imbsen, representing DOT and himself, Arne Oydna, representing DOT and himself, Shawn Florio, representing APDC, Ted Trueblood, representing APDC, Terry Schoenthal, representing ASLA, Linda Cyra-Corsgaard, representing ASLA/APDC, Thom Lowther, representing AIA, Dale Nelson, representing APDC/ASCE, Susan Whitfield, representing NCEES/ELSES, John Squires, representing himself, Doug Mertz, representing John Squires, and Terry Thurbon and Chris Kennedy both from the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH).

Some highlights of the meeting:

Disciplinary Actions Taken

There were no formal disciplinary actions taken at this meeting.

Regulations Adopted

The board adopted the following draft regulations:

- 1) 12 AAC 36.405, Article 4 – continuing education for surveyors. The board adopted revised regulatory language deleting the ethics requirement.
- 2) 12 AAC 36.100 – removing the word “land” from the titles of the NCEES FS and PS examinations.

Regulations Public Noticed

Still out for public comment were the following proposed regulation changes:

- 1) 12 AAC 36.111, practice of land surveying.

- 2) A new section in 12 AAC 36 allowing for the issuance of courtesy/temporary registrations in the event of a catastrophe.

Legislative Recommendations

- 1) The board will not be proposing any legislative changes this session, but will be prepared to do so next session.

Subgroups

The board continues its work in the following subgroups:

- Additional Engineering Disciplines
- Incidental Practice
- CE – Phase II / Architecture and Engineer Mandatory CE
- Courtesy License
- Disciplinary Action & Process/Enforcement Procedure
- Mandatory Jurisprudence Exam
- Legislative Changes
- Stop Work Orders
- Site Adaptations

What's New

The division is contracting with ELSESES, an affiliate owned by NCEES, to begin administration of the FE/PE and FS/PS exams beginning with the October 2006 administration. Applicants will no longer pay exam fees to the division, but will pay these fees directly to ELSESES.

Applicants will still apply to the AELS board and pay a \$50 nonrefundable application fee. AELS will notify ELSESES of eligible candidates and candidates will then work with ELSESES regarding payment and scheduling.

Other Updates

The board adopted a board policy to create a Board Committee Review plan whereby two board members will meet monthly with division investigators to determine merit and disposition of complaints.

CE for Architects:

Thom Lowther, Senior Director, Continuing Education, AIA Continuing Education, attended the February 2006 meeting to speak to the board regarding mandatory continuing education for architects.

Office of Administrative Hearings:

Chief Administrative Law Judge, Terry Thurbon, attended the February 2006 meeting to speak to the board regarding the changes to the administrative hearing process that became effective in July 2005.

Board Elections:

At its February 2006 meeting the board re-elected Ken Maynard as Chair and Mark Morris as Secretary, and elected Boyd Brownfield as Vice-Chair.

Applicant Files Reviewed

At its February 2006 meeting the board reviewed and approved or conditionally approved 105 applicants for registration by examination or comity. The board also approved 74 applicants for the FE exam. Eight applications were found to be incomplete and will be re-reviewed at the May 2006 meeting upon receipt of additional documentation.

AELS Deadlines/Exam Information

Effective immediately the deadline for "complete" applications for registration by comity and "complete" applications for the FE/PE and FS/PS exams will be receipt in the *Juneau Office* at least 10 days prior to the next board meeting. **THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE.**

The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 24-26 in Fairbanks. The meeting location will be at UAF, Butrovich Building, Board of Regents' Conference Room.

April 2006 NCEES exams:

The April 2006 FE/PE, FS/PS and AKLS will be held on the 21st and 22nd in Juneau, Anchorage, and Fairbanks.

Landscape Architect Registration Exam (LARE): April 13, 2006 is the exam retake request deadline for Sections C and E for the June 12-13, 2006 LARE exam administration.

Regional and National Participation

Board member Harley Hightower, Architect, and the Executive Administrator will be attending the WCARB Regional Meeting in Tucson, Arizona on March 16-18, 2006

Board Chair, Ken Maynard, and licensing examiner, Eleanor Vinson, will be attending the NCARB Annual Meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio on June 21-24. Also attending this meeting will be Harley Hightower as the board's funded delegate.

Charles Leet, Mark Morris and Daniel Walsh will be attending the NCEES' Western Zone Meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico on June 1-3, 2006.

Harley Hightower attended the NCARB IDP Coordinator's Conference as the board's liaison on February 11-12, 2006 in Washington, DC.

The Executive Administrator attended the NCARB Member Board Executive Workshop in Arlington, Virginia on November 4-6, 2005.

The NCEES' 2006 Annual Meeting will be held in Anchorage on September 13-16, 2006.

Staff Reports

Investigator's Report

Naseer Dhaamin, Division Investigator for the AELS Board, reported the status on the investigative cases and actions. The report is located on the AELS website at: <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pa/el21.htm>

Building Officials Manual

The Building Official's Manual is posted to the AELS Website at <http://www.commerce.state.ak.us/occ/pael.htm>. The board considers it to be a working document, and welcomes your comments.

Interested Parties List

To sign up to receive proposed regulations affecting architects, engineers, land surveyors and landscape architects that are public noticed by the division, please contact: Jun Maiquis, Regulations Specialist, Division of Occupational Licensing, Dept. of Commerce, P.O. Box 110806, Juneau, AK 99811-0806, or by email:

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