

ALASKA AELS BOARD

November 2005

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*Board of Registration for Architects,
Engineers, and Land Surveyors
PO Box 110806
Juneau, AK 99811
Fax: (907) 465-2974*

BOARD STAFF:

Ginger Morton

Executive Administrator
ginger_morton@commerce.state.ak.us
(907) 465-1676

Vern Jones
Licensing Examiner

richard_jones@commerce.state.ak.us
(907) 465-2540

Eleanor Vinson
Licensing Examiner
eleanor_vinson@commerce.state.ak.us
(907) 465-2691

AELS Quarterly Board Meeting

The Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AELS) held a quarterly board meeting on November 17-18, 2005 in Anchorage.

Board members in attendance were: Kenneth Maynard, Chair; Craig Fredeen, Vice-Chair; Clifford Baker, Boyd Brownfield, Robert Gilfilian, Richard Heieren, Harley Hightower, and Richard Hughes. Member Mark Morris, Secretary, was unable to attend.

Participating by teleconference for portions of the meeting were:

Richard Urion, Director, Professional Licensing

David Brower, Department of Law.

Jennifer Strickler, Chief, Professional Licensing.

AELS Staff in attendance was:

Ginger Morton, Administrator

Eleanor Vinson, Licensing Examiner and Vern Jones, Licensing Examiner.

John Clark, Naseer Dhaamin and Brian Howes, Division Investigators.

Member of the Public in attendance were: Mike Schoder, representing the ASPLS, Nick Bakic, representing Accel Fire, Paul Whipple, PLS, Christopher Hughes and Ron Matviyak, CE, representing themselves.

Member Richard Hughes has regrettably submitted resignation of his position on the board effective January 1, 2006.

Some highlights of the meeting:

Disciplinary Actions Taken

There were no formal disciplinary actions taken at this meeting.

Proposed Regulation Changes

The board approved the following draft regulations for public notice:

- 1) Courtesy/temporary license to be issued to nonresidents in the event of a major catastrophe.
- 2) The 2005-2006 NCARB Education Standard.
- 3) The board will be re-public noticing the proposed regulations regarding the practice of land surveying in an attempt to solicit comment from those that would be affected by this change.
- 4) Amend 12 AAC 36.100(b)(1), which would change the names of the national examinations for surveying from "Fundamentals of Land Surveying" and "Professional Land Surveying" to "Fundamentals of Surveying" and "Professional Surveying" as NCEES has made these changes.

Regulations Adopted

- 1) The board adopted a new Article 3, continuing education (CE) for land surveyors to take effect with the December 31, 2007 renewal. The ASPLS had provided the board with suggestions/comments on the regulations that had been public noticed and the board adopted most of the changes.

Considerable public comment was received on the proposed CE regulations, and the board would like to thank all that commented.

- 2) The board adopted changes to 12 AAC 36.067. Date of Experience, to allow work experience up to 60 days to count toward experience for engineer and surveyor examinations.
- 3) Also adopted were changes to 12 AAC 36.068, Landscape Architect Mentoring, and the board repealed 12 AAC 36.135(5), which previously required firms to provide a copy of their Certificate of Registration, Certificate of Organization or Certificate of Incorporation from Corporations. Now that the Corporations section is in the same division as professional licensing, staff has access to this information free of charge.
- 4) The board did not adopt 12 AAC 36.910 and .990 to add geological engineering as a recognized discipline of engineering. The preliminary cost estimate for implementing this license was extremely high, as there is no national test available. The board will continue to research this topic.

Legislative Recommendations

The board will be making the following legislative recommendations to the division:

- 1) Statutory language requiring all new or renovated buildings, structures and systems not specifically exempt under AS 08.48.331 constructed in Alaska be designed by Alaska registrants.
- 2) Legislation to allow its investigators to issue temporary stop work orders for unlicensed activity on construction projects.
- 3) Legislation to exempt fire protection technicians permitted through NICET from registration in Alaska.

- 4) Statutory language to change the name of the board to the Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers and Surveyors”, deleting the work “land” from “surveyors.”

Subgroups

The board continues its work in the following subgroups:

- Engineering Disciplines/Incidental Practice
- CE – Phase II / Architecture Mandatory CE
- Electronic Transmittals
- Disciplinary Action & Process/Enforcement Procedure
- Fire Protection
- Legislative Changes
- Geological Engineering

What's New

Architect Registration Examination (ARE). Beginning January 1, 2006 NCARB will implement the “rolling clock” for ARE candidates:

- For applicants who have passed all divisions of the ARE by January 1, 2006, regardless of the time taken, such applicants will have passed the ARE.
- For applicants who have passed one or more but not all divisions of the ARE by January 1, 2006, such applicants will have five years to pass all remaining divisions. A passing grade for any remaining division shall be valid for five years, after which time the division must be retaken if the remaining divisions have not been passed. The five-year period shall commence after January 1, 2006, on the date when the first passed division is administered.
- Divisions passed before January 1, 2006 **will not** have to be retaken.

- For applicants who have passed no divisions of the ARE by January 1, 2006, such applicants shall be governed by the above five-year requirement. The five-year period shall commence on the date when the first passed division is administered.

ASPLS Mortgage Standards. The ASPLS adopted revised mortgage standards on November 10, 2005. These standards can be found on the ASPLS Standards of Practice page at the following link: http://www.alaskapls.org/standards/MSS_Rev_111005.pdf.

Other Updates

The board met with the Division Director, Rick Urion and Division Chief, Jennifer Strickler by teleconference and discussed:

- The detailed report prepared by division staff at the board’s request to explain the increase in AELS renewal fees.
- The importance of the board’s consistency in awarding experience credit based on the work experience verifications submitted.

Applicant Files Reviewed

At its November 2005 meeting the board reviewed and approved 62 applicants for registration by examination or comity.

AELS Deadlines/Exam Information

All applications for registration by comity and supporting documents are due in the *Juneau office* no later than **January 30, 2006** to be considered at the next AELS meeting scheduled for February 9-10, 2006. The meeting will be held in Juneau in the State Office Building at 333 Willoughby Avenue, 9th Floor.

October NCEES exams : The October 2005 NCEES examination saw 124 exam candidates as follows:

PE – 54
FE – 60
PS – 3
FS – 7

April 2006 NCEES exams:

Applications for the PE, PS, FE, FS and AKLS and supporting documents are due in the *Juneau office* no later than **January 23, 2006**. The spring exams will be administered April 21-22, 2006 in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau. Application deadline for exam retakes is receipt in the *Juneau office* no later than March 7, 2006.

The division is working toward turning exam administration over to NCEES/ELSEES and hopes to have this in place for the April 2006 exams.

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 members Clifford Baker, Craig Fredeen, Richard Heieren and Robert Gilfilian attended the NCEES' 84th Annual Meeting in Memphis, Tennessee.

The NCEES' 85th Annual Meeting will be held in Anchorage, Alaska on September 13-16, 2006.

Staff Reports

Investigator's Report

John Clark and Naseer Dhaamin, Division Investigators 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/pael21.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:

jun_maiquis@commerce.state.ak.us