

# ALASKA AELS BOARD

May 2001

## Quarterly Board Meeting

# May Meeting Summary

### Quarterly Board Meeting

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### Staff

**Nancy Hemenway**  
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**Ginger Morton**  
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### Quarterly Board Meeting

The AELS Board held its quarterly board meeting in Fairbanks on May 17-18, 2001 at the UAF Butrovich Building. Board members in attendance were: Daphne Brown, Chair, Linda Cyra-Korsgaard, Marcia Davis, Kathleen Gardener, Secretary, Donald Iverson, Pat Kalen, Scott McLane, Lance Mearig, Patricia Peirsol, and Ernie Siemoneit. Excused was: Dr. Robert Miller, Vice-Chair.

Some highlights of the meeting:

#### AELS Officer Elections

The AELS Board held its annual elections and elected:

Dr. Robert Miller, Chair; Kathy Gardner, Vice-Chair; Ernie Siemoneit, Secretary. Board members will assume their new roles on July 1, 2001.

#### Subgroups

As a result of the board training in February with Dr. Stephen Aufrecht, the Board worked informally in subgroups for an hour. The subgroups discussions focused on:

- 1) Building Officials Manual;
- 2) Term Limits; and
- 3) Incidental Practice (overlap between professions).

These items will be further reviewed at the August meeting. New subgroup topics for August are:

- 1) Alternatives to Regulation Changes;
- 2) Consistency in work verification documentation required;
- 3) Canadian Engineering Reciprocity.

Members of the Canadian Engineering Reciprocity

subgroup/committee will be board members Miller, Iverson, and McLane. Davis will provide legal assistance to the group. Canadian representatives will also participate. Board members found the smaller groups assisted them in more quickly defining issues. Subgroups may continue work between meetings. Any suggestions subgroups have will be made to the entire Board at subsequent meetings.

#### Public Comment

**Ross Dorward and Gary White** represented the Association of Professional Engineers of Yukon (APEY). They indicated Canadian professional engineers are interested in discussions for increased mobility between Canada and Alaska.

**Dr. Bob Carlson** briefed the Board on the UAF engineering building remodel (Duckering Building), including new equipment authorized. The Board will tour the facility next May.

**Joseph Notkin and Jerry Neubert, AIA-Alaska, Executive Board,** presented a proposal for Architect by Comity regulation changes (12 AAC 36.103).

Under the AIA-Alaska proposal, Architects registered in another jurisdiction would apply and submit evidence of 6 years responsible charge experience under the direct supervision of a registered architect (of which 4 years was completed on projects in Alaska), in lieu of holding an NCARB Blue Book Council record. Additionally they would have no disciplinary action against them for the previous 4 years.

The AELS board considered this proposal and revised it to require a minimum BA or BS accredited degree (in any major), 10 years experience

subsequent to licensing (none required in Alaska), and no disciplinary action. The Board will review a working draft of this revised proposal at its August 2001 meeting. At that time they will discuss whether to adopt a regulation change.

### **Regulations Project**

The Division of Occupational Licensing will public notice and take public comment on proposed regulations the board has adopted:

- 1) Update the reference to the architect's education standard publication (12 AAC 26.050);
- 2) Change the deadline for Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) to correspond with current AELS comity application deadlines (12 AAC 36.010);
- 3) Revise the lapsed license regulation. Under current regulations, licensees whose license lapses for five or more years expires and they could be required to re-test. The board decided that in most cases re-testing is probably not necessary, but the board retains the right to review each case (12 AAC 36.165);
- 4) Revise the PLS Examination requirements by deleting "or related engineering sciences" from the board approved degrees it will accept (12 AAC 36.065 (a)(2)(A));
- 5) Revise the seal authorized for use to include a substantially similar digitized seal that will be available for downloading on the website (12 AAC 36.180);
- 6) Allow for disciplinary sanctions if another jurisdiction has disciplined an Alaskan registrant (12 AAC 36.320).

### **Other Regulations Proposals**

AELS staff will continue work to develop significant draft regulation changes that will come before the Board at its August meeting (for discussion purposes only). If adopted at its August meeting, the public would have time to comment:

- 1) Develop a Continuing Education Program for all professions (phased in during the 2003 renewal, or later) based on a

- proposal prepared by the professional land surveyor society (ASPLS);
- 2) Requirements to provide an alternative route to comity applicants other than NCARB certification (which does provide its own alternate path to certification for non-degreed applicants in the Broadly Experienced Architect (BEA) process);
- 3) Revise the discipline specific engineering license to a non-discipline specific engineering license. The Board would issue a general "professional engineering license" and track the specialty in its database. Instead of offering the 6 disciplines currently offered, all disciplines NCEES offers exams for would be available as a specialty (such as Fire Protection and Environmental Engineering);
- 4) In conjunction with ASPLS, the Land Surveyor board members are working to develop a minimum standard of care by a land surveyor for the location of improvements within property boundaries, to present to the bill sponsors of HB 227/SB 212.;
- 5) The Board will consider revising the Engineer for Comity requirements for Canadian engineering reciprocity to accept work experience under other than a U.S. engineer;

### **AELS Updates**

On-Line Renewals The Board heard an update from the O.L. programmer on the on-line renewal project anticipated to be completed for the upcoming December 31, 2001 biennial renewal cycle. Applicants would be mailed a renewal form in early November and could choose to use a PIN and credit card to submit on-line. Once authorized they could print their own license. Watch for updates in the August Meeting Summary and on the website this fall.

Board Autonomy Kathy Gardner reported that her initial findings on autonomy revealed costs exceeded anticipated revenues. Research on

estimated costs for board autonomy will continue.

### Occupational Licensing Director

Catherine Reardon reported that the Legislature funded an additional licensing examiner for the AELS board. The extra ½ time position gained may well help with staff continuity during turnover in that one licensing examiner would likely be trained on AELS procedures. Additionally, an additional AG was hired in Anchorage for Occupational Licensing.

SB 9, the sunset audit legislation passed with the extension of the landscape architect position (including travel reimbursement) intact. The bill extends the board until 6/30/2005.

AKLS Workshop The SOA will reimburse some land surveyor experts for travel to Anchorage to participate in a workshop on June 23<sup>rd</sup> conducted by TEST, Inc. (volunteers are selected by ASPLS). The group will review and develop AKLS examination questions.

Host Conferences The AELS Board has had good participation due to budget increments for travel. This has helped to bring the NCEES Western Zone conference to Alaska. in May 2005. Helen Buxton, Anchorage Visitor and Convention Bureau, prepared a proposal she will present at the NCEES 2001 Annual meeting in Little Rock in August as they are also considering Anchorage for their annual meeting in August 2006. She has offered to assist with WCARB and NCARB meeting proposals.

### **Applicant Files Reviewed**

The board reviewed 58 applicants' files for examination or comity licensure for architects, engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects and approved 56 for comity licensure or examination, found three files incomplete and denied one.

### **AELS Deadlines**

The deadline for the October NCEES examinations is July 27, 2001. All applications for comity and any supporting documents are due in the Juneau office no later than August 13<sup>th</sup> to be considered at the next AELS meeting scheduled for August 23-24<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

## **Staff Reports**

### **Investigator's Report**

John Clark, Occupational Licensing Investigator for the AELS Board, reported status on the investigative cases and actions at the May board meeting (see attachment A)

### **Board Administrator's Report**

The Executive Administrator report is attached (see attachment B)

### **Licensing Examiner's Report**

The Licensing Examiner's report is attached (see attachment C)