

ALASKA AELS BOARD

February 2001

Quarterly Board Meeting

February Meeting Summary

Quarterly Board Meeting

Professional Engineering License

Sunset Audit Bills

Applicant Files Reviewed

LARE Applicant Deadline

Regulations Projects

AELS Technology Update

Public Comment

What's New

AELS Ongoing Notification

Staff Reports

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Quarterly Board Meeting

The AELS board held its quarterly board meeting in Juneau on February 15-16, 2001.

Board members in attendance were: Daphne Brown, Chair; Dr. Robert Miller, Vice-Chair; Linda Cyra-Korsgaard, Marcia Davis, Pat Kalen, Scott McLane, Lance Mearig, Patricia Peirsol, and Ernie Siemoneit. Excused were: Kathleen Gardener, Secretary, and Donald Iverson.

Professional Engineering License

The Board carried over this agenda item to its May 17-18th, 2001 meeting. The Board will continue to take comment on issuing a "professional engineering license" rather than issuing licenses by discipline.

Forty-one other jurisdictions offer a professional engineering license and require engineers to work within their discipline. Interested parties can comment by email, in writing, or by attending the meeting.

The Board agendas will be available approximately two weeks prior to each meeting. Time is set aside at each meeting for public participation.

Sunset Audit Bills (SB9/HB50)

The AELS board is up for sunset review on June 30, 2001. All boards undergo a sunset review every four years. The Division of Legislative Audit released a final audit in December 2000.

As a result, SB 9/HB 50 were introduced by the Legislature. SB 9, sponsored by Senator Therriault, is currently in House Rules awaiting floor action.

HB 50, introduced by the Governor is before House Finance Committee. Since

the Senate bill is in the House, SB 9 will likely be the bill to pass.

SB9 would extend the Board until June 30, 2005 and provide for extension of the temporary, non-voting landscape architect board member and travel reimbursement to attend Board meetings.

The legislative audit also suggested recommendations for mandatory continuing education and statutory changes to the Architect by Comity provisions for clarification.

Both issues continue to be discussed by the Board and professional organizations, among them the Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) and the American Institute of Architects, Alaska Chapter (AIA-AK).

Applicant Files Reviewed

The Board reviewed 151 applicants' files for licensure by examination or comity for architects, engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects. Of those, 39 were approved, or conditionally approved, for comity licensure and 102 were approved for examination.

Six applications were found incomplete and four were denied.

The Board also reconsidered two applications that were previously denied.

LARE Application Deadline

Examination applications must be received by the Juneau Occupational Licensing Office by March 13, 2001 to be considered for the June 11-13, 2001, L.A.R.E.

Application forms are available on the AELS website, (<http://www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/pael.htm>), are fill-out-able on line, and can be printed and mailed to the Juneau office, or are available by calling the office at 465-2540.

Regulations Project

The board discussed technical edits to Regulations Project I and II. These regulations have been promulgated:

- 1) Clarification of supporting documents required for board review (12 AAC 36.010);
- 2) update the reference to the current architect's education standard publication (12 AAC 36.061(a)(2));
- 3) technical edits to last year's regulations project (12 AAC 36.062-065);
- 4) changes to retired status reinstatement fees that allow those in retired status to become active by paying the current biennial renewal fee (12 AAC 36.115 (b)(2));
- 5) the Board will now accept the NCEES Council record stamped "model law engineer" to satisfy education and experience requirements for comity licensure (applicants will still need to complete the arctic engineering course)(12 AAC 36.105 (f));
- 6) changes to include limited liability companies' (LLCs) and limited liability partnerships' (LLPs) requirement for certificates of authorization (12 AAC 36.135, 165,200,990).

The Board adopted a new regulations project, held over until May 2001, that would:

- 1) Change the deadline for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) to correspond with current AELS comity application deadlines (12 AAC 36.050 (f))
- 2) Revise the lapsed licenses regulation. Under current regulations, a license expired for five or more years could be required to re-test. The Board decided that in most cases re-testing is not necessary, but still retains the right to review each case (12 AAC 36.165 (b));
- 3) Provide provision to allow for disciplinary sanctions of registrants (12 AAC.36.320 (g, h).

At the February 2001 meeting the Board added to the regulations project changes that would:

- 1) Define "retired status" (12 AAC 36.990 (a) (34));
- 2) Revise Land Surveyor Table A, deleting "or related engineering sciences" (12AAC 36.065 (a)(2)(A));
- 3) Update the reference to the current architect's education standard publication (12 AAC 36.061 (a)(2));
- 4) Change seal requirements to allow for digital representations of the seal (12 AAC 36.180).

The Board felt that it would be helpful to define "retired status", clarify current Land Surveyor education requirements, and provide a reference to the current NCARB education standards. (The Department of Law (regulations reflect that we cannot reference a future document, per 2/5/01 DOL memo.)

The Board's latest revision would ensure that regulations reference the correct publication, and allow for digital representation of the seal.

Pat Kalen and Scott McLane will work to expand the definition of land surveying to include photogrammetry.

AELS Technology Update

The AELS applications are available in a fill-out-able format on the website at <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/pael.htm>.

Public Comment

The board welcomed members of the Alaska Professional Design Council (APDC) in Juneau for a legislative fly-in. The Board took public comment on two issues: architect by comity alternatives to the NCARB council record and whether to issue licenses by professional engineering (without a specific discipline designated) or to continue to issue licenses by discipline. Both items will have ongoing discussions at future meetings.

What's New

The Board would like additional investigator time and has asked the Director for a full-time investigator, rather than a half-time investigator.

The Board continues to participate at national and regional meetings. A Board member attended the CLARB regional meeting March 2-3, and several members will attend the Western Zone meeting in May (land surveyor & engineer members). A Board member will also attend the Canadian Professional engineers at an APEGGA meeting in Calgary, and its Mobility Forum.

AELS Deadlines

The application deadline for the October NCEES examinations is July 27, 2001. All applications for comity and supporting documents are due in the Juneau office no later than May 7th to be considered at the next AELS meeting scheduled for May 17-18th in Fairbanks.

Web-Based Arctic Course

The Board approved a web based format course for arctic engineering (CE A603) that is now offered by the University of Alaska Anchorage campus, beginning with the Spring semester. Students may enroll on campus or via the

telephone Wolfline (see <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu> for Wolfline instructions). An email address must be included with enrollment information. Contact Dr. Smith at afops@uaa.alaska.edu for more information.

Landscape Architect Registration Information

The legislature passed HB 110 in 1998 and the Board adopted statutes and regulations that required practicing landscape architects to be registered 60 days after the first administered Landscape Architects Registration Examination was graded.

The first LARE was given in June 2000 and scores were reported August 25, 2000. Effective October 24, 2000, all Landscape Architects must be registered. Applications are available on the AELS website.

Mailouts

All registrants were mailed information on the AELS website and how to access the website as part of an ongoing effort to keep registrants informed about issues that may affect them.

Board Training

Dr. Steven Aufrecht, UAA, has been assisting the Board in identifying ways to accomplish its goals and objectives. As a result, the Board will use more groups and subcommittees to work on various tasks.

AELS Ongoing Notification

Unlicensed Advertising Prohibited

Architects, Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architects licensed by another state may not advertise in Alaska unless registered in Alaska. Alaska Statute 08.48.281 prohibits the unlicensed practice or offer to practice. Under Alaska Statute 08.48.321, advertising as an Architect, Engineer, Land Surveyor, or Landscape Architect in the telephone directory yellow pages constitutes an "offer to practice" and is prohibited unless the professional holds a current Alaska registration. Violation of these state laws is a misdemeanor criminal offense and is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$5,000.

AELS applications are available in a fill-out-able format on the website at <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/pael.htm>

Staff Reports

Administrator, Investigator, Board member, and staff reports are attached to this report (and are available on the AELS website).