

**NEBRASKA BOARD OF GEOLOGISTS**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 12, 2007**

**Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was held at 215 Centennial Mall South, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chairperson Shroder called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**Roll Call:** John (Jack) Shroder, Dennis Anderson, David Becker, Andrew Grimm, Jeffrey Johnson, Robert Kemp, Susan Olafsen Lackey, Nan Lindsley-Griffin (Emeritus Member). Absent: Becker, Johnson. Staff Present: Sandra Weaver, Administrative Assistant, Melinda Pearson, Executive Director. Public Present: Gary Bush, DAS Budget Division

**January 9, 2007, Board Meeting Minutes Approval**

Motion by Anderson to approve the Board meeting minutes of January 9, 2007. Second by Kemp. Voting aye on the motion: Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey, Shroder. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried.

**January 9, 2007, Public Hearing Minutes Approval**

Motion by Kemp to approve the Public Hearing minutes for January 9, 2007. Second by Anderson. Voting aye on the motion: Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey, Shroder. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried.

**Officer Report**

None

**Election of Officers**

Motion by Olafsen Lackey to appoint Kemp as **Secretary**. Second by Anderson. Voting aye on the motion: Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey, Shroder. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried. Motion by Olafsen Lackey to nominate Anderson as **Vice-Chairperson**. Second by Kemp. Voting aye on the motion: Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey, Shroder. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried. Motion by Olafsen Lackey to reappoint Shroder as **Chairperson**. Second by Kemp. Voting aye on the motion: Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey, Shroder. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried.

**A. Financials**

**1. Financial Report**

The Board reviewed the January 1, 2007, through March 31, 2007, Financial Summaries, NIS Financial Reports, and a fiscal year to date summary of payables and receivables.

**2. Fiscal Year Activity Report**

The Board was provided a Fiscal Activity Report for July 1, 2006, through April 12, 2007. As of April 12, 2007, the roster contained 291 registrants and 276 were licensed through December 31, 2007. Thirteen licenses expired December 31, 2006, and have not paid the 2007 renewal fee. One registrant will not be renewed until the correct penalty for late renewal payment is submitted and one licensee requested not to renew. Nine geologist-interns are enrolled.

Motion by Anderson to approve the NIS Financial Summary and the Fiscal Year Activity Report. Second by Olafsen Lackey. Second by Kemp. Voting aye on the motion: Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey, Shroder. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried.

**B. Committee Reports**

**1. Legislative Report**

DeMaris Johnson was unable to attend the meeting and called the board office with her update. Weaver reported Senator Hudkins had put in a request to Senator Loudin, Chairperson of the Natural Resources Committee, to put LB 664 on the consent calendar. A letter was sent to the Speaker of the Legislature in this regard. Usually, the consent calendar is quickly advanced to the next legislative stage, since a bill on the consent calendar can be debated for no more than 15 minutes.

**C. New Applications**

**1. 07-003 Timothy W. Berger (CA) – Requesting Registration by Reciprocity**

#### **D. Pending Applications**

None

##### **Application Action**

Motion by Anderson to approve **Timothy W. Berger** for registration by reciprocity. Second by Kemp. Voting aye on the motion: Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey, Shroder. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried.

#### **E. ASBOG®**

##### **1. Minneapolis COE Workshop Report – Anderson, Kemp**

Kemp reported the workshop went smoothly. Anderson reported there seemed to be a seismic emphasis in exam questions that could cause a problem for some examinees. The board discussed the issue. Anderson will send suggestions to Lindsley-Griffin for review before they are sent on to ASBOG®.

##### **2. Oregon Board Recommendations for ASBOG® Annual Meeting**

A copy of a letter sent to ASBOG® by the Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners was received expressing concerns about Annual Meeting procedures. Anderson stated that he agreed with the Oregon Board's position. Agenda items were not presented in sufficient time for informed discussion by member boards. Anderson will put together some points to add to the letter being sent to ASBOG®.

##### **3. Request for nominations for Secretary**

At the Annual Meeting in October in Denver, CO, ASBOG® will elect 2008 officers. The Committee on Nominations is currently seeking nominations for the office of Secretary. It was pointed out that the Secretary is also part of the executive committee that meets quarterly. Kemp will see if the NDEQ might have someone who is interested. Expenses for the position are paid by ASBOG®.

#### **F. Old Business**

##### **1. Review of Practice Standards for Reciprocity and Examination**

The Board continued discussion started at the January meeting on practice standards, reciprocity and ASBOG® testing. Concern had been raised about lack of consistency in handling applications for reciprocity. Olafsen Lackey reported reviewing 45 applicant files approved for reciprocity. Of those, 18 did not have a degree type listed and 26 of the 45 applicants did not have transcripts to identify core courses. It was noted that the new application form attached to the submitted Rules and Regulations will have a column for the name of the major. Weaver will type the core course equivalency list written by Lindsley-Griffin for the Board.

James A. Roberts will be sent a letter encouraging him to appeal the denial of licensure by reciprocity as stated in a notification letter mailed November 21, 2006. To ensure equitable treatment, the Board would be willing to re-evaluate the application at the next meeting. Application had been denied on the basis of the degree not meeting the educational requirements.

##### **a. Requirement for Verification of Education.**

The Board was in agreement that official transcripts should also be required for reciprocity applicants to be consistent.

##### **b. Updated Policy on Reciprocity Reflecting Rules and Regulations**

The need for the policy which originated June 6, 2000, was discussed. Motion by Kemp to omit the policy for reciprocity as soon as the Rules and Regulations are effective. Second by Anderson. Second by Kemp. Voting aye on the motion: Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey, Shroder. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 2:30 p.m. for a short break and reconvened at 2:40 p.m.

##### **2. Review of Public Meeting Statute Requirements for Electronic Communication**

The Board reviewed the public meeting statutes and Attorney General Jon Bruning's opinion concerning circumvention of Public Meeting Statutes by electronic communication. Discussion took place to clear up confusion about what could be communicated in email by the Board.

**3. Boards and Commissions Applications for Board Member Vacancy**

The Board position of Dave Becker expired on February 28, 2007. Weaver reported that only one application had been received by the Boards and Commissions. A suggestion was made to check to see if Becker could recruit someone from his work area to apply. The Nebraska Geological Society could also be contacted for a recommendation.

**G. New Business**

**1. Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding with Board of Engineers and Architects**

Motion by Anderson to renew the Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Engineers and Architects. Second by Olafsen Lackey. Voting aye on the motion: Shroder, Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried. The monthly fee for the FY 2007-2008 MOU will be \$1,403 per month.

**a. Standardization of Board Meeting Processes – Melinda Pearson, Executive Director**

Melinda Pearson, Executive Director of the Board of Engineers and Architects, reported a change in the administrative assistant support schedule. Changes are in progress to standardize processes of all three boards. Some of the tasks previously done by the administrative assistant will be reassigned to other people in the office. It will be important to know what works and what does not.

**2. Policy for Approved Applicants not Completing Licensure Process**

Motion by Anderson to close files for approved applicants after six months if no payment is received. Second by Kemp. Voting aye on the motion: Shroder, Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried. A notification letter will be sent to an inactive applicant to inform them the file will be closed within 10 days unless the Board is contacted.

**3. Email Request for Determination of Meeting Education Requirements for Reciprocal Licensure**

A request was received from a Kansas licensed geologist for a review of his transcript to determine if it met Nebraska’s education requirements. The Board noted that although the degree had a strong emphasis in geology courses, an application should be sent for further review to ensure all requirements are met including professional experience and pre-existing registration status.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 3:42 p.m. Second by Olafsen Lackey. Voting aye on the motion: Shroder, Anderson, Grimm, Kemp, Olafsen Lackey. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Becker, Johnson. Motion carried.

**Next Board Meeting Date**

July 26, 2007, 1:00 p.m., 215 Centennial Mall South 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Small Conference Room, Lincoln, Nebraska.

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**Board Member**

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**Title**