

Nebraska Board of Geologists  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 19, 2013**  
**215 Centennial Mall South, Large Conference Room, Lincoln, NE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was held at 215 Centennial Mall South, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Large Conference Room, Lincoln, Nebraska. Chairperson Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:00pm and noted the location of the Public Meetings Statutes. Notice of the meeting was published on the Board's website and in the Lincoln Journal Star in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

**Roll Call:** Present: Dennis Anderson, Martha Link, Ralph Martin, Thomas Correll, Andrew Grimm, Harmon Maher, David Svingen. Absent: None

**Staff Present:** Sandra Weaver, Administrator (AD); Jean Lais, Administrative Assistant (AA)

**Open Meetings Act Overview**

Notes taken at an Independent Agency Meeting on the Open Meetings Act provided for review.

**Election of Officers**

**Action** Motion by Maher, second by Correll to elect Anderson as Chairperson, Link as Vice-Chairperson, and Martin as Secretary. Voting Yes: Grimm, Link, Maher, Martin, Svingen, Correll, Anderson; Voting No: None

**Public Comment/Appointments**

No members of the public were present

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**A Consent Agenda**

**Meeting Minutes** – January 31, 2013, meeting minutes approved as presented

**Organizational Practice** – Certificates of Authorization - *None*

**Action** Motion by Correll, seconded by Link to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Voting Yes: Grimm, Link, Maher, Martin, Svingen, Correll, Anderson; Voting No: None

AD Weaver entered the meeting at 1:05pm

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**B Financial Matters**

**Budget Status Report** – January, February, March 2013

Personnel & Financial Center reports were provided for review. With a little over 75% of the fiscal year elapsed, expenditures are much lower (31.92%) than appropriated. This is due to the cost of the MOU with the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects being lower than originally budgeted.

**MTD General Ledger Detail Report** – January, February, March 2013

Personnel & Financial Center reports were provided for review.

**Fund Summary Report** – January, February, March 2013

Personnel & Financial Center reports were provided for review.

**Financial Profile FY 2010/2011** – January, February, March 2013

Graph provide for review. AD Weaver will look at projected mileage and credit card processing fees at the beginning of the coming fiscal year to insure the appropriate amounts are entered into the correct accounts.

**Other Financial Matters**

**Approval of Contract for Exam Proctor with Steve Sirek**

A copy of the contract was provided for review. The contract provides for the service of proctoring the ASBOG geologist examination administrations for the FY13/14. Included in the contract are the hourly wages, terms of payment, frequency of the examinations, and the litigation process.

**Fee Review and Approval**

A copy of the current fee scheduled as posted on the Board's website was reviewed and

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approved.

**Action** Motion by Link, seconded by Martin to approve the Financial Matters as presented. Voting Yes: Grimm, Link, Maher, Martin, Svingen, Correll, Anderson; Voting No: None

AD Weaver left the meeting at 1:35pm

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**C Applications**

**Licensure/Examination**

Core Course Equivalency Chart and the Rational for Core Courses and Course Equivalents were provided for review.

**Applications for Licensure by Reciprocity**

**Approved:** Edwin Friend, CO; Mark Milliken, WY; Ty Morris, MO; Anthony Schroer, MO

**Applications for Licensure Reinstatement – None**

**Applications for Geologist Intern by ASBOG FG Exam – None**

**Applications for Licensure by FG/PG ASBOG Exams**

**Approved for FG/Deferred for PG:** John McIlvaine, CO – Applicant does not have the five years of required experience to qualify to sit for the PG. Approved for the FG exam only. Defer his application for the PG exam until has obtained the required experience. He will need to submit his updated experience at that time to be reconsidered by the Board.

**Applications for Licensure by PG ASBOG Exam – None**

**Action** Motion by Svingen, second by Maher to approve the applications as reviewed and discussed. Voting Yes: Grimm, Link, Maher, Martin, Svingen, Correll, Anderson; Voting No: None

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**D Compliance - None**

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**E Committee Reports**

**Officers Report**

Chairperson Anderson reported on the Nebraska Geological Society's (NGS) meeting on April 18, 2013 at which he gave a report on the ASBOG Council of Examiners (COE) Workshop held at the beginning of April. He was concerned about student's knowledge of the licensure path as there was a group of Master students who were unaware as to what the FG exam was and why it was needed for licensure. He would like the Board to consider how it can become more involved with the University to heighten student awareness of the exam and licensure process. This may include having Board members give presentations to students at the class and/or seminar level and the development of exam review sessions.

**ASBOG**

Chairperson Anderson gave a report on the COE Workshop held at the beginning of April in Richmond, VA. While there was an all time record high set for the number of FG candidates sitting for the exam, there was a record low of those sitting for the PG exam. This follows the trend over the last couple of years. Discussion was held at the workshop as to the reasoning behind the numbers. There are more schools requiring students to take the FG exam as an exit exam. While there may be more geologists choosing to go into areas that do not required licensure.

This exam administration marks the fourth cycle ASBOG has collected education information from the exam candidates. Discussion was held as to how ASBOG will use the data for analysis purposes and who would have access to that analysis data. Chairperson Anderson would like the board to consider this and draft a formal opinion to be presented at the ASBOG Annual meeting in November.

**Office/Staff - None**

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**F Old Business**

**Governance Issues**

**Statutes** – LB91 was passed by the Legislature on February 11, 2013. The Governor approved the bill on February 19, 2013. The bill will go into effect 3 calendar months from the close of the Legislative session. The last day of the session is currently scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup>. This would mean LB91 would go into effect September 5, 2013. A copy of the final reading was provided for review.

Chairperson Anderson has already received questions about when the bill will go into effect. He would like this information to be added to the website as soon as possible. AA Lais will coordinate this with PIO Fetterman.

**Geologist Items**

An email from Attorney General's office with regards to processing fees for online renewals was provided for review. It is the Attorney General's opinion that the Board does not currently have the statutory authority to collect the credit card processing fee from the licensees. Therefore, if the Board goes forward with online renewals, the Board would have to pick up the fees until such authority was granted by the Legislature. This would have to be done through a statute revision.

The Board concurred and will look at the numbers over the next couple of renewal cycles and revisit the subject at a future meeting.

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**G New Business**

**Governance Issues**

**Board Policies** - *None*

**Rules and Regulations**

AA Lais provide a preliminary draft of revisions related to the passage of LB91 and other revisions identified since the original passage of the Rules and Regulations in 2007. The members would like more time to review and will discuss the revisions in more detail at the July meeting. The members also requested AA Lais to provide them with an electronic copy of the revision. Chairperson Anderson requested the members send any corrections and/or concerns to AA Lais within the next thirty days. AA Lais will then compile a list and distribute to the members for further consideration and discussion at the July meeting.

**Statutes** - *None*

**Geologist Items**

**Sample Questions for License Renewal Form**

AA Lais provided a list of sample questions to be added to the license renewal form as related to the passage of LB91. The members requested more time to review and discussion will be held at the July meeting. No action taken.

**Revised Applications and Forms Drafts**

AA Lais provided copies of the revised applications and other forms currently being used by the Board. The Board reviewed and accepted the revisions.

**Action** Motion by Martin, second by Maher to accepted the revised applications and forms. Voting Yes: Grimm, Link, Maher, Martin, Svingen, Correll, Anderson; Voting No: None

**North-Central Geological Society of America Call for Volunteers for the 2014 Annual Meeting, Lincoln, NE (April 24-25)**

Vice-Chairperson Link requested this item be placed on the agenda. She spoke with Matt Joeckel the Local Chair within the last week and was informed that they have received all the

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volunteers needed at this time. Discussion was held as to whether the Board should possibly have a table as this would be a good opportunity to network with licensees and students. Vice-Chairperson will look into the availability of having a booth and AA Link will look into whether the Board would be able to purchase a tablecloth or banner with Board funds.

**Strategic Plan**

No discussion or action taken.

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**H General Information**

**Public Notice publication** – A public notice request was sent to the Lincoln Journal Star to publicize the April meeting

**Board meetings and schedule** – A schedule of board meetings and office calendar was provided for review. Svingen and Maher are unable to make the July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Discussion was held to possibly changing the date. It was determined all members would be available on July 11<sup>th</sup>. AA Lais will check the availability of the conference room and advise the members if she is able to change the date. This will also cause the exam application deadline to be moved to the last week of June.

**Roster of Board members** – A roster of current members was provided.

**Licensing Trends**

Trends in Licensure and Fiscal Activity Report were provided.

**Other**

**Approved Board Policies & Record of Board Action to Change Statutes and Rules & Regulations** provided for review.

**Travel Policy** was provided for review.

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**Adjournment** Motion by Correll, second by Svingen to adjourn the meeting at 2:14pm

The next Board of Geologist board meeting is currently scheduled for July 18, 2013, at 1:00pm at 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska, fifth floor, large conference room.



Board Member



Date