

KENTUCKY STATE BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 28, 2023, BOARD MEETING**

KENTUCKY ENGINEERING CENTER  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Don Pedigo, PLS, Chair  
Joseph C. Pyles, PE, Vice Chair  
Nicole Galavotti, PE, Secretary/Treasurer  
Gregory Meredith, PE  
Doug Klein  
Michael McGhee, PE  
Kyle Chism, PE  
James Knoth, PLS  
Rudolph Buchheit, Ph.D.  
Emmanuel Collins, Ph.D.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Josh Calico, PLS

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kyle Elliott, PLS, Executive Director  
Heather Baldwin, PE, PLS, Director of Enforcement  
Jake Miller, J.D., General Counsel  
Wanda Jordan, Executive Assistant  
Sarah Uzzle, Assistant to the Director  
Shane Beaubien, Board Investigator

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Russ Romine  
David Chic

- 1. Opening of Meeting** – Chair Pedigo called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
  - 1.1 Approval of Agenda** – Greg Meredith moved to approve the agenda. The motion carried.
  - 1.2 Disclosure of Conflict of Interest** – Don Pedigo asked if any member had a conflict with any agenda item. No members indicated a conflict.
  - 1.3 Approval of Minutes** – Nicole Galavotti moved to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2023, meeting. The motion carried.
- 2. Information – Enforcement**

**2.1 Franklin Circuit Court – none**

**2.2 Actions of the Executive Director**

**2.2.1 Closed Cases** - Heather Baldwin presented a tabulation of cases closed during the second calendar quarter of 2023 with actions other than disciplinary action. Kyle Chism moved to accept the closed cases report. The motion carried.

**2.2.2 Suspension – Lucas Hatfield, Jr.** – Heather Baldwin informed the Board that the executive director has suspended the professional land surveying license of Mr. Hatfield after he failed to comply with the terms of the Consent Decree he had entered into with the Board.

**2.2.3 Revocation – Lucas Hatfield, Jr.** - Heather Baldwin informed the Board that the executive director has revoked the professional land surveying license of Mr. Hatfield after his continued failure to comply with the terms of the Consent Decree he had entered into with the Board.

**2.3** Nicole Galavotti made a motion for the Board to go into closed session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(c) to discuss matters relating to strategy, tactics, possible settlement, and other matters pertaining to current litigation in which the Board is involved, Franklin Circuit Court case 18-CI-0353, Joseph B. Curd, Jr. v. KYBOELS. Doug Klein seconded the motion. The motion carried and Mr. Pedigo requested that all non-members of the Board exit the Board room while the Board members, the Executive Director, General Counsel, and the Director of Enforcement move into closed session.

No final action was taken.

Chair Pedigo invited everyone back into the Board room, and Nicole Galavotti made a motion to return to open session. James Knoth seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**3. Action Items - Enforcement**

**3.1 Board Actions – Enforcement - None**

**3.2 Settlement Agreements/Consent Decrees**

**3.2.1 Ohlin & Reed Consulting Engineers, Inc.** - Heather Baldwin presented the terms of the Settlement Agreement with Ohlin & Reed Consulting Engineers, Inc. and asked for the Board’s approval.

James Knoth moved to approve the terms of the agreement. The motion carried.

**3.2.2 John Phillip Reed, PE** – Heather Baldwin presented the terms of the Settlement Agreement with John Phillip Reed, PE and asked for the Board’s approval.

Nicole Galavotti moved to approve the terms of the agreement. The motion carried.

**3.2.3 Plump Engineering, Inc.** - Heather Baldwin presented the terms of the Settlement Agreement with Plump Engineering, Inc. and asked for the Board’s approval.

J.C. Pyles moved to approve the terms of the agreement. The motion carried.

**3.2.4 Richard A. Plump, PE** – Heather Baldwin presented the terms of the Settlement Agreement with Richard A. Plump, PE and asked for the Board’s approval.

Greg Meredith moved to approve the terms of the agreement. The motion carried.

**3.2.5 Michael Merz, PE** – Heather Baldwin presented the terms of the Settlement Agreement with Michael Merz, PE and asked for the Board’s approval.

Nicole Galavotti moved to approve the terms of the agreement. The motion carried.

**3.2.6 Stephen R. Harris, PE, PLS** – Heather Baldwin presented the terms of the Settlement Agreement with Stephen R. Harris, PE, PLS and asked for the Board’s approval.

Out of an abundance of caution, Mr. Pedigo disclosed Stephen Harris had called him after he had settled his disciplinary action with the State of Tennessee. Mr. Pedigo advised Mr. Harris to disclose the Tennessee action to the Kentucky Board. Mr. Pedigo and Mr. Harris did not discuss the facts relating to the matter. Mr. Pedigo indicated he did not have any sort of personal, social, financial, or family interest that would compromise his judgement or decision on this matter and, therefore, recusal was not warranted.

Kyle Chism moved to approve the terms of the agreement. The motion carried.

#### **4. Action Items – Other**

**4.1 Financial Report** – Kyle Elliott presented the Financial Report for the fourth quarter of the 2023 Fiscal Year. Greg Meredith moved to accept the financial report. The motion carried.

**4.2 Ad Interim Actions of the Executive Director** – Kyle Elliott presented the Ad Interim actions for the second calendar quarter of 2023. Kyle Chism moved to accept the Ad Interim report. The motion carried.

#### **4.3 Applications**

**4.3.1 Denied/Rejected applications** – Kyle Elliott presented a list of denied and rejected applications for the second calendar quarter of 2023. J.C. Pyles moved to accept the list. The motion carried.

**4.4 Executive Committee** – Don Pedigo updated the Board on the Executive committee activities from the previous day. Mr. Pedigo then asked the Board to accept the committee’s meeting minutes from April 20, 2023. The motion carried.

**4.5 Engineering Committee** – J.C. Pyles updated the Board on the Engineering Committee activities from the previous day. Mr. Pyles asked the Board to accept the committee’s meeting minutes from April 20, 2023. The motion carried.

**4.5.1 Reinstatement Application of Terrell Webb** – Mr. Pyles discussed the reinstatement application of Terrell Webb the committee considered the previous day. Mr. Pyles then made a recommendation from the committee that the Board approve the application for reinstatement for Terrell Webb, contingent upon Mr. Webb (1) completing 1,000 hours of engineering work under the supervision of a licensed PE within 18 months of the receipt of his application, or (2) retaking and passing the PE exam. An Order of Reinstatement was presented to the Board memorializing the approval of the reinstatement application of Mr. Webb, subject to the aforementioned contingencies. The motion carried and said Order of Reinstatement was entered by the Board.

**4.5.2 Reinstatement Application of Peter Johnson** – Mr. Pyles discussed the reinstatement application of Peter Johnson the committee considered the previous day. Mr. Pyles then made a recommendation from the committee that the Board approve the application for reinstatement for Peter Johnson, contingent upon Mr. Johnson (1) completing 1,000 hours of engineering work under the supervision of a licensed PE within 18 months of the receipt of his application, or (2) retaking and passing the PE exam. An Order of

Reinstatement was presented to the Board memorializing the approval of the reinstatement application of Mr. Johnson, subject to the aforementioned contingencies. The motion carried and said Order of Reinstatement was entered by the Board.

**4.5.3 Reinstatement Application for J. Scott Martin** – Mr. Pyles discussed the reinstatement application of J. Scott Martin the committee considered the previous day. Mr. Pyles then made a recommendation from the committee that the Board approve the application for reinstatement for J. Scott Martin, contingent upon Mr. Johnson (1) completing 1,000 hours of engineering work under the supervision of a licensed PE within 18 months of the receipt of his application, or (2) retaking and passing the PE exam. An Order of Reinstatement was presented to the Board memorializing the approval of the reinstatement application of Mr. Martin, subject to the aforementioned contingencies. The motion carried and said Order of Reinstatement was entered by the Board.

**4.5.4 Universal Licensure** – Mr. Pyles then discussed Universal Licensure and House Bill 343 introduced during the 2023 legislative session. Mr. Pyles stated the committee is not in favor of universal licensure as written in House Bill 343 and recommended from the committee that the Board oppose any similarly worded legislation introduced in the upcoming legislative session. The motion carried.

**4.6 CPD Committee** – Greg Meredith updated the Board on the CPD committee activities from the previous day for which he served as acting chair in Mr. Calico’s absence. Mr. Meredith then asked the Board to approve the minutes of the committee from their April 20, 2023, meeting. The motion carried.

**4.7 Surveying Committee** – Don Pedigo updated the Board on the surveying committee activities from the previous day for which he served as acting chair in Mr. Calico’s absence. Mr. Pedigo then asked the Board to accept the minutes of the committee from their April 20, 2023, meeting. The motion carried.

**4.7.1 Reinstatement Application of Jay G. Jones** – Mr. Pedigo discussed the reinstatement application of Jay G. Jones the committee considered the previous day. Mr. Pedigo then made a recommendation from the committee that the Board approve the application for reinstatement for Jay G. Jones, contingent upon the terms set forth in an Agreed Order of Reinstatement, which was presented to the Board. The motion carried and said Agreed Order of Reinstatement was entered by the Board.

**4.7.2 Two-year degree option for land surveying licensure** - Mr. Pedigo then discussed the two-year degree option for surveying

licensure as proposed in House Bill 151 during the 2023 legislative session. Mr. Pedigo then made a recommendation from the committee that the Board oppose any similar legislation introduced in the 2024 legislative session. The motion carried.

**5. Information Items – Other**

**5.1 General Update by the Executive Director** – Kyle Elliott provided the Board with updates of the interim session of the Kentucky Legislature, the results of the recent individual license renewals, and current board staffing.

**5.2 National Society of Professional Engineers – Kentucky** – Russ Romine provided an update on NSPE-KY. Mr. Romine noted the annual NSPE-KY Conference will be held April 24-26, 2024 in Owensboro.

**5.3 Kentucky Association of Professional Surveyors** – No report.

**5.4 NCEES Motions** – Don Pedigo discussed the proposed motions for the upcoming August 14 – 19 NCEES Annual meeting. Nicole Galavotti made a motion to direct the Board chair to pull from the Consent Agenda at the NCEES Annual meeting the following NCEES motions: EPP 2, UPLG 6, UPLG 12, UPLG 16, UPLG 21, and UPLG 23. The motion carried.

**6. Adjournment** – There being no further business Kyle Chism moved to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

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James Donald Pedigo, II, PLS, Chair