

## MINUTES

### UTAH PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS LICENSING BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2012

Room – 475, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor – 3:00 P.M.  
Heber Wells Building  
160 East 300 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah

**CONVENED:** 3:01 P.M.

**ADJOURNED:** 4:33 P.M.

**Bureau Manager**  
**Bureau Secretary**

Richard J. Oborn  
Lee Avery

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

William Lund, Acting Chairperson  
William Loughlin  
Daniel Horns  
Richard Allis

#### **Board Members excused:**

Dan Matthews

#### **Guests:**

Niall Henshaw  
David Friz

#### **TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### **DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes dated November 15, 2011. Mr. Allis motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Mr. Horns. The motion carried with Mr. Matthews abstaining.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

1. Consideration of amendment to geologist license education requirement established in Utah Admin. Code R156-76-302b

Mr. Oborn advised the Board that there may be a discrepancy between the statute and rule regarding the education requirement. The Board considered an amendment to the geologist license education requirement found in R156-76-302b. The Board proposed adding the phrase "...demonstrating completion of a minimum of 30 semester or 45 quarter hours in geosciences ..." to R156-76-302b. Mr. Allis motioned to adopt this clarification in the rule, seconded by Mr. Horns. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board discussed allowing a student to take the

FG exam during the last year of the program. Currently the policy is the education must be completed before a student would be approved to take the FE exam. Mr. Oborn stated there is not a time frame listed in the statute or rule. The policy was established by the Division and would only require the application to be changed to allow a student to be approved to take the FG exam before completing their education. The Board recommended this change be made.

## 2. Geologist application and ASBOG exam approval timeline and process

The Board reviewed proposed amendments to the Geologist examination requirement found in R156-76-302d. Mr. Oborn noted that in section (1), the phrase “after January 1, 2004” should be deleted because the date has long passed. In paragraph (3) (b) the phrase “holds a current geologist license in good standing in a recognized jurisdiction” is proposed to be added, and “has been licensed for 20 years preceding the date of the license application” is deleted. In accordance with Section 58-1-203 and Subsection 58-76-203 (6), an applicant for the ASBOG FG or PG examinations must pass the examinations at least 2 years from the date of the Division’s approval of the applicant to take the examinations. If the applicant does not pass the examination within the 2 years, the pending geologist license application will be denied.

Mr. Oborn shared that paragraph #3 was created so the Division does not have applications holding indefinitely. The Board discussed adding “the FG exam cannot be taken until after the education is completed.” Mr. Oborn will check with ASBOG to see if they have an education requirement for the PG exam. The Board approved the proposed amendments.

## 3. Effort to communicate information regarding geologist licensing to Utah geology programs

Mr. Horns reviewed a power point that he developed for his students regarding what they need to know for taking the national exam and obtaining a Utah license. Mr. Oborn stated that the Geologist Education and Enforcement Fund could be used to cover the cost of Board members’ to travel to Utah schools to provide training regarding the license requirements.

4. Upcoming ASBOG meetings in April and October

The Board noted that UVU, U of U, SUU, BYU, USU and Weber State have geology programs.

Mr. Oborn noted that the Board has not been sending anyone to the ASBOG spring meeting because of the state travel freeze. Mr. Oborn stated that the Board may want to request funds for this. The Board noted that the fall meeting is the general meeting, covering more topics and felt it is more important to send someone to the fall meeting instead.

**Not on the agenda:**

Mr. Henshaw advised the Board that AEG is developing another continuing education seminar. Mr. Henshaw stated they would be submitting a formal request at a later date; however, he would like to know how the Board would like to see the funds being used. The AEG is planning to hold the seminar in September 2012. The Board stated they would prefer to see the funds spent on advertising and promotion for the seminar. Mr. Henshaw stated the information is specific to geology. Mr. Oborn noted that there are currently 861 active Utah geology licenses.

Mr. Oborn noted that the Board reviewed a request from Mr. Bruce Vandre for funds from the Education and Enforcement Fund for a conference at Dixie State College. Mr. Oborn noted that the date of the seminar is February 25, 2012. He will follow up with Mr. Vandre regarding reimbursement documentation.

Mr. Oborn reminded the Board that at a previous probation interview with Mr. Copfer, the Board decided that as long as he is in compliance with his stipulation, he does not need to meet with the Board. Mr. Copfer is not working in as a geologist at this time.

Mr. Loughlin noted that June 25, 2012 is the 10 year anniversary for passing of the Professional Geologist Licensing Act.

The Board requested the option to vote on a new chair and vice chair be placed on the October 2012 Board meeting agenda.

**NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:**

Several Board members stated that they could not meet with the Board on June 14, 2012. The Board decided to move this meeting to June 5, 2012 at 1:00 P.M.

**2012 Board meetings have been tentatively scheduled:**

June 5, at 1:00 P.M. and October 11 at 2:00 P.M.

**ADJOURN:**

The Board meeting adjourned at 4:33 P.M:

*Note: This report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript, but is intended to record the significant features of what was discussed in the meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily arranged in chronological order*

June 5, 2012

Date:

(ss) William Lund

Chairperson, Utah Professional Geologist Licensing Board

June 5, 2012

Date:

(ss) Richard J. Oborn

Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing