

MINUTES

UTAH PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS LICENSING BOARD MEETING

October 11, 2012 2:00 P.M.
Heber Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, Utah

CONVENED: 2:01 P.M.

ADJOURNED: 3:48 P.M.

Bureau Manager
Bureau Secretary

Richard J. Oborn
Lee Avery

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Loughlin
Daniel Horns, Acting Chairperson
Richard Allis
Steve Bowman, Ph.D.

Board members absent:

Dan Matthews, Chairperson

Swearing in of Steve Bowman as new Board member

Mr. Bowman was sworn in as the new Board member. Mr. Bowman introduced himself.

Compliance report:

Mr. Copfer is in compliance with his stipulation. He has a new therapist for the Board to approve. Between July 27 and August 28, he was incarcerated due to his failure to comply with the terms of his probation. He was charged with unlawful use of a financial transaction, third degree felony, theft, a third degree felony, and obstruction of justice, a class A misdemeanor.

Guests:

Sheila Kluck, AEG Intermountain Section

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes dated June 5, 2012. Mr. Loughlin motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Mr. Horns. The motion carried with Mr. Bowman abstaining.

APPOINTMENTS:

Torrey Copfer, probation interview

Mr. Copfer met with the Board. Mr. Horns conducted the interview. Mr. Copfer advised the Board that he has a new therapist, J. Manuel de la Torre, LCSW, for the Board to consider for approval.

Mr. Copfer advised the Board that his therapist terminated therapy with him and sent a letter of termination to his probation officer. As a result, he was considered to be in violation of his criminal probation and was placed in jail from July 27, 2012 to August 28, 2012. He met with Mr. de la Torre the following Friday. The Board noted that Mr. Copfer has new charges pending. Mr. Copfer stated he is still working 40 hours a week at Epic. The Board advised Mr. Copfer that his amended stipulation allows him to work up to 70 hours per week, noting that the stipulation does not require supervisor or therapist approve the overtime hours. The Board encourages him to consult with his supervisor and therapist before working overtime. Mr. Allis motioned to approve Mr. Copfer's proposed therapist, seconded by Mr. Loughlin. The motion carried unanimously. The Board asked to see Mr. Copfer on February 14, 2013. **Mr. Copfer is in compliance with his stipulation.**

DISCUSSION:

1. Investigation report, Wayne Jeppson

Mr. Jeppson reviewed the current DOPL investigation statistics with the Board. Mr. Jeppson noted that there have been only a few complaints regarding geologists. Board members expressed concern regarding how the Division handled a recent case of disciplinary action that was taken against two geologists. The two cases were related and both geologists admitted to unprofessional conduct and were publically reprimanded.

2. Consideration of AEG request for use of Education and Enforcement Fund

The Board reviewed requests submitted by AEG for use of the Geologist Education and Enforcement Fund. Ms. Sheila Kluck met with the Board. The Board advised Ms. Kluck that the Board wants more time to review the information submitted. The Board will make a decision at the February Board meeting.

3. Rule amendments approved at previous Board meeting

Mr. Oborn reviewed the proposed rule amendment. The Board decided to table this to the February Board meeting.

4. Consideration of proposal for more specific definition of unprofessional conduct in Utah Admin. Code R156-76-502

The Board decided to table this to the February Board meeting.

5. Consideration of proposal to amend exam requirement in Utah Admin. Code R156-76-302d(3)(c)

The Board decided to table this to the February Board meeting.

6. Update regarding improvements to ASBOG exam pre-approval and license application process

Mr. Oborn reviewed the "Verification of eligibility for FG and PG Examination" form. This will allow students to take the FG exam in the last year. Mr. Oborn noted there are 2 tracks.

1. The student is a graduate or in the final semester of a bachelor's or master's degree program in geology from an accredited institution.
2. The student is a graduate or in the final semester of a bachelor's or master's degree program in the geosciences from an accredited institution that includes completion of a minimum of 24 semester or 37 quarter hours in upper level or graduate geology courses which includes one or more of the following subject areas: structural geology, geophysics, sedimentology, stratigraphy, paleontology, mineralogy, hydrology, geomorphology, remote sensing, economic geology, petroleum geology and field geology.

The Board recommended that there should be 2 versions of the form, one for the FG exam and one for the PG exam. Mr. Oborn will make the additional changes for the Board's review.

7. Upcoming ASBOG Annual Meeting, October 30 – Nov 4

The Board briefly discussed the upcoming ASBOG Annual Meeting, October 30 to November 4. Mr. Horns will attend the meeting.

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED:

February 14, 2013

2013 Board meetings have been tentatively scheduled:

February 14, June 13, October 10

ADJOURN:

The Board meeting adjourned at 3:48 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

February 14, 2013

(ss) Dan Matthews

Date:

Chairperson, Utah Professional Geologist Licensing
Board

February 14, 2013
Date:

(ss) Richard J. Oborn
Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational and
Professional Licensing