



**STATE BOARD FOR ENGINEERING, LAND SURVEYING AND GEOLOGY
OFFICE OF THE PROFESSIONS**

89 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12234

Remote Locations:

295 Main St Suite 562 Buffalo, NY 14203

85 Allen Street, Suite 120 Rochester, NY 14608

March 13, 2025 - 9:30 A.M.

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Primary Board Members Present:

- J. Martin, P.E. (Chair)
- B. Holbitter, L.S. (Vice Chair)
- J. Patota, P.G.
- R. Nogle, P.E. (remote in Buffalo, NY)
- R. Watt, P.G.
- J. Janora, P.G.
- S. Alampalli, P.E.
- R. Frandina, P.E., L.S. (remote in Buffalo, NY)
- M. Rygel, P.G.
- T. Mitchell, P.E. (remote in Rochester, NY)
- P. VanHaverbeke, L.S.
- D. D'Angelo, P.E.
- W. Kelly, P.G.

Extended Board Members Present:

- None

Primary Board Members Absent:

- L. Woods, P.E.
- G. Marcus, P.E.
- S. Porter, L.S.
- F. Flanagan, L.S.
- D. Franz, P.G.

Department Personnel:

- E. Greppo, P.E. – Executive Secretary (ES)
- K. Fitzgerald – Associate in Professional Education

Visitors:

- James Dawson, PG, Ph.D. – Former NYSED Regent (remote via Webex)
- Mark Kriss – NYSSPE

- John Nadeau – NYSCPG
- Campbell Wallace – NYSCPG
- Mike Burridge – ACEC NY
- Kate Knight – Catalyst Government Relations, representing Rochester Institute of Technology
- Randy Kath, PG, Ph.D. – former ASBOG President (remote via Webex), left at approximately 10:15 A.M.
- Deana Sneyd, P.G. – ASBOG Executive Director (remote via Webex), left at approximately 10:45 A.M.

1. Call to Order – Open Session

ES called the Open Session to order at 9:34 A.M.

2. Introductions

Board members, department staff, and visitors provided brief introductions.

3. Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) Overview

Randy Kath, PG, Ph.D., former ASBOG President, presented a brief overview of ASBOG. Topics covered during the PowerPoint presentation included vision, mission, NY PG licensure requirements, geology examinations, licensure qualifying undergraduate programs, public practice of geology, regulated geologic practice, Curriculum Performance Assessment Tool (CPAT), and standalone exam item writing workshops. At the conclusion, a short Q&A session was held with the Board.

4. Guest Remarks – Former NYSED Regent James C. Dawson

James Dawson, PG, Ph.D. shared historical perspective on Geology becoming a licensed profession in New York State. He also mentioned that given the Board's charge, it is appropriate to advise on observed technical changes within current education programs.

5. Geology Board Member Acknowledgements

On behalf of NYSED, a certificate of appreciation was given to Board Members Patota and Kelly for their 10-year tenure as the Board's original Geology members. Member Franzi was also acknowledged in his absence. ES and Chair Martin shared their gratitude.

6. Discussion on NYS Geology Regulation and Licensure Qualifying Programs

Member Patota shared information regarding the 2024-2025 ABET Program Curriculum for Baccalaureate Geology degree programs. Content comparisons between the ABET curriculum criteria and the Commissioner's Regulations Part 52.46 was also discussed.

7. Meeting Minutes

The Open Session meeting minutes from the December 5, 2024 Board meeting were reviewed.

Motion – Alampalli/Watt: Approve December 5, 2024 meeting minutes.

PASSED, with one (1) abstention (D'Angelo).

8. Chair and Vice Chair Reports

Chair Martin mentioned that he met with ES and Vice Chair Holbritter to set up the current committee rosters. He deferred additional commentary to committee reports.

Vice Chair Holbritter noted that he was impressed and appreciative of all the work being performed by each committee. He deferred additional commentary to committee reports.

9. Executive Secretary Report

- Alfred Klein, P.E. was re-appointed as an Extended Member (term dates: March 7, 2025 to March 6, 2030).
- Matthew Noviello, P.E., L.S. was appointed as an Extended Member (term dates: January 13, 2025 to January 12, 2030).
- Jean Patota, P.G. was appointed as an Extended Member (term dates: March 17, 2025 to March 16, 2030).
- The PE application queue contained 114 applications as of February 20, 2025.
- ES continues to request nominations for the Board's vacant Public Member position and has asked professional organizations to post the vacancy to alert the practicing community about the opening.
- ES reminded Board members that the NYS fiscal year runs from April 1 – March 31 each year and requested that honorarium and travel reimbursements be submitted every one to two months.
- Pages 9-10 of the Open Session packet contains the full Board Office Report, including NYSED/OP/Staff Outside Activities and Education Program Approvals.

10. Professional Engineering (PE) Committee Report

Chair Nogle noted the upcoming NYSSPE (Annual June 5 – June 7, 2025) and NCEES Meetings (Zone Interim April 10 – April 12, 2025 and Annual August 19 – August 22, 2025). ES added that there is a NCEES State of Council meeting on March 19, 2025.

Practice Guidelines Review sessions will be held (dates TBD). NCEES asked the Board to provide opinion on whether the U.K. exam process is equivalent to NCEES. Committee will review. ES will send the U.K. Standard for Professional Engineering Competence and Commitment document to committee for review.

11. Land Surveying (LS) Committee Report

Chair Holbritter welcomed Member Nogle to the committee. The committee met on December 12, 2024 to review the Fall NYS Specific Exam Challenges and select items for the Spring 2025 exam administration. The committee's next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2025 to review the Spring exam results.

The 2025 NYSAPLS Conference was held from January 22-24, 2025 in Verona, NY. Chair Holbritter, Member Porter, and Member VanHaverbeke attended the New Licensee ceremony and handed out certificates to the new licensees. The list of 2025 and January 2026 conferences, presentations, committee meetings, and workshops is listed at the top of page 2 (10.b.) in the Open Session packet.

12. Professional Geology (PG) Committee Report

Chair Patota welcomed Member Marcus to the committee. Since the original PG Board Members terms are ending this month, there will be a knowledge transition meeting in a few weeks (April 1, 2025). ES shared that Members Rygel and Franzl are attending the Geological Society of America's 2025 joint Northeastern and North-Central Section Meeting in Erie, PA (March 27 – 30, 2025). The list of 2025 presentations, committee meetings, workshops, association annual meetings and outreach is listed on page 2 (10.c.) in the Open Session packet.

13. Access & Outreach to the Professions Committee Report

In Chair Woods's absence, ES shared that he will formally delegate updates to the Consumer Information pages to committees. A virtual outreach presentation is still under development specific to state agencies, authorities, and municipalities.

14. Education Committee Report

Chair Mitchell reported that the committee met on December 9, 2024 to discuss two new and two ongoing program proposals; additional information will be shared in Executive Session. The committee is meeting on March 20, 2025 to discuss a new and ongoing program proposals.

15. Legislation Committee Report

Chair Janora noted that there are currently 20 bills that are of interest being tracked. The Legislative Tracker is listed on pages 18-20 of the Open Session packet. ES shared that NYSED has requested that the Board provide technical comment on Bill S5392/A483 related to permitting certain not-for-profit corporations engaged in engineering for certain conservation efforts to do business or provide professional engineering, land surveying or professional geology services in the state. Board Members and visitors were given the opportunity to speak about this topic. Guest Mike Burrige (ACEC NY) discussed a recent meeting held with the primary NYS LS, PE and PG professional associations and a bill stakeholder. The Board consensus expressed recommendation to oppose the bill. Comments expressed by the Board included:

- The bill appears written as limited to only foreign Not-for-Profit entities.
- The bill appears to contradict the spirit of NYS Business Corporation Law and NYS Education Law, which generally require design professional ownership within authorized corporate entities.
- The bill appears as a very specific carve out which could result in the erosion of public protection safeguards provided by design professional ownership of authorized entities.
- Bill could provide a competitive advantage to certain corporate entities.
- Concern as to whether SED would have any authority related to professional discipline for authorized Not-for-Profits.

16. Project Delivery Methods Committee Report

Chair D'Angelo shared that Member Watt will be joining the committee. The committee will continue to monitor design-build matters, including alternative project delivery methods and Design-Build legislation within the 2026 Budget. ES shared that the April 2013 Joint Design Board Design-Build Position paper will be reviewed in committee.

17. Resolution for Executive Session and Adjournment

Motion – Patota/Kelly: Move to break at 12:08 P.M. and reconvene at 12:30 P.M. for Executive Session.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Greppo, PE
Executive Secretary