



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

89 Washington Avenue – Catalog Room – Albany, NY 12234

Remote locations:

295 Main Street, Suite 562 – Buffalo, NY 14203

85 Allen Street, Room 140 – Rochester, NY 14608

1411 Broadway (between 39th & 40th Streets) Tenth Floor - Manhattan

250 Veterans Memorial Highway – Room 3A-15 – Hauppauge NY 11788

Thursday, September 10, 2026

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Primary Board Members Present:

- J. Martin, P.E. (Chair)
- B. Holbritter, L.S. (Vice Chair)
- J. Janora, P.G. (remote in Buffalo, NY)
- R. Frandina, P.E., L.S. (remote in Buffalo, NY)
- M. Rygel, P.G.
- T. Mitchell, P.E.
- P. VanHaverbeke, L.S.
- S. Alampalli, P.E.
- G. Marcus, P.E. (remote in Manhattan, NY)
- R. Nogle, P.E.
- S. Porter, L.S.
- R. Watt, P.G. (remote in Buffalo, NY)
- F. Flanagan, L.S. (remote in Hauppauge, NY) *arrived at 9:53 A.M.*
- L. Woods, P.E.
- R. Garcia, P.E.

Extended Board Members Present:

- None

Primary Board Members Absent:

- D. D'Angelo, P.E.
- M. Sorrentino

Department Personnel:

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

Visitors:

- Mark Kriss – NYSSPE, departed the meeting at 11:00 A.M.
- John Nadeau – NYSCPG, departed the meeting at 11:00 A.M.

- Campbell Wallace – NYSCPG, departed the meeting at 11:00 A.M.
- Brian Falconer, P.E. – Past-President SEaONY, departed the meeting at 11:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order – Open Session

ES called the Open Session to order at 9:41 A.M.

2. Introductions

Board members, department staff, and visitors provided brief introductions. ES provided extended introductions for the newly appointed Board Members, Ramon Garcia, P.E. and Mary Ann Sorrentino.

3. Meeting Minutes

The Open Session meeting minutes from March 12, 2026, were reviewed.

Motion – Alampalli/Porter: Approve March 12, 2026.

CARRIED, with two (2) abstentions (Member Woods and Garcia).

4. Chair Report

Chair Martin and Vice-Chair Holbritter, Member Nogle, and Member Woods provided commentary on the NCEES annual meeting.

5. Executive Secretary Report

- ES reviewed the contents of the board office report, highlighting licensure statistics and various NYSED outside activities and events occurring since the previous board meeting. He discussed future board events and scheduled activities.
- An update was provided on the fraudulent use of seals and an NCEES committee developed to study the issue and propose potential solutions. He will continue to keep the board informed of developments. Member Nogle provided additional context from her awareness and perspective.
- ES reminded the board and guests of the importance of Certificates of Authorization associated with Corporate Entities offering design services. He is investigating ways to continue informing the public and professional corporations about this requirement and reasons for its importance.
- Refer to pages 8-15 of the Open Session board packet for documents associated with the ES report.

6. Professional Engineering (P.E.) Committee Report

Committee Chair Nogle discussed the NCEES structural exam administrative changes forthcoming and reviewed highlights from the committee meetings held since the previous board meeting. She highlighted discussions related to stormwater management pollution prevention plans, decoupling of examination and experience, and SED's authority regarding professional licensure (*See Board packet pages 16-17*).

7. Land Surveying (L.S.) Committee Report

Committee Chair Holbitter discussed the committee business administered since the previous board meeting (*See Board packet pages 18-19*). He discussed their very high workload and thanked the committee members for being so vested in their charge. He focused on the exam item development and cleanup for the NYS specific land surveying exam.

8. Professional Geology (P.G.) Committee Report

Committee Chair Watt discussed the committee business administered since the previous board meeting (*See Board packet page 20*). He focused on the committee's work on updating guidance for Licensure Qualifying (LQ) education programs and the ongoing review of two LQ program submissions. He noted that the committee continues to study improvement of guidance and forms for applicants, particularly as the profession is still relatively young.

9. Access & Outreach to the Professions Committee Report

Committee Chair Woods discussed a commitment to improving communication and outreach to licensees. He offered for consideration the development of an email newsletter to keep licensees abreast of topics and developments pertinent to licensure and professional practice within SED's authority. Example topics included fraudulent use of seals and Certificates of Authorization. ES will discuss this internally to determine potential options. He will also investigate if NCEES could be utilized as an outreach resource. Member Alampalli suggested additional live webinar ethics training to provide a more comprehensive licensure outreach opportunity.

10. Education Committee Report

Committee Chair Mitchell noted the committee's June 18th meeting to review programs. His detailed report related to ongoing reviews will occur during executive session. ES noted efforts intended to provide clearer more actionable feedback to education program applicants.

11. Legislation Committee Report

Committee Chair Janora reviewed the legislation tracker highlighting several bills. He noted that the "12-year ladder bill" for professional geology licensure (A5622 / S6482) passed both the Senate and Assembly. If signed into law as written it would eventually phase out experience as a substitute for education in a specific licensure pathway. ES reviewed the key elements of the Certified Interior Designer licensure standards bill (A4840A / S9673) which also passed the Senate and Assembly.

12. Project Delivery Methods Committee Report

ES commented that he corresponded with Committee Chair D'Angelo and there is no formal report or significant updates for this meeting. There have not been any committee meetings held since the last Board meeting.

13. Structural Engineering Exam and Licensure

The ES began this discussion by announcing an upcoming P.E. Committee review request (to be led by Member Woods) to review the details of NCEES Structural Engineering (SE) exam and the national context of jurisdictions that provide structural engineering specific licenses. ES emphasized

that there are no current/active initiatives or requests from SED related to any sort of modification to the current professional engineering licensure model in NYS (e.g., change to a discipline-specific licensure format or a separate structural engineering license). The goal of this review request is to inform, educate, and ready the board on the topic of NYS professional engineering and structural engineering licensure in the national context.

Board members noted that in some jurisdictions the structural engineering exam may be utilized as a post-P.E. license. In those cases, it may serve as an advanced credential, typically pursued several years after initial licensure, and often in conjunction with substantial structural experience and, in some cases, graduate education.

The topic of “significant structures” as recently studied by NCEES was also discussed.

14. Transition to Executive Session

E.S. recessed Open Session at 11:00 A.M. to transition to Executive Session at approximately 11:10 A.M. Open Session will reconvene following Executive Session to continue unfinished business. This transition was conducted without formal motion or vote.

15. Reconvene Open Session

ES called back to order Open Session at 1:12 P.M.

16. Structural Engineering Exam and Licensure (*continued*)

The Board continued its dialogue on structural engineering examination and licensure. They discuss the work originating from an NCEES significant structures task force formed in response to major structural failures (e.g., bridges and large structures). The Board discussed gathering the forthcoming NCEES task force report, related NCEES committee report, and a white paper on “significant structures,” recognizing the need to review these documents once released to better understand the national landscape and any possible implications for New York State.

Board members highlighted major challenges and concerns inherent to structural engineering specific licensure. These included substantial inconsistency among the few jurisdictions that offer a structural engineering license, lack of uniform definitions of “significant structures,” and questions around how a structural engineering license would interact with New York’s broad P.E. practice model. Several members raised concerns about scope of practice and fragmentation of the profession. The Board, in its advisory role to SED, must focus its forthcoming review on public protection (rather than advancement of the profession or other factors).

17. Experience and Examination Decoupling

The Board held an extended discussion on the potential decoupling of experience and examination for licensure, focusing primarily on the NCEES PE exam and noting possible implications for land surveying and geology. The ES outlined the current New York model, in which qualifying education and Board-approved experience are required before candidates may sit for the licensing (PE) exam. This contrasts with the model for over 40 other jurisdictions which allow candidates to take the PE exam once qualifying education is complete. It was noted that many New York State applicants take the PE (and, for land surveyors, the PS and/or FS) through other states and then apply to New York for licensure by endorsement.

Members discussed pros and cons of formal decoupling. Arguments in favor emphasized reducing unnecessary administrative and financial burden on New York applicants, aligning more closely with national practice, and giving candidates flexibility to take exams when their knowledge is most current (including specific cases such as applicants managing family or leave timelines). Concerns raised included the need to maintain New York's standards, the importance of robust experience evaluation even when exams are passed early and ensuring that any change does not dilute public protection.

A motion was made by Member Alampalli to vote to recommend that the Office of Professions review and develop regulatory language for the Board's approval to decouple the PE practice exam and licensure qualifying experience review. (*Note: there was no '2nd' or vote on this motion*). After discussion, several members recommended proceeding more cautiously such that all three professions' committees (P.E., L.S., P.G.) could fully deliberate and develop their own formal recommendations.

Motion – Martin/Nogle: Table the proposed motion with the understanding that each committee will continue its internal discussions, consider votes and recommendations at upcoming committee meetings, and report back so that a more coordinated approach may be considered at the December Board meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

18. Land Surveyor Licensure Qualifications

The ES advised the board that the L.S. committee continues to discuss and review the existing licensure pathways and experience requirements for exam qualification.

19. Proposed Board Meeting Dates

The 2027 Board Meeting dates proposed in the agenda and as listed below were reviewed and adopted as tentative for the upcoming year:

- Thursday Mar 18th
- Thursday June 17th
- Thursday Sept 9th
- Thursday Dec 9th

20. Open Session Adjourned

Open session adjourned without formal motion and vote at 1:55 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Greppo
Executive Secretary