

Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners
Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2020
Via Zoom

Present: Knox Tumlin – Chair; Allen J. Bacque – Secretary, Ronald B. Blicht, J. David Brinson, John Cardone, Richard J. LeBlanc, Kevin Singh

Staff: Katherine E. Hillegas, Executive Director; Tyson J. Ducote, Deputy Director

Legal Counsel: Paul Spaht, Attorney

Tumlin welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. He opened the floor for comments from the public, and there were none.

FY21 Budget Review

The Board considered a communication from a licensee expressing frustration over the impending deadline of June 30th for firm registration renewal in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. Taking into account proposed legislation that might potentially limit the collection of registration fees as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board decided to extend the deadline for payment of firm renewal fees by 90 days, or to September 30th.

Motion #1: LeBlanc/Blicht: To extend the deadline for renewal of firm registrations from June 30, 2020 to September 30, 2020. Passed. 7-0.

Hillegas presented the FY21 Budget, highlighting key considerations that were established in its development which included a reduction in revenue for individual licenses in anticipation of a reduction in reciprocal and initial applications as a result of COVID-19. She reported that NCARB had worked with Prometric Test Centers to have the ARE placed on the “Essential” testing list. Prometric had recently reopened, and candidates had begun to test again after no tests being delivered between late March and early June. She further reported that firm revenue had been reduced in anticipation of a reduction in new applications and renewals as a result of COVID-19. The final budget represents a proposed surplus of \$148K.

Motion #2: LeBlanc/Blicht: To approve the FY21 Operating Budget. Passed. 7-0.

Defining Incidental Practice

Tumlin reported that LAPELS agreed to reinstate the Incidental Practice Task Force in order to develop a mutually agreeable definition of the incidental practice of architecture by engineers and engineering by architects. The Board expressed a desire that Legal Counsel be included as part of future Task Force discussions and that discussions include whether each Board has the statutory authority to define a term that resides in the others statute. Hillegas was asked to communicate this position back to LAPELS.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Knox Tumlin, Chair
Approved: September 11, 2020

Allen Bacque, Secretary