

At 10:30 a.m. on May 20, 2022, Ronald B. Blicht called the meeting to order at the Board's office in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with the following members present:

Ronald B. Blicht, President
John Cardone, Jr.
Kevin J. Singh
Michael F. Holly
David K. Brossett
Kristine A. Kobila

Also present: Tyson J. Ducote, Executive Director
Paul H. Spaht, Board Legal Counsel

Absent: Richard J. LeBlanc, Secretary
Justin G. Owens, Deputy Director

President Blicht welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. He then recognized public comment time.

The Board unanimously approved the motion by Mr. Holly, seconded by Mr. Brossett, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2022, Board meeting.

Legal Counsel Report

HB305 – Defining Incidental Practice

HB305 defines the incidental engineering work which an architect may perform. Spaht reported that in late March and again in early April of 2022, email blasts were sent by staff to all architects licensed in Louisiana, the first advising that this bill had been filed and the second advising of amendments to it. Since state agencies are prohibited from lobbying for or against legislation pending before the legislature or any committee thereof, architects who contacted the Board concerning this bill were directed to representatives of AIA Louisiana. As amended, the bill passed the House 97-1 and the Senate 37-0. At the time of this report, the bill is headed to the Governor for executive approval.

SB 483 – Universal licensure

As originally introduced, SB 483 provided that professional or occupational licensing boards (including the Board) shall issue an occupational license or government certification to any person who satisfied certain conditions. Spaht reported that opposition to such a bill had been voiced by AIA Louisiana and others on behalf of several other professional licensing boards. The bill was amended to expressly except the Board and several others from its provisions.

HB 1062 – Amending the Administrative Procedure Act

HB 1062 amends the standard set forth in the APA by which state agencies shall review challenges to occupational regulations. Although NCARB, at the last minute (after the bill had unanimously passed the House), had expressed concern to the staff that the new standard might make defending its rules more difficult, other state agencies seemed unconcerned. As best as could be determined, no state agency or other person had provided any opposition or opposing information to this bill. The bill passed the House 97-0 and the Senate 35-0. Assuming this bill becomes law, which is expected, the Board will be required to apply this new standard if a challenge to any of its rule is made.

Rule §1525 update

To make clear that the name of an architectural firm does not need to be changed upon the death or retirement of a member whose name is included in the firm name, the board is in the process of amending its Rule §1525. At its meeting in mid-May of 2022, the Occupational Licensing Review Commission authorized the Board to promulgate the proposed amendment in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. The Board will proceed with submitting a Fiscal & Economic Impact Statement to the Legislative Fiscal Office and publishing a Notice of Intent in the *Louisiana Register*.

Complaint Review Committee Report

Singh and Ducote presented the report of the Complaint Review Committee (“CRC”) consisting of Singh, Brossett, and Kobila.

Ducote and Spaht gave an update on Case #2019-15, and Ducote then provided an update on current enforcement statistics noting that there were 13 open cases, 12 cases closed since the March meeting, 11 cases opened since the March meeting, 4 pending cases and 2 letters of caution issued.

Continuing Education Committee Report

Ducote reported that on April 5, 2022, staff initiated the 2021 continuing education audit by emailing 176 audit notifications to randomly selected licensees. The breakdown was 77 in-state and 99 out-of-state licensees. Ducote noted that as of today, 134 auditees had complied and their audits closed, 9 audits were in progress, and 33 auditees had yet to respond.

Licenses/Certificates Issued for Ratification

Ducote reported that the following licenses/certificates had been issued since the last Board meeting:

- Initial Architect - 10
- Reciprocal Architect - 28
- Architect Reinstatements - 9
- Architectural Firm – 8 (2 in-state; 6 out-of-state)
- Professional Architectural Corporation – 2 (out-of-state)
- Architectural Engineering Corporation – 2 (out-of-state)

Total Individual Licenses:

- In-state active – 1,308
- In-state emeritus – 44
- In-state revoked – 1
- In-state probation – 1
- Out-of-state active – 2,151
- Out-of-state emeritus – 55

Total – Individual Licenses: 3,560

The Board unanimously approved the motion by Mr. Cardone, seconded by Ms. Kobila, to approve the list of licenses and certificates issued for the period March 12, 2022, through May 15, 2022.

Ducote reported that the 2022-2023 firm registration renewal cycle began on May 1, 2022, with 1,209 notices emailed to active firms. As of today, 454 firms (37.6%) have renewed. A second reminder in the June 2022 LSBAE newsletter will be scheduled to go out on June 10.

Ducote reported on the data provided by NCARB on Louisiana architect candidates and licensees.

From January 1, 2022, to April 30, 2022

- Number of exam candidates - 331
- Number of Louisiana licensed architects who are NCARB record-holders - 2,497
- Exam divisions administered - 150
- Number of candidates completing core requirements - 16
- Number of initial transmittal requests to NCARB - 16
- Number of reciprocal transmittals requests to NCARB - 67
- New NCARB records opened - 35
- NCARB records renewed - 184

Discussion Items

Supervising Professional

Ducote updated the Board on the progress staff is making in eliminating instances where one supervising professional serves two firms. All but four firms on the list discussed at the last board meeting had either changed their status to inactive or had updated their supervising professional to another individual. The board requested that staff continue to work with the remaining four firms to comply with the board’s rules

Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners

Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2022

Page 3

on supervising professionals. The board then discussed a request by an architectural-engineering corporation that asked if it should designate one or all of its architects as supervising professionals. The board opined that designating one architect only as the supervising professional would be sufficient, provided the architect has unrestricted, unchecked, and unqualified command of, and legal accountability for, the architectural services performed by the firm.

J. David Brinson entered the meeting. The Board recognized Mr. Brinson for his many years of service as state IDP coordinator and board member.

The Board recessed at noon and resumed at 1:45 p.m.

LSBAE Laws & Rule Exam

Ducote discussed the creation of an LSBAE laws and rules exam that licensees could take for continuing education credit and that the board might use as a sanction in disciplinary matters. The board instructed Ducote to continue to gather data on if and how other state architectural boards utilize such an exam and report at the next meeting.

Louisiana Architecture Education Research Fund 2019 Award Update

Ducote presented for approval the final grant report from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's ("UL") 2019 Mary "Teeny" Simmons award for the program, "University – Community Partnerships, An Adaptive Reuse Strategy." The report and attachments and the article printed in the June 2022 LSBAE newsletter are the concluding steps in the 2019 UL award grant process. There was an unused amount that the university would have to return to the board, as per the award rules; however, Ducote asked UL if it would be agreeable to a final payment less the unused amount. He was awaiting an answer.

After discussion, the board unanimously approved the motion by Mr. Blich, seconded by Mr. Holly, to approve the final payment, less the unused amount, to UL, pending approval from the university grant office of the reduced amount.

Publication of expired licenses/certificates in board newsletter

Ducote discussed the possibility of publishing by names a list of expired architect licensees from the previous renewal cycle in the annual June board newsletter and a list of expired firms from the previous renewal cycle in the annual December board newsletter. The board decided to publish an article, without names, of the total number of expired licenses/certificate holders in the next newsletter after the renewal period ends, as well as mail a "FINAL NOTICE" postcard to all expired licensees and certificate holders once the right of renewal without any sanction period has passed (April 1 and October 1).

NCARB 2022 Annual Business Meeting

The Board reviewed the NCARB 2022 Annual Business Meeting agenda, resolutions, officer candidates, and Region 3 officer candidates, which will be presented at the meeting in Austin, TX (and virtually) on June 2-4. There was also a discussion on the impact of an English-only Architect Registration Examination on non-native English readers and the accommodations that NCARB has made available to those candidates.

Telework Policy

Ducote presented an updated telework policy for the board to review and discuss. He stated that he had submitted the policy to the Louisiana state civil service and was awaiting approval.

After discussion, the board approved the motion by Mr. Brossett, seconded by Mr. Singh, with Mr. Cardone opposing, approving the proposed telework policy pending State Civil Service approval and requiring staff to present an annual telework metrics report to the board.

Executive Director's Report

February, March, and April 2022 Financial Statements

Ducote reported that revenues are positive, with 102.75% of budgeted revenue received for the year. He noted that any remaining income earned will come through initial, reciprocal, and reinstatement architect license applications and initial and reinstatement firm certificate applications. Firm renewals began on May 1st; however, that revenue is earmarked for the 2023 fiscal year. Expenses are running at 71.7% of the projected budget for FY22. Advertising is slightly over budget due to the Executive Director posting being run twice and having to rerun the District 1 call for applicants. All other expenses are running on or below budget.

FY23 Budget Review

Ducote presented the FY23 budget, highlighting key considerations used in its development which included slight increases in several expense areas, a reduction in the NCARB dues and annual database fee, and the anticipation of travel by the entire board since COVID travel restrictions have been lifted, increases in classified staff salaries, and the addition of a temporary WAE position.

Ducote further reported that the budget allows for annual merit increases for the two classified employees but no increase for his position. At the board's request, he provided impact scenarios for a salary increase for his position.

Ducote left the meeting while the board deliberated the budget. Ducote then returned to the meeting.

The board unanimously approved the motion by Mr. Holly, seconded by Mr. Brossett, to accept the FY23 budget, modified to include a 2% increase for Ducote and a \$10,000 increase in capital expenditures for possible board room technology upgrades.

Tracking Legislation and other topics

Ducote reported that there were still several bills that had been filed in this legislative session that may directly impact the board. He briefly discussed three of those bills.

Ducote updated the board on the new lease and gave updates on the meetings and events he had attended since March 18th and the NCARB Analysis of Practice Survey. Ducote then asked the board how often they wanted staff to send out the customer satisfaction survey. After discussion, the board decided that the LSBAE customer satisfaction survey should be a biennial undertaking emailed to licensees after the architect renewal deadline has passed.

After discussion, the board agreed to move the August board meeting from August 5, 2022, to August 26, 2022.

Adjournment

The board unanimously approved the motion by Mr. Holly, seconded by Mr. Brossett, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald B. Blich, Board President



Richard J. LeBlanc, Board Secretary



LSBAE
Licenses and Certificates issued for Board Ratification
March 12, 2022 to May 15, 2022

INITIAL LICENSES			
License #	Name	City	State
9720	Leah Willis	Baton Rouge	LA
9723	Justin Aubert	New Orleans	LA
9728	Elizabeth Woodard	Covington	LA
9737	Rajan Karmacharya	Baton Rouge	LA
9741	Michael Nichols	Alexandria	LA
9745	David Verzwylvelt	Shreveport	LA
9746	Alexandra Carr	Lafayette	LA
9750	Kyle Schroeder	Covington	LA
9751	Benjamin Rath	Baton Rouge	LA
9719	Julia Sharp	Nashville	TN
RECIPROCAL LICENSES			
License #	Name	City	State
9714	Sarah Murray	Nyack	NY
9715	Watson Dorn	Augusta	GA
9716	Larry Dawson	New Caney	TX
9717	Alison Rainey	Boston	MA
9718	Luis Angulo	Cypress	CA
9721	Scott Sullivan	Los Angeles	CA
9722	Shawn Phillips	Crystal Lake	IL
9724	Ryan Johansen	St. Paul	MN
9725	Javier Sanchez	Hyattsville	MD
9726	Robert Cain	Atlanta	GA
9727	Stephen Clack	Orlando	FL
9729	David Shultz	Fargo	ND
9730	Chang Soo Rhee	Fairfax	VA
9731	Michael Allen	Greenville	SC
9732	Jeffrey Dallenbach	San Antonio	TX
9733	Christopher Evans	Athens	GA
9734	Andrew Fernandez	Downers Grove	IL
9735	John Pfluger	Minneapolis	MN
9736	Mark Sullivan	Houston	TX
9738	Richard Frazier	Hancock	NH
9739	Joseph Mottola	Melville	NY
9740	Rachel Harman	Louisville	KY
9742	Timothy Clepper	Houston	TX
9743	David Anderson	Los Angeles	CA
9744	Sue-Hong Wong	Irvine	CA
9747	Tiffany Castricone	Mobile	AL
9748	Frank Greene	New York	NY
9749	Stacy Bourne	St. Louis	MO
LICENSE REINSTATEMENTS			
License #	Name	City	State
3149	Hyman Turpin	Shreveport	LA
4703	Anthony Cassata	Oak Brook	IL
6054	Kevin Henrichson	Dallas	TX
6377	Paul Logan	Broomfield	CO
7824	Mark Levine	Los Angeles	CA
8384	Jason Weyland	New Orleans	LA
9064	Steven Turley	Lockwood	CA
9255	Daniel Tarantino	New York	NY
9492	Casey Byrnes	Columbus	OH
	Total Individual Licenses Issued In Reporting Period		
	Initial		10
	Reciprocal		28
	Reinstatement		9
	Total Individual Licenses		
	In-State		1,308



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STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURAL EXAMINERS			
	In-State Emeritus		44
	In-State Probation		1
	Out-of-State		2,151
	Out-of-State Emeritus		55
	Delinquent		-
	Total Architect Licenses		3,559
FIRM LICENSES			
Architectural Firm Certificates Issued			
Certificate #	Firm Name	City	State
AF0861	Saxon Moss	Katy	TX
AF0862	M.D. Architects, A Professional Corporation	Indianapolis	IN
AF0863	Luis A Angulo Architect, Inc. dba: LA ONE ARCHITECTURE	Cypress	CA
AF0864	Patterson Structural Moving and Shoring LLC	New Orleans	LA
AF0865	LK Architecture and Design LLC	Jacksonville	FL
AF0866	Premier Architecture LLC	Dallas	TX
AF0867	CSRS, LLC	Baton Rouge	LA
AF0868	Frazier Architecture, P.L.L.C.	Hancock	NH
Architectural Firm Certificates Reinstated			
Certificate #	Firm Name	City	State
NO AF's REINSTATED			
Professional Architectural Corporation Certificates Issued			
Certificate #	Firm Name	City	State
AC0893	Mussman Architects, P.A., Inc.	Greenville	SC
AC0894	MOA Architecture, Inc.	Greenville	SC
Professional Architectural Corporation Certificates Reinstated			
Certificate #	Firm Name	City	State
AC0151	Schuldts Associates, Inc.	Bossier City	LA
Architectural-Engineering Corporation Certificates Issued			
Certificate #	Firm Name	City	State
AE0490	Johnson, Laschober & Associates, PC	Augusta	GA
AE0491	MS Consultants, Inc. of Ohio	Columbus	OH
Architectural-Engineering Corporation Certificates Reinstated			
Certificate #	Firm Name	City	State
AE0322	THA Consulting, Inc,	Blue Bell	PA
	Total FIRM Certificates Issued In Reporting Period		
	Architectural Firm - In-State		2
	Architectural Firm - Out of State		6
	Professional Architectural Corporation - In-State		0
	Professional Architectural Corporation - Out-of-State		2
	Architectural Engineering Corporation - In-State		0
	Architectural Engineering Corporation - Out-of-State		2