

Louisiana State Board of Architectural Examiners
Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2020
Via Zoom

Present: Knox Tumlin – Chair; Allen J. Bacque – Secretary, Ronald B. Blitch, 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.

Legal Counsel Report

Spaht provided an update on actions related to proposed rulemaking by LAPELS seeking to define the incidental practice of engineering as it relates to architecture as set forth in a proposed amendment to LAC 46:LXI.105. He reported that LAPELS had indicated interest in continuing the dialogue of the Incidental Practice Task Force to address issues that had been raised in the letter of opposition that we submitted in February 2020. He then led the Board in a strategy session regarding potential paths forward.

LAC 46.I.1109 Licensure for Military Applicants

He then reported that HB613 passed in the 2020 Regular Session which directed Boards to update their rules regarding the licensing of military applicants, their spouses, and dependents. He and Hillegas will be working to adapt changes to LAC 46.I.1109 to comply with HB613. A draft rule change will be presented at a future meeting.

Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 5, 2020 meeting.

Motion #1: Bacque/Blitch: To approve the minutes of the June 5, 2020 meeting. Passed. 7-0.

The Board then reviewed the minutes of the June 15, 2020 meeting.

Motion #2: LeBlanc/Singh: To approve the minutes of the June 15, 2020 meeting. Passed. 7-0.

CRC Report

LeBlanc and Ducote reported that the CRC continued discussions regarding ongoing investigations and that there were no items that required Board action. LeBlanc indicated that one of the discussions revealed a weakness in the law as it relates to the design and development of multi-family residences and that there may be an opportunity to strengthen the language in the law.

Licenses Issued for Ratification

Hillegas reported the following registrations had been issued since the last Board meeting:

- 6 initial
- 33 reciprocal
- 37 Architectural Firm
- 3 Professional Architectural Firm

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- 4 Architectural Engineering Firm

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She noted that the Licensing Report now includes information on reinstated licenses issued.

Motion #3: Brinson/Singh: To approve the list of licenses and certificates of authority issued for the period May 27, 2020, through September 4, 2020. **Passed. 7-0.**

Executive Directors Report

Architect Selection Board

Hillegas presented the Board with candidates for Regions 2 and 5 for the Architect Selection Board. She noted that this information had been previously delivered to Board members in July, and no objections to the candidates were received.

Motion #4: LeBlanc/Brinson: That the Board approve the following individuals for service on the Architect Selection Board for the period September 16, 2020, through September 15, 2021.

- o District 1 Jill Maumus, New Orleans
- o District 2 Kay K. St. Amant, Lacombe
- o District 3 Kristopher M. Palagi, Baton Rouge
- o District 4 Michael McClure, Lafayette
- o District 5 Benton R. Patterson, Jr., Shreveport

Passed. 7-0.

June 2020 Financial Statements

Hillegas reported that the fiscal year ended with a total revenue of \$706K compared to budgeted revenue of \$708K. Firm revenue was slightly below budget at 94.37%, and individual revenues came in on budget. She reported that initial licensure revenue was down, primarily due to the closure of Prometric Test Centers from late March to mid-June. Total expenses came in at \$639K vs. the \$805K budgeted and were 25% below projection. Travel and out of state conferences and conventions expenditures were down due to travel restrictions as a result of COVID-19. Insurance exceeded budget due to the addition of Data Protection/Security Breach coverage. We ended the year with a \$66K surplus which does not account for other post employment benefits and pension liabilities which are reported on the Audited Financial Statement.

2020 Audited Financial Statement

Hillegas reported that a new auditor had been hired in June. The process of selecting an auditor is managed through the Legislative Auditor's office. The audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, was conducted virtually with no field visits to the office. Key highlights of the audit findings included that there were no deficiencies identified in our internal controls and that there were no instances of non-compliance with state laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements identified.

July 2020 Financial Statements

Hillegas reviewed the July 2020 financial statement noting that all revenues collected in May and June for firm renewals were deferred to July where they appear as income. She reminded the Board members that in response to the stay at home orders issued at the beginning of the pandemic, they had voted to extend the deadline for firm renewals from June 30th to September 30th.

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2019 CE Audit

Hillegas reported that staff had begun the process of conducting a random audit of 5% of licensees to determine compliance with the HSW Continuing Education requirement. There were 171 architects randomly selected consisting of 100 out-of-state and 71 in-state architects. Although letters had been distributed to out-of-state licensees, such were withheld for in-state licensees as they had been scheduled for distribution the week that Hurricanes Marco and Laura hit Louisiana. The Board determined that in-state licensees should be audited, and it directed staff to move forward with audit notification to in-state licensees.

Hillegas shared a communication with the Chief Architect in the State Fire Marshal's Office whereby he outlined the extreme additional workload that architect plan reviewers had taken on this year in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and response to Hurricane Laura. The impact of this work has left these architects with minimal time to pursue CEH or develop and offer the classes that are usually held during their staff meetings.

Motion #5: Blitch/Brinson: That the Board waive the 2020 HSW Continuing Education requirement for the 27 architect plan reviewers employed by the State Fire Marshal's Office as of September 11, 2020. Passed. 7-0.

Reporting to the State

Hillegas shared copies of reports which had been prepared in response to a notification from the attorney for the Senate Commerce Committee (our Senate oversight committee) indicating that we were non-compliant with a series of statutorily required reporting requirements. She reported that we were in compliance with some of the items noted in the report, but not with some others. She further reported that she was developing a process to ensure that future compliance with these requirements going forward.

NBTN: Louisiana

Hillegas shared new information provided by NCARB with the 2019 publication of NCARB By The Numbers. The data indicates that Louisiana candidates run slightly behind the national average for completion of the AXP (4.8 years vs. 4.4 year national average) and ARE (2.3 years vs 2.4 years). It also revealed that our candidates perform slightly below the national average (49% vs. 52%) for exam success. It further revealed that we have more reciprocal licensees than the national average.

2021 Officers

Bacque and Brinson will share the role of Chair for 2021, with Bacque serving from January through June and Brinson from July through December. Each will fill the position of Secretary when not serving as Chair.

Office Updates

Hillegas reported that staff had completed a transition to Office 365/Teams which allows for greater protection of local files. She indicated that all documentation now resides in the Cloud except for Laserfiche.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Motion #6: LeBlanc/Blitch: To adjourn. Passed. 7-0.

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Respectfully submitted,

Knox Tumlin, Chair

Allen Bacque, Secretary

Approved: December 11, 2020

INITIAL LICENSES			
License #	Name	City	State
9348	Noah Conlay	Newport Beach	California
9358	Ferdinand Addo	New Orleans	Louisiana
9363	William Aldridge	Alexandria	Louisiana
9373	Dennis Hebert	Maurice	Louisiana
9379	Michael Walpole	Ruston	Louisiana
9380	Jacob Thevenot	Baton Rouge	Louisiana
RECIPROCAL LICENSES			
License #	Name	City	State
9+A12:A46	Matthew Franklin	Miamisburg	Oio
9344	Kevin Jeffery	Plano	Texas
9345	Douglas Page	DePere	Wisconsin
9346	Michael Schnaare	St. Louis	Missouri
9347	Brian Mork	Downington	Pennsylvania
9349	Jeffrey Winter	Tempe	Arizona
9350	Robert Lyon	Ellicott City	Maryland
9351	Jeffrey Bumb	Ballwin	Missouri
9352	Graham Hill	New Orleans	Louisiana
9353	Shlomo Wygoda	New York	New York
9354	John Trupiano	Dallas	Texas
9355	Mark Wiseman	Miamisburg	Ohio
9356	Matthew Goelzer	Seattle	Washington
9357	Samuel Olmedo	Winter Garden	Florida
9359	Alan Ricks	Boston	Massachusetts
9360	Warren Stetson	Deerfield	Illinois
9361	Janiel Collaqui	Brooklyn	New York
9362	Leah Watters	Pass Christian	Mississippi
9364	David Moos	Philadelphia	Pennsylvania
9365	Alexander Adekanmbi	Duluth	Georgia
9366	Brent Alfred	Dallas	Texas
9367	Alfonso Romero	Covington	Louisiana
9368	Johnny Limones	Mesquite	Texas
9369	Nicholas Strube	Brookfield	Wisconsin
9370	Christopher Stress	Allentown	Pennsylvania
9371	Danny Clark	Dawsonville	Georgia
9372	Leslie Thomas	New Orleans	Louisiana
9374	Kenneth Gordon	Woodstock	Georgia
9375	Mariah Meyer	Overland Park	Kansas
9376	Edwin Smart	Batavia	New York
9377	Andrew Maass	Overland Park	Kansas
9378	Joana Berling	Jacksonville	Florida
9381	Paul Ashworth	Newton	New Jersey
9382	Thomas Ford	Duluth	Georgia
9383	Juliet Serem	Houston	Texas

LICENSE REINSTATEMENTS			
License #	Name	City	State
1408	Edward Simon	Chicago	Illinois
2814	Donald Helgeson	New Orleans	Louisiana
2880	Thomas Olson	Savannah	Georgia
4681	Christopher Poché	New Orleans	Louisiana
4943	Donald Buenger	Woodstock	Georgia
5017	Kelly Nicklas	Memphis	Tennessee
5242	Ronald Smith	Dallas	Texas
5551	James Hoch	Fort Wayne	Indiana
5769	Randall Harris	Houston	Texas
6235	David Baum	Germantown	Wisconsin
6337	Jack Pyburn	Atlanta	Georgia
7086	Errol Dawkins	White Plains	New York
7355	James Strohmeyer	Rockwall	Texas
7405	William Loercher	York	Pennsylvania
7813	Julian Bickell	Little Rock	Arkansas
8182	Robert Riccardi	New Orleans	Louisiana
8187	Isabel Hewett	New Orleans	Louisiana
8480	Mothusi Phometsi	Atlanta	Georgia
8568	Francis Hofheins	Metairie	Louisiana
8575	Jennifer Traina-Dorge	Houston	Texas
8690	Javier Barrera	Miami	Florida
8696	Evan Dowden	Bossier City	Louisiana
8724	Paulo Perkins	New Orleans	Louisiana
8752	Jeffrey Brand	New York	New York
8772	Scott Hall	Dallas	Texas
8796	Charles Jones	New Orleans	Louisiana
8826	Christin Meeker	Baton Rouge	Louisiana
8953	Mark Levine	Atlanta	Georgia
	Total Licenses Issued In Reporting Period		
	Initial		6
	Reciprocal		33
	Reinstatement		28
	Total Licenses		
	In-State		1,342
	In-State Emeritus		34
	In-State Suspended		1
	Out-of-State		2,086
	Out-of-State Emeritus		38
	Total		3,568

Note: New reporting functionality deployed enabled us to include a new category of "Licenses Reinstated"

FIRM LICENSES			
Architectural Firm Licenses Issued			
License #	Firm Name	City	State
AF0710	Nathan Fell Architecture	New Orleans	Louisiana
AF0711	Studio Mork LLC	Downington	Pennsylvania
AF0712	Zachry, P.C.	San Antonio	Texas
AF0713	Chris Poché, LLC	New Orleans	Louisiana
AF0714	CDP Architecture	Nashville	Tennessee
AF0715	dunaway/WILLIAMS Architects, PLLC	Jackson	Mississippi
AF0716	J.T. Nakaoka Associates Architects, Inc.	Los Angeles	California
AF0717	Babcock Design	Salt Lake City	Utah
AF0718	Polkinghorn Group Architects, Inc.	Austin	Texas
AF0719	Jill Stevens Architecture, LLC	Ville Platte	Louisiana
AF0720	MAP Design Group, LLC	Baton Rouge	Louisiana
AF0721	Meyer Architects, Inc.	Ardmore	Pennsylvania
AF0722	Dale Partners Architects, P.A., Inc.	Jackson	Mississippi
AF0723	Kaough & Associates, LLC	Lake Charles	Louisiana
AF0724	Ohlson Lavoie Collaborative	Denver	Colorado
AF0725	Perkins Eastman Architect, D.P.C., Inc.	New York	New York
AF0726	Esencia, llc	Tempe	Arizona
AF0727	Sargenti Corporation	Paramus	New Jersey
AF0728	Hopkins and Associates Architects PA	Biloxi	Mississippi
AF0729	Gallet Architecture, A Professional Architectural LLC	Kaplan	Louisiana
AF0730	Gould Turner Group, P. C.	Nashville	Tennessee
AF0731	Performa, Inc	De Pere	Wisconsin
AF0732	OTJ Architects	Washington	DC
AF0733	Architect Jason Edward Blankenship LLC	New Orleans	Louisiana
AF0734	Femmer Architects LLC	St. Louis	Missouri
AF0735	VAA, LLC	Plymouth	Minnesota
AF0736	B2 Architecture, LLC	Richardson	Texas
AF0737	Coscia Moos Architecture, LLC	Philadelphia	Pennsylvania
AF0738	Fluidity Design Consultants	Los Angeles	California
AF0739	CPL Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architect and Sur	Rochester	New York
AF0740	Dowden Architecture, LLC	Bossier City	Louisiana
AF0741	The Clark Enersen Partners, Inc.	Lincoln	Nebraska
AF0742	Grounded Workshop LLC	New Orleans	Louisiana
AF0743	Array Architects, Inc.	Conshohocken	Pennsylvania
AF0744	Welch Hall Architects	Dallas	Texas
AF0745	Acadia Architects LLC	New Orleans	Louisiana
Professional Architectural Corporation Licenses Issued			
License #	Firm Name	City	State
AC0886	Robert Johnson Architects, Inc.	Charlotte	North Carolina

**Licenses Issued for Board Ratification
May 27, 2020 through September 4, 2020**

Professional Architectural Corporation Licenses Reinstated			
License #	Firm Name	City	State
AC0305	Rice Gregory & Associates, Inc.	West Monroe	Louisiana
AC0761	Westar Architects - Patrick Klenk, P.C. Corp.	Las Vegas	Nevada
AC0864	BSA Design Group, Inc.	Dallas	Texas
Architectural-Engineering Corporation Licenses Issued			
License #	Firm Name	State	
AE0471	Worley	Baton Rouge	Louisiana
AE0472	Ballard CLC, Inc.	Alexandria	Louisiana
AE0474	David Lane Beard & Associates, Inc.	West Monroe	Louisiana
AE0473	SFCS Inc.	Roanoke	Virginia
	Total Licenses Issued In Reporting Period		
	Architectural Firm - In-State		36
	Architectural Firm - Out of State		1
	Professional Architectural Corporation - In-State		1
	Professional Architectural Corporation - Out-of-State		2
	Architectural Engineering Corporation - In-State		3
	Architectural Engineering Corporation - Out-of-State		1
	Total Firm Licenses		
	Architectural Firm - In State		264
	Architectural Firm - Out of State		343
	Professional Architectural Corporation - In State		108
	Professional Architectural Corporation - Out of State		217
	Architectural Engineering Corporation - In State		17
	Architectural Engineering Corporation - Out of State		94
	Total In-State		389
	Total Out-of-State		654
	Total Firm Licenses		1,043