



THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024
BUSINESS SESSION 1

Call to order

Western Zone Vice President Mohammad (Dr. Q) Qureshi, Ph.D., P.E. (CA) called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the 2024 Western Zone annual meeting.

Roll call

Secretary David Peden, P.E., S.E. (WA) called roll for the Western Zone member boards. Representatives from all Western Zone member boards were present, and a quorum was declared.

Call for additional agenda items

Vice President Qureshi presented the agenda for the meeting and asked for any additional items. Aaron Blaisdell, P.L.S. (WA) added: Western Zone committee assignments, feedback/action items for the coming year, using Basecamp as a tool, and lastly proposing a dinner location for the evening and inviting Western Zone members to attend. Brian Robertson, P.E. (CO) noted he is looking forward to a discussion on the U.K. mutual recognition agreement (MRA).

Discussion of motions

Perry Valdez (NM) noted why New Mexico pulled SMSLTF Motion 1 from the consent agenda, and a discussion on the motion then occurred. Elizabeth Beckett Johnston, P.E. (AK) introduced EPP Motion 20 as a discussion topic. A lengthy discussion on the motion occurred. Concerns were raised about the implications of approving the language in the motion.

Discussion of U.K. MRA (WA request)

Marjorie Lund, P.E., S.E. (WA) introduced the U.K. MRA as a discussion topic, and she presented a concern about seismic engineering. Washington would like to hear from the other states regarding this topic. California asks PE Civil applicants to take an additional 2.5-hour seismic exam. This exam is available to other boards. Representatives from the United Kingdom added to the discussion.

Committee assignment

Aaron Blaisdell, P.L.S. (WA) asked for volunteers wishing to be involved on a committee. He will be making committee assignments soon.

Action items

Aaron Blaisdell, P.L.S. (WA) noted the U.K. MRA is an action item. Blaisdell will investigate using Basecamp for information transmittal to zone members. No other action items were identified.

Update on member activities

No updates were provided due to time limitations. A written update was provided prior to the meeting by Wyoming. This update is included as an appendix to these minutes.

Adjournment

Vice President Qureshi concluded the business session by thanking everyone for their attendance and participation. He turned over the role of Western Zone vice president to Aaron Blaisdell, P.L.S. (WA). Blaisdell thanked Vice President Qureshi for his service to NCEES. The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Dave Peden, P.E., S.E.
NCEES Western Zone Secretary

APPENDIX: WYOMING UPDATE



NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2024 Board Update - August 2024

Please take a few minutes to respond to the questions below. While you don't need to be exhaustive in your response, feel free to provide any details on what has happened since the last zone meeting. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

1. Which NCEES Western Zone licensing board do you represent?

Wyoming Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors

2. Please describe any major successes from this past year.

The Board finalized a Strategic Plan which will guide operations through 2026. The Plan covers the overarching goals of: Increasing efficiency of licensing; Educating the next generation of engineers/land surveyors and promoting the professions; Assessing professional practice trends at the international, national, state, and local levels; advocating for the professions; and preparing for the NCEES PS exam changes.

3. Please describe any challenges to licensing this past year.

Drafting work continues before the Board formally moves into the Rulemaking process. Rule updates will more clearly establish the parameters for experience review of PhD candidates. Rule will also update language around license status, CPC audits, and grade expectations for surveying education.

The Wyoming Board continues through a licensing software transition to Tyler Technologies. Licensing software is an ongoing challenge!

4. Please provide any helpful lessons that you would like to share with your colleagues.

The Wyoming Board continues to expand its list of boards and colleges/universities that will administer the Wyoming Surveying State Specific Exam. Wyoming is particularly grateful for assistance by member boards including: Alaska, Idaho, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota and Washington. This type of collaborative work helps our applicants and sheds a positive light on regulatory agencies.

5. Please describe any changes to your Board, both on your board and operationally.

No major changes to our Board or operations

6. Please provide any additional comments you wish to share.