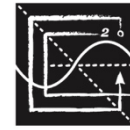


MINUTES OF THE 2026 WESTERN ZONE INTERIM MEETING
Aaron Blaisdell, P.L.S., Western Zone Vice President, Presiding
Bend, Oregon, May 1–2



NCEES
*advancing licensure for
engineers and surveyors*

FRIDAY MAY 1, 2026
BUSINESS SESSIONS 1 and 2

Call to order

Western Zone Vice President Aaron Blaisdell, P.L.S. (WA) called the Western Zone meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Vice President Blaisdell led the zone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome

Renee Clough, P.E., P.L.S. (OR), chair of the Oregon board, welcomed everyone to the Western Zone interim meeting.

Roll call

Western Zone Secretary Perry Valdez (NM) called roll for the Western Zone member boards. Representatives from all Western Zone member boards were present, and a quorum was declared.

Introduction of guests and attendees

Vice President Blaisdell acknowledged several guests and thanked the NCEES staff. Guests included President Elizabeth Beckett, P.E.; President-Elect Samuel Wilson, DBA, P.E.; and past presidents. He also recognized the remaining members of the board of directors and NCEES staff in attendance.

Review of schedule

Vice President Blaisdell reviewed the schedule for the day.

Call for additional agenda items

Vice President Blaisdell presented the agenda for the meeting and asked for any additional items. No additional items were presented.

Zone business

Approval of 2025 zone annual meeting minutes

A motion to approve the 2025 zone annual meeting minutes was made by the Oregon board, seconded by the Colorado board, and the motion passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee report

Nominating Committee member Matt Gingerich, P.L.S. (NV) presented the candidates for zone vice president and assistant vice president. Nominations from the floor were requested.

A motion to nominate Jakki Carter, P.E. (OR) as assistant vice president was made by Oregon, seconded by Washington and Alaska.

Assistant Vice President Scott Sayles, P.E. (AZ), candidate for the office of Western Zone vice president, provided remarks.

The following candidates for the office of Western Zone assistant vice president provided remarks:

- Sondra Miller, P.E. (ID)
- Jakki Carter, P.E. (OR)

Leadership Development Committee report

Assistant Vice President Sayles presented the Leadership Development Committee report.

Mobility Committee report

Karen Purcell, P.E. (NV) presented the Mobility Committee report.

Site Selection Committee report

Vice President Blaisdell presented the Site Selection Committee report. He noted the Western Zone meeting for 2027 would be the joint zone meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Awards Committee report

Kayce Keane, P.L.S. (CO) presented the Awards Committee report.

NCEES officer and CEO reports

President Elizabeth Beckett, P.E., provided a report.

President-Elect Samuel Wilson, DBA, P.E., provided a report.

Treasurer Karl Tonander, P.E., provided a report.

Chief Executive Officer Davy McDowell, P.E., provided a report.

NCEES Foundation update

CEO McDowell provided a report.

NCEES committee and task force reports

ACCA

Committee on Advisory Committee on Council Activities member Jeff Jones, P.L.S. (WY) provided a report on the committee’s preliminary activities.

Education

Committee on Education Chair Brian Robertson II, P.E. (CO) provided a report on the committee’s preliminary activities.

EPP

Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures Chair Shannon Solberg Stanfill (WY) provided a report on the committee’s preliminary activities.

EPE

Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers Chair Sean St.Clair, Ph.D., P.E. (OR) provided a report on the committee’s preliminary activities.

EPS

Committee on Examinations for Professional Surveyors member Renee Clough, P.E., P.L.S. (OR) provided a report on the committee’s preliminary activities.

Vice President Blaisdell recessed the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

BUSINESS SESSION 2

Vice President Blaisdell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

NCEES committee and task force reports (cont.)

Finance

Committee on Finances member Michael Kidd, P.L.S. (NV) provided a report on the committee’s preliminary activities.

Law Enforcement

Committee on Law Enforcement Chair Tiffany Criswell (CA) provided a report on the committee’s preliminary activities.

Licensure

Committee on Licensure member Wendy Amann, P.E. (CO) provided a report on the committee's preliminary activities.

MBA

Committee on Member Board Administrators member Perry Valdez (NM) provided a report on the committee's preliminary activities.

UPLG

Committee on Uniform Procedures and Legislative Guidelines Chair Colin Maynard, P.E., S.E. (AK) provided a report on the committee's preliminary activities.

Mission Initiatives Task Force

Mission Initiatives Task Force board liaison President Beckett provided a report on the task force's preliminary activities.

Special Committee on Bylaws

Special Committee on Bylaws staff liaison CEO McDowell provided a report on the committee's preliminary activities.

Structural Practice Task Force

Structural Practice Task Force Chair Chun Lau, P.E., S.E. (WA) provided a report on the task force's preliminary activities.

Legislation preparation

Colin Maynard, P.E., S.E., (AK) provided a presentation on legislation preparation.

Board member do's and don'ts

Brian Robertson II, P.E. (CO) provided a presentation on the do's and don'ts as a board member.

ICOR practice overlap

Brian Robertson II, P.E. (CO) provided a presentation on Interorganizational Council on Regulation practice overlap.

PLSS exam update

NCEES Chief Officer of Examinations Lehman Dekle, P.E., provided an update on the Public Land Survey System exam.

Vice President Blaisdell recessed the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026 BUSINESS SESSION 3

Vice President Blaisdell called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Elections

Elections for the following positions were held:

- **Zone vice president:** The zone elected Scott Sayles, P.E. (AZ) to serve as the Western Zone vice president for the 2026–28 term.
- **Zone assistant vice president:** The zone elected Jakki Carter, P.E. (OR) to serve as the Western Zone assistant vice president for the 2026–28 term.

Forum reports

Engineering

Sean St.Clair, Ph.D., P.E. (OR) provided a report on the Engineering Forum.

Surveying

Renee Clough, P.E., P.L.S. (OR) provided a report on the Surveying Forum.

Member Board Administrators

Jessica Spoja (ID) provided a report on the Member Board Administrators Forum.

Update on state activities

Vice President Blaisdell asked if there were any updates on state activities not included within the written reports. Colin Maynard, P.E., S.E. (AK) and Arthur LeBaron, P.E. (UT) provided additional updates for their state activities. Copies of reports submitted by member boards are included as an appendix to these minutes.

New business

Frank Ruffino (CA) said the California board respectfully requests that NCEES President-Elect Wilson charges the appropriate NCEES committee or task force to study the feasibility of funding all national standing committee and task force chairs to attend the interim zone meetings and provide a recommendation to the Council.

Invitation to 2027 zone interim meeting

Vice President Blaisdell announced the 2027 Western Zone interim meeting will be held in Omaha, Nebraska, on April 22–24, 2027.

Adjournment

Vice President Blaisdell adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.

Perry Valdez
NCEES Western Zone Secretary



NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Updates Summary

1. Major successes from this past year.

CA – Expecting to launch its License Renewal Assessment on July 1, 2026. An online interactive training video intended to bring awareness of changes to the Board’s laws and the most common violations, annually required when renewing a license.

CO – Rulemaking requiring candidates for initial licensure to have their qualifying experience reviewed by NCEES and pass the required examination(s) prior to applying with the state.

MT – Established an agreement with the UK and the Board to allow for reciprocity of the PE license.

NM - Another New Mexico College was added to provide their students with Board scholarships. As of April 2025, we have provided \$700,000 in scholarships for 242 students since June 2020 and \$447,000 in program support funding. We have successfully contracted with a vendor and hope to have a system up and running by early next year.

NV – Updates to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 625.193, 270 and 280 by removing unnecessary barriers to licensure for engineers and surveyors.

OR – Continued increase of applicants and number of examinees, along with continued outreach efforts.

WY - Engineers Week 2026 is targeted to reach nearly 5,000 of Wyoming’s third graders. That is close to 75% of all 3rd graders in the entire state of Wyoming! The upward trend in Wyoming professional land surveying licenses continues with a 7.5 % increase in total licensees.

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

AZ - The Mills engineering case, which began in 2019, is still ongoing. The State Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on March 10, 2026 (for the second time). NCEES has graciously submitted an Amicus Brief in support of the Board and professional licensure. The Goldwater Institute, however, submitted an Amicus Brief in support of Plaintiff Mills. We do not currently have a set date for oral arguments.

CO – The Board continues to deal with cases of fraudulent use of engineer and architects seal from online design subcontracting platforms.

NMI - Due to the continual budgetary constraints in FY2026 and the expected budget outlook for FY2027, BPL will continue to seek alternative ways to secure funding for a limited-term professional service for an enforcement officer. BPL is working on an MOU with the Office of the Attorney General to engage its Investigative Division to provide investigative services and compliance-related activities.

NV - Working with the Nevada Department of Business and Industry to develop effective

legislation and regulation that promotes health, safety, and welfare for the citizens of Nevada, without revamping the make-up and composition of Nevada's Title 54 Boards.

WY - A recent bill that if it had passed would have removed the Wyoming Board's ability to pay for membership to NCEES or any travel associated with NCEES. The underlying intent of the bill appeared to be against paying for memberships to lobbying organizations. NCEES is not a lobbying organization and NSPE, ACEC and NCEES were prepared to testify in the event the bill continued to committee.

3. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

HI – The Board has supported career guidance programs at the University of Hawaii.

MT - Board member Troy Jensen has been selected to be a part of the Governors Licensing Task Force to help with alleviating burdensome licensing requirements in all occupations.

NM - We have initiated an outreach to the New Mexico 4-H club and FFA for the promotion of surveying. We are promoting a mentorship program for high school seniors.

NMI - An Annual Citizen Centric Report (CCR) is posted on our website that is an innovative means of communicating to the community and government leaders. The Report highlights progress, finances, program priorities, and challenges, providing readily available and understandable information to the community.

NV - Created the Governmental Outreach Committee to better coordinate with the state and local government entities.

WA – Outreach on ID Theft & Fraud: started a yearlong (or longer) project to find solutions in our state, stopping or slowing the theft of engineering and surveying credentials by bad actors.

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

Make sure you take every opportunity to build connections with your jurisdiction's engineers and surveying associations.

Don't be afraid to ask for help from other departments. Communication projects are a team effort. Many of these things you can't do well alone, or only 1 or 2 people.

5. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

CA - We are piloting the use of internal AI tools in exam development for the purposes of jumpstarting the initial item development process.

HI – The Board has a new Executive Officer, Eli Lane. Also, welcoming back Dan Hirota as a Land Surveyor Board member.

MT - Eliminated barriers to licensure by defining substantial equivalency for licensure and implementing multiple red-tape relief measures such as making the Montana Land Surveyor Law Exam open-book, updating outdated rules, and shifting non-routine applications to the Screening Panel.

NMI - The most significant operational change for the Board has been the transition to an online application processing system. The shift to digital processing has strengthened the Board's ability to manage applications effectively and provide more timely and reliable service to applicants.

WA - Upcoming retirement of the Board's MBA, Ken Fuller, PE, Director and appointment of the current Deputy Director, Kristina Horton, PLS as incoming Director. New Board Member appointed, Jon Warren, PLS.

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

CA - 135 years ago on March 31, 1891, an important event occurred which helped to shape the genesis of the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. During the Twenty-Ninth Session of the California Legislature, "*An Act to define of and to license land surveyors*" was approved by the California Senate and Assembly becoming the first such licensing laws for the practice of land surveying in the nation.

NM - We are in the process of drafting legislation to bring the State Plane Coordinate System requirements into compliance with the NGS SPCS2022 updates. We hope to have legislation presented at the 2027 legislative session, afterwards, we will update our Minimum Standards of Surveying for New Mexico to align with the changes.

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

Arizona 

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

After multiple previous attempts, a rule package to update land surveyor minimum boundary standards is now moving toward final approval. This will embed the standards directly into the Arizona Administrative Code rather than continuing to adopt them by incorporation.

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

The Mills engineering case, which began in 2019, is still ongoing. The State Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on March 10, 2026 (for the second time). NCEES has graciously submitted an Amicus Brief in support of the Board and professional licensure. The Goldwater Institute, however, submitted an Amicus Brief in support of Plaintiff Mills. We do not currently have a set date for oral arguments.

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

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

Make sure you take every opportunity to build connections with your jurisdiction's engineers and surveying associations. Get out there as much as possible to people know who you are, that you are approachable and that you care what they have to say about all things industry/regulatory related. Do not make the mistake of getting so lost in administrative demands that you forget the necessity of human interaction, outreach, networking, and connecting with professionals.

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc.

We finally launched an online platform for all applications, renewals, and other transactions. Despite ongoing fixes, it has been well received and operates much more efficiently than our previous paper process. We have experienced no major changes in our board member composition or investigation procedures.

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

A bipartisan bill was introduced this session that would add licensed elevator mechanics to our board. Although it may not pass this session, it will likely be brought back next session. If the bill had passed, it would have allowed for the appointment of a second engineer to the board.

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

1. Which NCEES Western Zone licensing board do you represent? California
2. Please describe any major successes from this past year.

By the time of the WZ interim meeting, we will have successfully implemented new rulemaking to increase licensing and application fees to cover operations costs, which will become effective July 1, 2026. Last time was in 2021.

Additionally, the Board is expected to launch its License Renewal Assessment on July 1, 2026. This assessment is designed in three separate formats, targeted for professional engineers, land surveyors, and professional geologists. Available solely as an online interactive training video intended to bring awareness of changes to the Board's laws and the most common violations. Licensees will be required to complete this assessment each time they renew their license(s).

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

Still experiencing higher than historical volume of received applications for licensure. This trend has continued since the COVID pandemic.

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.
5. Please provide any helpful lessons that you would like to share with your colleagues.
6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

We are piloting the use of internal AI tools in exam development for the purposes of jumpstarting the initial item development process. We loaded all of our current exam content, reference materials, and exam specifications into a secure internal system. We can then choose an area of the specifications and it will generate a question based on what we currently have covered and not covered in terms of the specifications. Then the subject matter expert starts modifying it from that point.

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

135 years ago on March 31, 1891, an important event occurred which helped to shape the genesis of the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. During the Twenty-Ninth Session of the California Legislature, "*An Act to define of and to license land surveyors*" was approved by the California Senate and Assembly becoming the first such licensing laws for the practice of land surveying in the nation.

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

Colorado Board of Licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers, and Professional Land Surveyors

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

Completing final rulemaking to:

- Incorporate the current process requiring candidates for initial licensure to have their qualifying experience reviewed by NCEES and pass the required examination(s) prior to making application with the state.
- Adopt the NCEES PLSS Examination with its initial administration.

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

NA

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

Board representatives attended the Annual Rocky Mountain Surveyor's Summit where we presented on the new CE requirements for Professional Land Surveyors and the new NCEES PLSS examination.

Past Board Chair and NCEES President Brian Robertson, III, PE, gave a presentation to the Board on the ICOR Overlapping Practice Guide. The Board will be considering how to incorporate the information.

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

NA

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

NA

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

The Board continues to deal with cases of fraudulent use of engineer and architects seals (both with and without their signature) from online design subcontracting platforms.

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

Hawaii

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

Finalizing a Statutory amendment in the current Legislative Session that modernizes and aligns Hawaii's landscape architecture licensure requirements with current national standards.

Also, a Bill loosening the licensure requirements for engineers was deferred in Legislative Session that has been introduced the last three years in a row. The measure would have allowed plan review to count as fulfilling the lawful experience requirement towards licensure which the Board is adamantly against.

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

There have been significant staffing challenges slowing down the pathway of application to licensure. We are dedicated to addressing this and trying to bolster administrative staffing to support these processes.

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

Successfully meeting outreach goals to provide and broaden knowledge of licensing processes to the public. The Board has supported career guidance programs at the University of Hawaii and presented at various conferences including at the 2026 Public Water Conference, Young Professionals Pre-Conference.

5. Please provide any helpful lessons that you would like to share with your colleagues. None at this time.

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

The Board has a new Executive Officer, Eli Lane, operating as primary for administering meetings, legislative support, etc., and secondary EO, Chrissy Hoogland, who supports administratively. The Board is welcoming back Dan Hirota as a Land Surveyor Board Member this year as well.

7. Please provide any additional comments you wish to share. None at this time, NCEES' support has been paramount!

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

Montana Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

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

- Established an agreement with the UK and the Board to allow for reciprocity of the PE license.
- Added a definition of substantial equivalency and developed a list of those states equivalent to Montana for purposes of licensure.
- As part of the red tape relief initiative, the board:
 - o Approved by rule the ability to take the Montana Land Surveyor Law Exam open book and allow candidates to take the exam as many times as needed without rescheduling with the board.
 - o Updated outdated code references for certificate of survey
 - o Updated and clarified Inactive licensure rules
 - o Removed and aligned unnecessary rules to conform with SB 227
 - o Moved all non-routine applications to Screening Panel as part of larger Department wide change

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

- Testing and scores for the Montana Land Surveyor Exam. Working on reformatting the exam.

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

- We are currently working on 2027 legislative review with department legal and policy makers.
- The Governors Licensing Task Force – Board member Troy Jensen has been selected to be a part of the task force to help with alleviating burdensome licensing requirements in all occupations.

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

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..
- The major change this last year was to move all non-routine application from full board to screening panel for review.
 - Allow for the Montana Land Surveyor Law Exam to be open book

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

Licensing Task Force:

The governor has signed Executive Order No. 1-2026, creating the Licensing Reform Advisory Council, a 27-member task force (attached). The first written initial report is due September 2, 2026 and must address the following directives:

1. Whether the unregulated practice of an occupation or profession creates a direct, immediate, or foreseeable hazard to the public health, safety, or welfare;
2. If there is a public benefit provided by the licensure;
3. If licensure significantly increases the cost of service to the public;
4. If the scope of practice for a profession is readily identifiable and distinguishable from the scope of practice of other professions and occupations;
5. If an occupation or profession requires a specialized skill or training for which nationally recognized standards of education and training exist;
6. If qualifications for licensure are justified;
7. If unnecessary barriers to entry exist for applicants;
8. Whether existing licensing requirements contribute to workforce shortages or access constraints in rural frontier communities;
9. Whether licensure portability, reciprocity, or endorsement pathways could expand access to qualified professionals, particularly in rural and underserved areas;
10. Whether licensing structures are aligned with state and federal rural health transformation initiatives, including Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Rural Health Transformation Program;
11. If public support exists for continued licensure for each profession; and
12. If the state should implement a sunset review of licensing boards.

The council includes representatives from state agencies, private associations, and licensing boards.

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

1. Which NCEES Western Zone licensing board do you represent? The Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.
2. Please describe any major successes from this past year. We introduced a bill draft request to updates to Nevada Revised Statutes: NRS 625.193 – removing an unnecessary barrier to licensure for engineers, and house cleaning efforts to remove outdated language; NRS 625.270 & 625.280 – removing unnecessary barriers to licensure for land surveyors and removing outdated language.
3. Please describe any challenges to licensing this past year. Working with the Nevada Department of Business and Industry to develop effective legislation and regulation that promotes the health, safety, and welfare for the citizens of Nevada, without revamping the make-up and composition of Nevada's Title 54 Boards.
4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure. NVBPELS created the Governmental Outreach Committee to better coordinate with the state and local government entities. We continue to use social media, blogs, newsletters and attend college career fairs and public stakeholder events throughout the State; often making presentations at these events.
5. Please provide any helpful lessons that you would like to share with your colleagues.

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc.. We are close to completing new online licensing and firm registration platforms.

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

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

New Mexico

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

The Board saw an increase of 95% of licenses from April 2025 (11,063) to April 2026 (11,0618).

Another New Mexico College was added to provide their students with Board scholarships. As of April 2025 we have provided \$700,000 in scholarships for 242 students since June 2020 and \$447,000 in program support funding.

We have successfully contracted with a vendor and hope to have a system up and running by early next year.

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

The challenge we faced this past year was working without a licensing system.

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

We have initiated an outreach to the New Mexico 4-H club and FFA for the promotion of surveying. We are promoting a mentorship program for high school seniors.

We have initiated contact with two other New Mexico schools of higher education to promote surveying licensure, scholarships, program support, and honor cords.

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

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

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

We are in the process of drafting legislation to bring the State Plane Coordinate System requirements into compliance with the NGS SPCS2022 updates. We hope to have legislation presented at the 2027 legislative session, afterwards, we will update our Minimum Standards of Surveying for New Mexico to align with the changes.

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

[NMI Board of Professional Licensing](#)

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

Despite the ongoing decline in our CNMI revenue, BPL has made significant accomplishments in improving administrative processes and strengthening regulatory oversight. Efforts have been made to improve the use of online licensing systems to facilitate application tracking, online payments, and renewals, making the licensing process more accessible and efficient for applicants and licensees.

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

- The lack of on-site inspections to ensure compliance and respond to complaints due to budgetary constraints. Currently, BPL is working on a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the Attorney General to engage its Investigative Division to provide investigative services and compliance-related activities.
- Due to the continual budgetary constraints in FY2026 and the expected budget outlook for FY2027, BPL will continue to seek alternative ways to secure funding for a limited-term professional service to fill the gap left by the absence of a full-time in-house enforcement officer.

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

- Currently, we submit an Annual Citizen Centric Report (CCR) that is an innovative means of communicating to the community and government leaders. It is also posted on our website, highlighting progress, finances, program priorities, and challenges, providing readily available and understandable information to the community.
- Plan on working with the schools and meeting with students

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

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

The most significant operational change for the Board has been the transition to an online application processing system. This modernization has greatly reduced reliance on manual, paper-based processes, resulting in improved efficiency, enhanced record management, and stronger data security.

The online system enables applicants to submit and track their applications electronically, while allowing Board members and staff to monitor application status in real time. This has led to more accurate licensing records, streamlined workflows, and faster processing and approval timelines.

Overall, the shift to digital processing has strengthened the Board's ability to manage applications effectively and provide more timely and reliable service to applicants.

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

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

Oregon

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

The number of all applications (registration, certifications, exams) has continued to increase. From our previous report, likely due to the changes to Oregon Administrative Rule 820-010-2020, along with our continued outreach efforts, we've seen an increase in the number of examinees sitting for the Oregon Specific Land Surveying Examination. This has also resulted in an increase in PLS licenses issued.

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

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

Our outreach efforts to middle and high schools have increased with in-person or virtual presentations, reaching over 500 students at middle schools, high schools, and career fairs across the state. In addition to sharing about engineering as a profession, we raise awareness of surveying as a career path.

Connecting with colleges and universities throughout Oregon that offer engineering and/or geomatics programs through classroom and event presentations is our most effective way to deliver licensure information to college students. Agency staff presented at Oregon State University, Oregon Institute of Technology, Portland State University, and the University of Portland, reaching over 300 students with crucial information to support their professional journeys.

5. Please provide any helpful lessons that you would like to share with your colleagues.
6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..
7. Please provide any additional comments you wish to share.

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

Utah

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

None

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

None

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

None

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

None

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

None

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

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. The results will be included in the Western Zone minutes submitted to NCEES.

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

State of Washington, Board of Registration for Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors (BRPELS)

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

- Outreach at Washington State University, Pullman, WA, with engineering students, faculty and staff. Detail below.
- Land Surveyors' Association of Washington, annual conference, Tulalip, WA. Four presentations and a booth.
- Outreach to Society of Military Engineers (SAME), attempting to expand licensing and outreach to that group.

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

New efficiency systems to streamline and speed up licensing.

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

- University/Colleges – “Meet & Greet” for engineering students. A reception inviting students, local engineers/companies, faculty and staff to a 2-hour pizza party, to promote licensure. Students get connections for mentorships/internships/jobs. We help them with the licensing process. Our Board members get to interact with all of the above. Very well attended and builds off the NCEES graduation cords program. Held on campus, which is an opportunity to also guest lecture some classes on ethics and licensure.
- Surveying – “Don't Cut Corners,” a public communication campaign to always hire licensed, professional land surveyors and engineers. It has a special page on our website, outreach like a booth, with supporting swag, leading the public to the website page.
<https://brpels.wa.gov/protect-your-property>
- ID Theft & Fraud. Started a yearlong (or longer) project to find solutions in our state, stopping or slowing the theft of engineering and surveying credentials by bad actors

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

Don't be afraid to ask for help from other departments. Communication projects are a team effort. Many of these things you can't do well alone, or only 1 or 2 people.

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

- New Board Member appointed, Jon Warren, PLS.
- Upcoming retirement of the Board's MBA, Ken Fuller, PE, Director and appointment of the current Deputy Director, Kristina Horton, PLS as incoming Director.

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

NCEES Western Zone Meeting 2026 Board Update

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 in 2025. 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.

Engineers Week 2026 is targeted to reach nearly 5,000 of Wyoming's third graders. That is close to 75% of all 3rd graders in the entire state of Wyoming!

The upward trend in Wyoming professional land surveying licenses continues with a 7.5 % increase in total licensees 2025 as compared to 5.2% increase in 2024 and 3.0% in 2023.

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

The biggest challenge was a recent bill that if it had passed would have removed the Wyoming Board's ability to pay for membership to NCEES or any travel associated with NCEES. The underlying intent of the bill appeared to be against paying for memberships to lobbying organizations. NCEES is not a lobbying organization and NSPE, ACEC and NCEES were prepared to testify in the event the bill continued to committee.

4. Please describe any outreach initiatives you have initiated or would like to share with your colleagues to promote engineering and surveying licensure.

EWeek continues to be a fruitful outreach. This year, one of the University of Wyoming engineering students that was helping with the outreach even recalled doing to the exercise when he was a 3rd grader!

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

Work with Joshua Twitty when legislation issues arise!

6. Please describe any operational changes to your Board, i.e. number of members, process for applications, disciplinary case process, etc..

No major changes.

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

None