



TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

Application Review and Continuing Education (AR/CE)

Committee Meeting

April 19, 2013, 7:30 a.m.

William P. Hobby, Jr. Building
333 Guadalupe Street, Tower II, Room 500
Austin, Texas 78701

MINUTES

- A. The meeting was called to order at 7:28 a.m.
- B. Members present were Committee Chair, Dr. C. Thomas Hallmark, P.G., Kelly Krenz-Doe, P.G., Becky L. Johnson, P.G., and Member Gregory C. Ulmer. J.D. was absent.
- C. Regarding public comment: Mr. Matthew Cowen, P.G. was present as a representative of the Texas Association of Professional Geoscientists and as an observer for Houston Geological Society.
- D. The ARC minutes from the January 14, 2013 were unanimously approved as written.
- E. Regarding the request of waivers on the following Exam Requests/Applications for licensure:
 - James Sorrels: The Committee unanimously moved to recommend that the full Board approve Mr. Sorrels' request for a waiver to sit for the ASBOG® Fundamentals Examination on October 4, 2013, as well as to be eligible for licensure upon passing the Practice of Geology examination.
- F. Regarding recommendation from the Committee to the full Board on proposed changes to TBPG's rule §851.28 (Professional Geoscientist License Renewal and Reinstatement) regarding the first renewal of a license and the late renewal of a license. The Committee unanimously moved to recommend the proposed amendment to the full Board for posting to the Texas Register for public comments.
- G. Regarding recommendation from the Committee to the full Board on proposed changes to TBPG's rule §851.32 (Continuing Education Program) regarding the continuing education requirement for the renewal of a license. The Committee unanimously moved to recommend the proposed amendment to the full Board for posting to the Texas Register for public comments.
- H. Regarding recommendation from the Committee to the full Board on proposed changes to BPG's rule §851.20 (Professional Geoscientists Licensing Requirements and Application Procedure) regarding the first renewal of a license. The Committee unanimously moved to recommend the proposed amendment to the full Board for posting to the Texas Register for public comments.
- I. Regarding examinee's comments on the Texas Geophysics Exam. The Committee evaluated the comments made on the test by the examinee; however the overall comments were not on any specific item on the examination. Therefore, the comments would not affect the examinee's score. The Committee recommended TBPG staff to encourage the examinee to retake the examination and provide comments on every item that is unclear and/or unfair in order for the Committee to address an appeal on the examination.

- J. Member Krenz-Doe provided an update of the status on the process with Gainesville Independent Testing Service's (GITS) updates and changes to the Texas Geophysics Examination.
- K. Regarding reciprocity agreements with other state geoscience regulatory jurisdictions. A chart was provided to the Committee on states that were either not interested or have no statutory authority to enter into a reciprocity agreement with TBPG. The Committee directed staff to re-contact those states and provide a current update summary of TBPG contact with the regulatory boards of the possibility of entering into a reciprocity agreement; as it has been awhile since the last contact. This agenda item to be discussed at the next Committee meeting.
- L. Regarding the renewal of a P.G. license and identifying whether a P.G. is operating as a sole proprietor. The Committee directed staff to provide draft language for an article to include in the Boards newsletter to ensure that PG's are aware that a licensee is required to registered as a sole proprietor, if the licensee plans to engage in the independent practice of geosciences as an unincorporated sole proprietor. Staff will also ensure that the "PG Renewal Application" form indicates the requirement to notify the Board if the licensee is a sole proprietor. The Committee also recommended including on TBPG's website the "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ's) in the Firm/Sole Proprietorship section. This agenda item to be discussed at the next Committee meeting.
- M. The licensing chart was presented providing the license numbers.
- N. Discussion and possible action on other TBPG Committee items of interest. No action taken.
- O. Future Agenda items:
 - 1. Item K, reciprocity agreements with other state geosciences regulatory jurisdictions
 - 2. Item L, renewal of a P.G. license and identifying whether a P.G. is operating as a sole proprietor
- P. The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 a.m.