



**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING
GEOLOGIST LICENSING BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: March 13, 2025
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: Video Conference via Microsoft Teams

BOARD MEMBERS: **Carla Brock**, LG/HG, Chair
Carrie Gillum, LG, Vice Chair
Jim Struthers, LG/EG, Secretary
Bill Halbert, LG/EG/HG, Board Member
Casey Hanell, LG/EG, State Geologist, Board Member
Noah Dudley, LG/EG, Board Member

STAFF MEMBERS: **Sydney Muhle**, Program Specialist
Alyssa Woods, Program Specialist
Lauren Gilmore, Regulatory Review and Legislative
Policy Analyst
Bennett Harbaugh, Management Analyst
Tanya Hessler, Program Manager

- 1. Call to Order**
Board Chair Carla Brock called the meeting to order at **10:02 a.m.**
- 2. Roll Call**
Program Specialist Alyssa Woods conducted roll call. All Board members were present.
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
Board Member Noah Dudley made a **MOTION** to approve the agenda as presented. Vice Chair Carrie Gillum **SECONDED** the motion, and it was **APPROVED** by a vote of 6-0.
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
 - 4.1. Special Meeting Minutes for December 5, 2024**
Secretary Jim Struthers made a **MOTION** to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of December 5, 2024, as presented. Vice Chair Gillum **SECONDED** the motion, and it was **APPROVED** by a vote of 6-0.

5. Awards/Recognition

None.

6. Old Business

6.1. Outreach Update and Discussion

Board members will provide updates regarding outreach activities.

Program Specialist Sydney Muhle reminded the Board about challenges around the State's freeze on travel and notified the Board that staff will keep them informed about future outreach opportunities.

6.2. Board staff will provide an update on the Professional License Review Act

Board staff will provide an update on the Professional License Review Act.

Ms. Muhle provided a brief overview of the Professional License Review Act and introduced Management Analyst Bennett Harbaugh to update the Board on the 2025 report development. Mr. Harbaugh provided an update on data collected during the process and a tentative timeline for completion of the report.

6.3. Exam Update

Staff will provide information about the recent examination cycles.

Ms. Muhle reviewed the fall 2024 examination cycle data and presented an update on the spring 2025 examination cycle. The spring examination date was March 21, 2025.

7. New Business

7.1. Election of Officers

The Board will elect a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for the upcoming year.

Board Chair Brock nominated Board Member Dudley to fill the position of Board Chair.

Board Member Bill Halbert made a **MOTION** to elect Noah Dudley as Board Chair for the 2025 term. Secretary Struthers **SECONDED** the motion, and it was **APPROVED** by a vote of 6-0.

Board Chair Brock nominated Vice Chair Gillum to remain in the position of Board Vice Chair.

Board Chair Brock made a **MOTION** to elect Carrie Gillum as Board Vice Chair for the 2025 term. Board Member Dudley **SECONDED** the motion, and it was **APPROVED** by a vote of 6-0.

Board Chair Brock nominated Board Member Casey Hanell to fill the position of Secretary.

Board Chair Brock made a **MOTION** to elect Casey Hanell as Secretary for the 2025 term. Secretary Struthers **SECONDED** the motion, and it was **APPROVED** by a vote of 6-0.

7.2. Alternative Pathways to Licensure Discussion

Board members will discuss alternative pathways to licensure.

Ms. Muhle presented a public comment from a prior meeting requesting that the Board discuss alternative pathways to licensure. She said that the governing statutes and rules state that an examination must be taken for licensure. She also noted that educational structures for the profession are changing and the associated requirements may need to be updated.

The consensus among the Board members was that international reciprocity was a national issue, and that the Board's scope was focused on aligning educational requirements for licensure testing.

8. Reports

8.1. Committee/Task Force Reports

8.1.1. Engineering Geologist Exam Review Committee

Ms. Muhle said the staff and the Engineering Geologist (EG) Exam Review Committee are close to completing their work and they were working on updating graphics within the exam.

8.1.2. Hydrogeologist Exam Review Committee

Ms. Muhle said the Hydrogeologist (HG) Exam Review Committee would meet soon. The initial feedback was that the exam was in good shape and just needs some refinement. She said staff would be meeting with Board members to get their input.

8.1.3. Application Requirements Verification Committee

Ms. Muhle said the Application Requirements Verification Committee had met and reviewed several applications and was paying close attention to experience verifiers.

8.1.4. WAC Review Committee

Ms. Muhle said that the WAC Review Committee met once and that they would continue reviewing WACs that were problematic and had resulted in a lot of questions.

8.2. Centralized Investigations and Audits Unit Reports

8.2.1. Complaint Status Report

Ms. Muhle reviewed the Complaint Status Report with the Board.

8.3. Licensing Customer Support Services Reports

8.3.1. Licensee Count Reports

Ms. Muhle reviewed the Licensee Count Report with the Board.

8.4. Boards, Commissions and Outreach Reports

8.4.1. Legislative Update

Ms. Muhle presented legislative updates on House Bill 1300 and Senate Bill 5294.

8.4.2. Review of Master Action Item List

Ms. Muhle reviewed the Master Action Item List with the Board.

NEW ACTION ITEM: Staff would provide data to facilitate discussion on the frequency of examinations.

9. Public Comments

The public may address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction, either verbally during the meeting or by submitting written comments in advance. Verbal comments are limited to one three-minute comment. Written comments are limited to no more than 500 words and must be emailed to DOLBoards@dol.wa.gov no less than two business days prior to the meeting with the subject line "Public Comment: Geologist Board". In response to all public comments, the Board is limited to requesting that the matter be added to a future agenda for discussion or directing staff to study the matter further. Inflammatory comments and language will not be permitted.

There were no written public comments.

There were no verbal public comments.

10. Conclusion

10.1. Announcements

None.

10.2. Requests for Future Agenda Items

- Continue refining the process for reviewing applications and review of internal processes for application reviews.

10.3. Review of action items and items for next meeting

Ms. Woods reported the agenda and action items captured for the next meeting.

- Staff would provide an update on the 2023 license review data.
- Board staff would follow up regarding a public comment from the last meeting.

- Board staff would schedule a meeting after April 8th with Board Member Halbert to finalize the Hydrogeologist exam review.

11. Adjournment

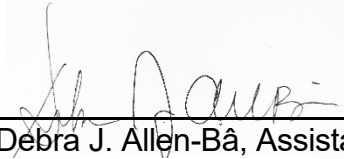
Chair Brock adjourned the meeting at **11:13 a.m.**

Next Board Meeting:

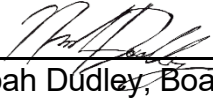
June 12, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Virtual via Teams

Submitted by: 
Debra J. Allen-Bâ, Assistant Administrator

6-12-2025
Date

Approved by: 
Noah Dudley, Board Chair

6-12-2025
Date