

MONTANA PEPLS NEWSLETTER



FALL 2013



The Montana Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors met on November 6-7.

Here are some of the actions taken by the Board at that meeting:

APPLICATION REVIEW:

PE by Comity

- Approved: 18
- Tabled: 1

PLS by Comity

- Approved: 4
- Tabled: 3

PE by Exam

- Approved: 11
- Tabled: 4

PLS by Exam

- Approved: 5
- Tabled: 1

OTHER BOARD ACTIONS:

- The Board welcomed two new members, Byron Stahly, PE and Wallace Gladstone, PE/PLS. Mr. Stahly is from Helena, while Mr. Gladstone is from Billings. The Board also elected David Elias, PE/PLS to another term as presiding officer. Jane Eby, PE/PLS is the Board's new vice-presiding officer and Ingrid Lovitt-Abramson, public member, is the Board's new secretary.
- The Board adopted a new state-specific laws and rules exam for applicants for Professional Land Surveyor. The first administration of that exam will be in 2014. More information will be forthcoming.
- The Board approved rule amendments and new rules that will be noticed for public comment early in 2014. If you wish to be on the Board's "interested parties" list for rule notices, please contact the Board via e-mail at dlibsdpels@mt.gov.

OTHER RECENT BOARD ACTIVITY:

- The Board has agreed to grant "automatic" approvals for the NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering exam. The FE now is a computer-based exam, with the first administration of it scheduled for January 2014. Registration for that exam already has begun.

(cont. on page 2)

2014 Board Officers

Presiding Officer

David Elias, PLS/PE

Vice-Presiding Officer

Jane Eby, PLS/PE

Secretary

Ingrid Lovitt-Abramson

Other Board Members

Ruhul Amin, PE

Ron Drake, PE

Wallace Gladstone, PE/PLS

Hal Jacobson, Public Member

Casey Johnston, PE

Byron Stahly, PE

Executive Officer

Ian Marquand

MT Board of PEPLS
Dept. of Labor and Industry
301 S. Park Street
PO Box 200513
Helena, Montana 59620-0513
Phone: 406/841-2300
Fax: 406/841-2305
www.engineer.mt.gov
www.landsurveyor.mt.gov

E-mail: dlibsdpels@mt.gov

To update your contact information, please send email to dlibsdpels@mt.gov.

OTHER RECENT BOARD ACTIVITY (cont.):

Now, candidates for the FE will be able to register with NCEES without applying to the Board first. However, examinees who pass the FE will have to apply—and meet all Board requirements—to receive an Engineer Intern Certificate.

- The Board has created a Model Law Committee to study the amendment of Board statutes—and possible adoption of NCEES Model Law—through legislation in 2015. Public member Hal Jacobson has been named chair of the committee and is joined by Ruhul Amin, Ron Drake, Jane Eby and David Elias.

The committee met on Dec. 2 to discuss laws regarding licensing of individuals and will next meet Jan. 22 to conclude that discussion and look at other aspects of NCEES Model Law.

NOTE: You can read Presiding Officer David Elias' commentary on NCEES Model Law in the fall newsletter of the Montana Society of Engineers.

- The Board has created a Committee of the Whole on Reciprocity that will explore license reciprocity with Alberta (and potentially British Columbia and Saskatchewan) in concert with the Governor's office. That committee has not met yet.

OTHER BOARD INFORMATION:

- The Board has had hundreds of mailings to Engineer Interns returned as “undeliverable” because the EIs have moved and not submitted new addresses to the Board.
All Board licensees (including EI and LSI certificate holders) are required to inform the Board of a new mailing address within 30 days of the change.
- The Board requests that all applicants for licensure check to see that they are using the application form currently on the Board's website and not older versions they might have acquired previously.
- The Board has noted a trend among applicants to use incomplete descriptions of their experience on their “experience detail” sheets. The Board recommends that applicants describe their experience as completely as possible and in a first-person narrative. Experience detail sheets considered inadequate may be cause for an application to be tabled by the Board pending the receipt of more detailed information.

**The Board's next regularly scheduled meeting will begin Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 1:00 p.m.
at the Business Standards Division offices at 301 S. Park Ave. in Helena.
The Rules Committee will meet at 9 a.m. on Feb. 4 at the same location.**

Applicants who wish to have the Board review their applications must have deliver all required elements to the Board office no later than Jan. 7, 2014.

**Information and agendas for Board meetings are at:
www.engineer.mt.gov and www.landsurveyor.mt.gov**