

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
ILLINOIS LAND SURVEYORS LICENSING BOARD

**Open Minutes**

Illinois Land Surveyors Licensing Board

Date: July 30, 2021  
Convened: 9:32 am  
Adjourned: 11:31 am  
Location: Springfield

Members Present: James W. Abbitt Jr., Chair  
Michael Filipski, Vice-Chair  
Gale E. Hake, Member  
John G. Huff, Public Member

Member(s) Absent: C. Brian Lounsbury, Member  
Kim Lyons, Member  
Carol Sweet-Johnson, Member

Staff Present: Kyle Lazell, Design Licensing Manager  
Haley Lowrance, IDFPR General Counsel  
Eduardo Fernandez, IDFPR Prosecuting Attorney  
Roy Cepero, IDFPR Design Profession Investigator

Guests Present: Ryan Roth, IPLSA

Open Session: The Meeting was called to order at 9:32 am.  
Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**I. Board Member  
Announcements,  
comments**

Mr. Abbitt welcomed everyone and asked if there were any Board announcements or comments.

Mr. Filipski shared that the Northeast Chapter, in conjunction with IPLSA is publishing a book titled *Land Boundaries and Easements in Illinois* and should be available by the 2022 Annual Meeting. He mentioned that the book was created to commemorate and give thanks to Richard Bales for his dedicated work for the Land Surveyor profession.

**II. Guest Announcements,  
comments**

Mr. Roth shared that IPLSA is working on the 2022 Annual Meeting and hopes that it will be held in-person in Springfield.

### III. Licensing Manager Report

- A. Legislative Update
- Mr. Lazell notified the Board that the Interior Design Sunset Bill was passed by the House and Senate and submitted to the Governor's office for signature to take effect by January 1, 2022.
- He also shared that the Landscape Architect Bill to re-regulate the profession is scheduled to be approved by the Senate and sent to the Governor's office sometime this Summer/Fall.
- Mr. Lazell stated that he was requested to submit possible statute revisions to the legislative affairs unit for review and possible inclusion during a "light" legislative session but reminded the Board that the items submitted may not be included but will update the Board as new information is available.
- B. Quarterly Newsletter
- Mr. Lazell shared that the latest newsletter should be published in the next few weeks and send to all active licensees and will look slightly different as the new Acting Secretary has directed that all newsletters now be formatted and designed by the Central Management Services agency.
- C. Design Unit Email
- Mr. Lazell shared that he has implanted a new email account specific to the Design Unit to replace email accounts currently used by several other units and hopes that having a unique account will assist with providing a more efficient method of contacting Design Unit staff. The new email address is [FPR.DesignUnit@Illinois.gov](mailto:FPR.DesignUnit@Illinois.gov)
- D. Travel & meeting information
- Mr. Lazell said that he would be send all members the current travel voucher form and travel related information as soon as it becomes available and reminded the members to use the most economical method of transportation as possible for board related travel.
- E. CTS Fee Increase
- Mr. Lazell shared that CTS has notified the Department that they have increased their exam administration fees for most examinations.
- F. MBA Committee Request
- Mr. Lazell shared that he has been asked by NCEES to participate on the NCEES MBA Committee and requested that the Board approve him to be an associate member of the Board as required by NCEES for Committee membership.

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The Board discussed the request.

Motion was made, seconded (Filipski/Hake) and passed to nominate Mr. Lazell as an associate member of the Board in order to be part of an NCEES Committee. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**IV. Review of Open Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting. Motion was made, seconded (Filipski/Huff) and passed to accept the minutes of the meeting as written. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**V. Unfinished Business**

**A. Continued Discussion on Decoupling**

Mr. Abbitt asked if the members had an opportunity to review the summary sent by Mr. Lazell and if the members had any additional questions or comments pertaining to the item.

Mr. Filipski commented that he would be in favor of making the change as it will aid the candidates and streamline the license application review process with the Board.

Mr. Abbitt asked if there was further discussion on the matter and hearing none asked if a member would like to make a motion.

Motion was made, seconded (Hake/Filipski) and passed to approve the recommendation to decouple the examinations and recommended to the Department to update the Administrative Rules to reflect the necessary changes. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**VI. Report from Subcommittees**

**A. Complaint Review Committee/subcommittee**

Complaint Review Committee/subcommittee  
Mr. Hake reported on the July 22, 2021 meeting.

Complaint Statistics based on recommendations from the May meetings for each profession:

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Architect: Opened 8, Closed 2, Referred 6

SE: Opened 0, Closed 2, Referred 0

PE: Opened 4 Closed 7, Referred 2

LS: Opened 3, Closed 2, Referred 1

PDF: Opened 0, Closed 0, Referred 0

Complaints currently under investigation:

Architect – 17

SE - 4

PE – 14

LS – 10

PDF – 0

Cases currently being prosecuted:

Architect – 33

LS – 8

PE – 20

SE – 10

B. Jurisdictional Exam Sub-Committee

Mr. Filipski inquired if the Board approved Exam Model can be shared with IPLSA for review.

Mr. Lazell said that he would verify but believes it would be premature to circulate this information as it is still considered an internal document for review and usage by the exam review committee.

Mr. Lazell shared that Dr. Rodgers is currently preparing the email survey questions and will be modeling many of the questions based on the committee's proposals and also stated that once he receives the list from Dr. Rodgers for the exam review committee nominations, he would contact those individuals to ask if they would be willing to serve on the committee once the email survey responses are compiled and ready for review.

C. Rules Sub-Committee

Review of Section 1270.57 – Standards of Professional Conduct  
Mr. Abbitt shared that the committee has been reviewing a few items that are currently listed in other states "Rules" but not ours and should have more information to share at the next meeting.

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D. Laser Scanning Sub-Committee

Mr. Filipski provided a report of the committee's findings and summarized that laser scanning and drone technologies are not specific to the practice of Land Surveying and that it is in the application/use of these hi-tech measuring "tools" where a violation could occur.

Based on research, A violation of the Illinois PLS Act would occur if a person uses one of these measuring "tools" to perform one of the below:

- 1) Determine the area or volume of an portion of the earth's surface, sub surfaces, air space, etc. (section 5(b) of 225 ILCS 330/5).
- 2) A topographic survey performed by a non-licensed individual (section 5(e)(3) of 225 ILCS 330/5).
- 3) Laser scanning data is used for executing and issuing certificates, endorsements, reports and plats that portray the horizontal or vertical relationships between existing physical objects or structures and one or more corners, datum's or boundaries of any portion of the earth's surface (section 5(j) of 225 ILCS 330/5).

**VII. New Business**

A. NCEES Annual Meeting Update/delegate selection

Mr. Lazell shared with the Board that the Director and Secretary are not approving any out-of-state travel due to concerns related to COVID-19. As a result, Illinois members would only be able to attend via the virtual option.

Mr. Hake mentioned that he attended the NCEES Surveyor Forum virtual meeting and said that he was very intrigued by an outreach program that was presented by Karol Grove from Michigan called the Teaching with Integrated Spatial Technology (TWIST) program.

It is a Michigan based program from the State Surveyor Association that brings in teachers from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade (geared for math and science teachers) to attend a week long education "camp" free of charge to them, so that surveyors can educate them on surveying principles and provide methods of applying math & science principles to their classes in a practical manner.

**Motion to go into Closed Session:**

Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Filipski) and passed to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 11:00 am.

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Roll Call.

The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**VIII. Closed Session:**

A. Review of Closed Minutes

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting.

B. Application Review

One application was reviewed by the Board.

**Motion to go into Open Session:**

Motion was made, seconded (Filipski/Hake) and passed to go into Open Session at 11:26 am. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**Motion to accept Recommendations:**

Motion was made, seconded (Hake/Filipski) and passed to accept the recommendations made in closed session. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**Motion to keep Closed Minutes closed:**

Motion was made, seconded (Hake/Huff) and passed to accept the recommendations made in closed session. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**IX. Reminders**

Mr. Lazell reminded the Board that the next meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2021.

**X. Adjournment**

Motion was made, seconded (Huff/Filipski) and passed to adjourn. Roll Call: The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board. Meeting adjourned at 11:31 am.