

MINUTES
South Carolina Board of Architectural Examiners
Board Meeting/Hearings
9:30 a.m., May 11, 2011
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 202-02
Columbia, South Carolina

Meeting Called to Order

Brad Smith, chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. Other members present were Tyson Nettles, Stephen Russell, W. Barry Jenkins, and Dennis Ward.

Staff members participating in this meeting included Jan Simpson, Administrator, and Alice DeBorde, Administrative Assistant. LLR employees attending the meeting included: Christa Bell, General Counsel, and Charlie Ido Assistant Deputy Director.

Statement of Public Notice

Mr. Smith announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Architectural Examiners office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Introduction of Board Members and All Other Persons Attending

Approval of the February 8, 2011, Meeting Minutes

Motion

To approve the minutes of the February 8, 2011, meeting with the following revisions. On pages 3 and 4, change Mr. Smith to Mr. Russell. Russell/Ward/Approved

Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda: 8-b Building Official Manual Rewrite; 9-g Review of Resolutions for NCARB Meeting; 9-h Reformat Board Policies.

Application Hearings

No Hearings were scheduled this meeting

Office of General Counsel – Hearings

No Hearings were scheduled this meeting

Meadors Construction Corporation

In October 2005 Meadors Construction Corporation was issued a license to practice architecture. Due to oversight, the name was allowed even though Mr. Meadors is not an architect or other professional as required by law. This issue was presented to the Board on May 18, 2010, and the decision of the Board was that the name of the company must be changed prior to renewal on August 31, 2011.

James Meadors, owner of Meadors Construction Corporation, and Rebecca Fenno, Architect, gave a brief presentation of the development of the company and ask the board to reconsider

their decision that company name be changed. After his presentation, the Board went into Executive Session to discuss the issue.

Motion to go into Executive Session

Ward/Jenkins/Approved – Executive Session

Return to Open Session

Motion

Company name must be changed in accordance with 40-3-270(D). The name chosen must be reviewed and approved by the Board. Russell/Tyson/Approved

House bill 3039, Stock School Plans

Luke McCary, Architect, representing AIA/SC, gave a brief overview regarding H.3039 which mandates that local school districts use standard or “stock” school plans developed by the State for new school construction. AIA/SC and Joe Jones, Executive Director of ACEC-SC/SCSPE, have been working together in opposition to this Bill. Mr. McCary indicated that the sponsors of the bill were open to alternative ways to address what they perceive as wasteful spending on new school construction throughout the state. It was also stated that members of the subcommittee see the architects and engineers as a resource in possible solutions. The House subcommittee has adjourned debate on the Bill. AIA/SC and SCEC will convene a task force to assist legislators in finding a solution to cut school expenses.

Mr. McCary also reported that AIA/SC opposes the Interior Design practice act bill, H.4073.

Free Services Policy Update

The Board reviewed changes to the Free Services Policy as submitted by Mr. Russell. After discussion, the Board asked that the policy be further revised and discussed again at the September meeting. Christa Bell, General Counsel, will research if South Carolina has a Good Samaritan law and present her findings at the September meeting as well.

Mr. Russell volunteered to revise other Board policies as needed and will present those to the Board for review.

Building Official Manual Rewrite

Mr. Russell inquired about the status of the Building Official Manual revisions. Ms. Simpson stated that the last change to the manual was section 300 (buildings that require architectural and engineering seals). No other revisions have been made

Mr. Russell suggested that a (supporting) stakeholders group be convened as a follow-up to last year’s meeting on the issue of contract administration as an architectural service. He suggested first reviewing previously proposed language toward drafting a new proposed language. Following Board review of the new language, the next step would be contacting state agencies and other groups represented at that meeting (that supported the idea) for comments and suggestions. The results of these initial efforts would then be put before an overall stakeholders meeting of all groups present at last year’s meeting. This item will be carried over to the September meeting.

Election of Officers

The following persons were unanimously elected to serve as officers of the Board, effective July 1, 2011, through July 1, 2012.

Brad B. Smith, Chair
W. Barry Jenkins, Vice-Chair
Stephen Russell, Secretary

Firm Application Approvals

Ms. Simpson asked the Board if they would allow Alice DeBorde, Administrative Assistant, to review and approve firm applications as she had done in the past. Simpson stated that when OLC took over licensing functions, she began to review and approve all applications. However, now that OLC is no longer in existence and licensing functions have been returned to the Board staff, she asked that Ms. DeBorde be granted approval authority for routine firm applications.

MOTION

Staff has the authority to review and approve firm licenses as they have in the past.
Jenkins/Russell/Approved

The Board recessed for lunch.

Parameters for Renewals and Applications

The Board reviewed disciplinary parameters for renewals and applications that were adopted November 2007.

MOTION

To accept the parameters as presented. Ward/Russell/Approved

Confirmation of IRC Members

The IRC Members are currently Don Golightly, Steve Usry and John Gilmore. They have agreed to continue serving as IRC Members.

MOTION

To reaffirm all three members of the IRC for another year. Russell/Ward/Approved

CE Audit Procedures

Ms. Simpson reminded the Board that after each renewal period a percentage of individuals are randomly selected for audit of their continuing education. The Board unanimously agreed to continue to process the audits as they have in the past.

Review of NCARB Resolutions

The Board reviewed and discussed all resolutions to be presented at the 2011 NCARB Annual Meeting.

MOTION

To vote "no" on Resolution 2011-H which would increase membership dues \$500 each year for 5 years starting in 2013. Jenkins/Russell/Approved 4-1. (Ward-nay)

Investigations Report

No report this meeting

Investigative Review Committee Report

No report this meeting

Office of General Counsel Report

Christa Bell, General Counsel, reported that the Office of General Counsel has 8 open cases, 2 hearings pending, 11 closed cases and 1 case on appeal.

Administrator's Report

LICENSE STATISTICS – Active licenses as of April 27, 2011

credential	description	count
AR .	Architect	3865
ARA.	Partnership Firm	16
ARB.	Business Corporation Firm	199
ARC.	Professional Association Firm	95
ARD.	Sole Proprietor Firm	29
ARF.	Firms	987
	subtotal	5191

AR = Architects

ARA, ARB, ARC, ARD and ARF = Architectural Firms

Customer Service

Between April 6 and April 20, (9 business days), our office received a total of 258 calls for Architecture, Engineers, Surveyors, and Landscape Architects. Only 17 of those calls were "abandoned," meaning the caller hung up before the call was answered. The longest daily average speed of answering was 22 seconds; the quickest daily average was 5 seconds, for an overall average of 11 seconds. LLR has an enhanced telephone system that provides real-time feedback on incoming calls for the purpose enhancing customer service.

Ethics Workshops

Ethics workshops were held in Greenville, Columbia and Charleston and all were well attended. Drs. Dan Wueste and Stephen Sattris did an excellent job of presenting interesting material, thought-provoking ethical dilemmas and facilitating the workshops. I attended two of them. Steve Russell served as a panelist in Charleston. Students at Clemson attended the Greenville workshop; students in the Charleston Center were registered but did not attend. Architects who attended expressed appreciation to the Board for offering the continuing education opportunity for the low registration fee of \$60. I hope the Board will consider sponsoring similar workshops in fall/winter 2012 and 2013 prior to renewal June 30, 2013.

License Renewals

Individual licenses expire June 30, 2011; firm licenses expire August 31, 2011. Online renewals are open and appear to be working well. Notices for firm renewals will be distributed in early July.

Reorganization

On/about April 1, LLR reorganized its Professional and Occupational Licensing division to return licensing responsibilities to Board Administrators and staff. Personnel were assigned to boards for which they previously worked to the extent possible and others were assigned to boards by virtue of experience. The staff is cross training so that everyone can perform competently all licensing tasks for the three boards. Director Templeton also recently announced that LLR will move in Spring 2012 to Columbia Mills where the Dept. of Revenue is currently housed. This building is also the home of the State Museum.

NCARB Region 3 - Southern Region

Executive Director Karen Owen retired on May 1, 2011, and her duties have been transferred to Alabama Board Administrator Cindy McKim until a permanent replacement can be hired by the Region.

Legislative report

H. 3039 (stock school plans) remains in House Education and Public Works subcommittee
H. 4073 (interior designers) has been assigned to LCI. Intro 4/13/11 – no activity to date
Various bills related to “other funds” going to General Fund at end of FY

{End of Administrator's Report}

Board Members Reports

Steve Russell served on a Round Table for “Custom Residential Architect Network”, where he discussed LLR's complaint and investigative processes.

Dennis Ward informed the Board that Michael Armstrong will be the new CEO for NCARB. He will assume his position at the Annual Meeting in June.

Financial Reports

The Board accepted as information the financial reports as submitted.

The Board will meet with Catherine Templeton, Director, Labor, Licensing and Regulation, after today's meeting.

The next meeting of the SC Board of Architectural Examiners will be held September 13, 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 2:13 p.m.


Alice M. DeBorde, Administrative Assistant