BOARD FOR ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, CERTIFIED INTERIOR DESIGNERS AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS MEETING MINUTES

The Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects (APELSCIDLA Board) met on November 14, 2025, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

Members present for all or part of the meeting:

Architects
Tim Colley
Helene Dreiling
Harry Falconer, Jr.

Professional Engineers
Richard Davenport
Douglas Frost
Rick Townsend

Land Surveyors
John Claytor
Frank Richardson, II
Kevin Shreiner

Interior Designers
Catherine Christian Stanley

Landscape Architects
Timothy Stromberg

Citizens
Troy Arnold, III

Members absent from the meeting with regrets:

Interior Designers
Arjun Kainth

Landscape Architects
Susan Dibble

Citizens
Justina Vasquez

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Steve Kirschner, LRPD Director
Kate Nosbisch, Executive Director
Ecila Williams, Licensing Operations Administrator
Davon Jones, Administrative Coordinator
Joe Haughwout, Regulatory Affairs Manager
Tom Payne, CID Director
Greg Emerson, Director of Examinations
Patrice Walker, Legal Analyst, Complaint Analysis and Resolution

Elizabeth Peay, Assistant Attorney General with the Office of the Attorney General, was present.

Jeb Wilkinson, Director, was absent from the meeting with regrets.

Guests:
Mike Armstrong, CEO of NCARB
Caitlin Stromberg, VP of Customer Relations NCARB
Roxanne Aiston, AVP of Member Relations and Volunteer Engagement NCARB

Members of the audience:
Ann Stokes, Landscape Architect
Paul Battaglia, Architect, AIA
Becky Golden, P.E., Virginia Society of Professional Engineers (VSPE)
Georg Dahl, P.E., Virginia Society of Professional Engineers (VSPE) STEM and Educational Outreach Lead for Tidewater/Hampton Roads Chapter

Call to Order

Finding a quorum of the Board present, Mr. Arnold, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

Mr. Arnold and Ms. Nosbisch advised the Board of the emergency evacuation procedures.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Nosbisch requested amendments to the agenda due to an anticipated loss of quorum at 12:30 p.m., including moving New Business to follow the Case Files and adding two NCEES action items under that section from Other Business.

Mr. Colley moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Davenport seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Davenport moved to approve the minutes for the following date:
- APELSCIDLA Board Meeting, August 14, 2025

Mr. Claytor seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

Arrival of Assistant Attorney General

Ms. Peay arrived at the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Nosbisch introduced the new Board member: Mr. Timothy Stromberg, Landscape Architect. Mr. Mike Armstrong, NCARB Chief Executive Officer and his team Ms. Roxanne Alston, VP of Customer Relations and Ms. Caitlin Stromberg, AVP of Member Relations and Volunteer Engagement. Board members and staff introduced themselves.

Resolution for Ann P. Stokes, Landscape Architect

Mr. Arnold read the following resolution for consideration by the Board:

Resolution for Ann P. Stokes

WHEREAS, Ann P. Stokes, did faithfully and diligently serve the Virginia Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects from 2017 to 2025;

WHEREAS, Ann P. Stokes, did devote generously of her time, talent and leadership to the Board;

WHEREAS, Ann P. Stokes, did endeavor at all times to render decisions with fairness and good judgement in the best interest of the citizens of the Commonwealth and these professions; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects wishes to acknowledge its gratitude for devoted service of a person who is held in high esteem by the members of the Board and the citizens of the Commonwealth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Virginia Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects this fourteenth day of November 2025, that Ann P. Stokes be given all honors and respect due her for her outstanding service to the Commonwealth and its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to her and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which she is held by this Board.

Public Comment Period

Ms. Becky Golden, representing the Virginia Society of Professional Engineers (VSPE), addressed the Board by presenting a formal resolution recognizing George W. Dahl, PE, for his years of service and contributions to VSPE and to the profession.

Mr. Paul Battaglia, of AIA Virginia, addressed the board and expressed appreciation for the Board's collaboration with NCARB and other allied professional organizations. He highlighted the success of the alternative pathway to obtain an architect license and thanked the Board for its ongoing work and support.

Mr. George Dahl addressed the board and delivered farewell remarks reflecting on more than a decade of active involvement with the Board. He expressed gratitude to the Board, staff, and the profession for their partnership and support throughout his tenure.

Recusal of Board Member

Mr. Frost recused himself from the meeting for discussion and deliberation of the files.

File Number 2025-02389, Ethan Paul McBryde

Regarding **File Number 2025-02389, Ethan Paul McBryde**, Staff requested the Board to reconsider the case due to a misunderstanding that prevented the applicant from speaking at the prior meeting.

Mr. Davenport moved to reconsider Mr. McBryde's case. Mr. Colley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

The Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the application file, transcripts and exhibits, and the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference.

Mr. McBryde addressed the Board regarding his experience and gave clarification on his responsibilities.

Mr. Davenport moved to accept the recommendation of the presiding officer and deny Ethan Paul McBryde's application for a Professional Engineer license by examination. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

File Number 2025-0206, Folk, Benjamin David

Regarding **File Number 2025-0206, Benjamin David Folk,** the Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the application file, transcripts and exhibits, and the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference.

Mr. Davenport moved to accept the recommendation of the presiding officer and approve Benjamin Folk's application for a Professional Engineer license by examination. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

File Number 2026-00034 – Melissa Eschman

Regarding **File Number 2026-00034 – Melissa Eschman,** the Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the application file, transcripts and exhibits, and the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference.

Mr. Davenport moved to accept the recommendation of the presiding officer and deny Melissa Eschman's application for a Professional Engineer license by

File Number 2026-00034 – Melissa Eschman Cont.

examination. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion which was approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Dreiling, Falconer, Richardson, Schreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend. Davenport denied the motion. The motion to accept the recommendation of the presiding officer and deny the application passed with a vote of ten to one.

Return of Board Member

Mr. Frost returned to the meeting.

File Number 2025-02205, Averill, Alan Eldredge

Regarding **File Number 2025-02205, Alan Eldredge Averill,** the Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the application file, transcripts and exhibits, and the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference.

Mr. Averill addressed the Board and discussed personal and professional improvements since the incident underlying his case.

Mr. Davenport moved to accept the recommendation of the presiding officer and approve Alan Eldredge Averill's application for an Architect by Comity license. Mr. Stromberg seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

Recusal of Board Member

Mr. Townsend recused himself from the meeting for discussion and deliberation of the files.

File Number 2025-02794, Trident Engineering Associates, Inc.

Regarding **File Number 2025-02794, Trident Engineering Associates, Inc.**, the Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the application file, transcripts and exhibits, and the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference.

Mr. Davenport moved to accept the recommendation of the presiding officer and approve Trident Engineering Associates, Inc's application for a Business Entity Registration. Mr. Colley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, and Stromberg.

File Number 2025-02886, Hussaini, Sayed Ruhollah

Regarding **File Number 2025-02886, Sayed Ruhollah Hussaini,** the Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the application file, transcripts and exhibits, and the Summary of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference.

Mr. Hussaini addressed the Board regarding his qualifications, including additional experience submitted after his informal fact-finding meeting.

File Number 2025-02886, Hussaini, Sayed Ruhollah Cont.

Mr. Davenport moved to accept the recommendation of the presiding officer and approve Sayed Ruhollah Hussaini's application for a Professional Engineer license by examination. Mr. Frost seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, and Stromberg.

Return of Board Member

Mr. Townsend returned to the meeting.

Recess

The Board recessed from 11:25 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.

Mr. Kirschner addressed the Board regarding the final stage of the Board's General Regulatory Review, conducted under Executive Directive 1 and Executive Order 19, which required a 25% reduction in discretionary regulations.

Regulatory Update

Mr. Haughwout informed the Board that the General Review of Board for APELSCIDLA Regulations is at the end of the proposed stage. Mr. Haughwout advised the Board that it needed to consider public comments received on the proposed regulation and adopt a final regulation.

Mr. Haughwout reviewed with the Board the public comments received during the public comment period on the proposed regulation, held August 11, 2025 to October 10, 2025. Mr. Haughwout also reviewed with the Board the final regulatory text and presented the Board with recommended amendments based on staff review of the regulation and public comments that were received. Mr. Haughwout also presented the Board with proposed responses to the public comments that were received.

After a discussion, Mr. Davenport moved to accept the Boards's responses to the public comments. Mr. Shreiner seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

After a discussion, Mr. Frost moved to adopt the final regulation as amended, authorize staff to file the final regulation, and authorize staff to make any technical or stylistic changes needed. Mr. Colley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

Recess

The Board recessed from 12:32 p.m. to 12:44 p.m.

NCEES Update

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that NCEES was accepting nominations for its Distinguished Service Award and asked the Board if there are any nominations.

Mr. Townsend moved to nominate Jim Kelly, former board member, for the NCEES Distinguished Service Awards. Mr. Shreiner seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

Ms. Nosbisch requested authorization for NCEES to fund delegates to attend the Southern Zone Meeting.

Mr. Davenport moved to approve NCEES to fund delegates to attend the 2026 NCEES Annual Meeting. Mr. Townsend seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stanley, Stromberg, and Townsend.

Departure of Board Member

Ms. Stanley departed the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

NCARB CEO – Mike Armstrong

Mr. Armstrong addressed the Board and gave an overview of NCARB programs, national mobility standards, updates to examination and experience programs, and the multi-organizational initiative on overlapping practice being developed by NCARB, NCEES, CIDQ, and CLARB. He briefed the Board on NCARB's "Pathways to Practice" initiative, which aims to modernize and broaden competency-based licensure options.

Departure of DPOR Staff

Mr. Jones departed the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Departure of Assistant Attorney General

Ms. Peay departed the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Executive Director Report

Ms. Nosbisch stated the Executive Director Report was provided for informational purposes.

Examination Update

Ms. Nosbisch provided an update regarding APELS examinations for informational purposes.

Architects Update

Ms. Nosbisch thanked Mr. Armstrong, Ms. Alston, and Ms. Stromberg for their attendance.

Departure of DPOR Staff

Mr. Kirschner departed the meeting at 1:21 p.m.

Departure of BPOR Liaison

Ms. Rengifo departed the meeting at 1:21 p.m.

Professional Engineers Update

Ms. Nosbisch provided an update on the NCEES Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA, which was attended by Ms. Nosbisch, Mr. Claytor, Mr. Frost, Kevin Hansen, Investigations, and Mr. Shreiner, for informational purposes.

Land Surveyors Update

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that the Land Surveyor and Land Surveyor B Exam Reviews will take place in February 2026. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Certified Interior Designer Section Update

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that no one participated in the 2025 CIDQ Annual Meeting.

Landscape Architect Update

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that no one participated in the 2025 CLARB Annual Meeting.

Licensed and Certified Population

The licensee counts as of November 1, 2025:

APELSCIDLA Businesses	5,184
Architects	7,874
Professional Engineers	32,153
Certified Interior Designers	476
Land Surveyors	1,239
Land Surveyors B	54
Land Surveyor Photogrammetrists	90
Landscape Architects	992

COIA Training

Board members Arnold, Claytor, Colley, Davenport, Dreiling, Falconer, Frost, Richardson, Shreiner, Stromberg, and Townsend, completed COIA training during the meeting.

Conflict of Interest Forms / Travel Vouchers

Conflict of Interest forms and Travel Vouchers were completed by all Board members present.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

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Troy Arnold, III, Chair

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James B. "Jeb" Wilkerson, Jr., Secretary