

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS & LAND SURVEYORS SECTION MEETING AGENDA

Monday, January 23, 2023

Board Room 3

10:00 a.m.

Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation

9960 Mayland Drive

Richmond, Virginia 23233

(804) 367-8514

1. Call to Order
2. Emergency Evacuation
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Public Comment Period*
5. Use of Lidar Systems
6. Registered Design Professionals and Accessory Use Structures
7. Regulation 18VAC10-20-210
8. Other Business
9. Conflict of Interest Forms / Travel Vouchers
10. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR February 8, 2023

*Five-minute public comment, per person, with the exception of any open disciplinary or application files. Persons desiring to participate in the meeting and requiring special accommodations or interpretative services should contact the Department at (804) 367-8514 at least ten days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made for an appropriate accommodation. The Department fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

➤ **Call to Order**

➤ **Emergency Evacuation**

DRAFT AGENDA

Materials contained in this agenda are proposed topics for discussion
And are not to be construed as regulation or official board position

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➤ **Public Comment**

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➤ Use of Lidar Systems

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VSPE Position Statement
Registered Design Professional Exemption
November 2022

VSPE is investigating the localities in MD, WV and VA whose Building Officials exercise exemption of requiring a Registered Design Professional (RDP) for accessory use structures, such as pavilions and other structures. Research done to date indicates that 44% of localities surveyed exercise this exemption that is allowed under Virginia Code § 54.1-402: *Further exemptions from license requirements for architects, professional engineers, and land surveyors.*

Structural failures have resulted, leaving home owners to seek remedy and design assistance from one of our Board of Directors engineering firm in order to correct the failure. This has happened on numerous occasions. Another instance where Karst soils are prevalent and the locality's ordinance requires a PE to certify that a residential home or commercial building is not constructed over Karst soil, an inground swimming pool was exempt from such investigation as an accessory structure, causing a fatality when a Karst sink hole manifested itself below the pool, engulfing the pool and one person.

VSPE feels that if a structure will have a person under it, on it, or in it, it should not be exempt from requiring an RDP. Any assistance to help in this effort would be greatly appreciated.

We want to acknowledge and thank Channing Blackwell, PE, Senior Engineer with the Blackwell Grp, LLC of Gainesville, VA, and a Director on the VSPE Board, for bringing this matter to our attention. The Blackwell Grp's Catherine Comcowich conducted the interviews and outreach efforts for the survey efforts and research. We extend our sincere appreciation to Channing and his team.

18VAC10-20-210. Requirements for the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam.

B. In general, the required education shall be applied as follows:

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS	EIT REQUIRED?	NUMBER OF REQUIRED YEARS OF QUALIFYING ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE
1. Have graduated from an approved <u>four year</u> engineering program.	YES	4
2. Dual degree holders. a. Have graduated from an ABET-accredited undergraduate engineering program; and b. Have graduated from a doctorate engineering program that is ABET accredited at the undergraduate level.	NO	4
3. Have graduated from a nonapproved engineering program of four years or more, a related science program, or an approved engineering technology program.	YES	6
4. Have graduated from a nonapproved engineering technology program of four years or more.	YES	10
5. Have graduated from an <u>engineering, engineering technology, or related science curriculum of four years or more.</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>20</u>

Approved at 11/15/22 Board Meeting and fast track is under review

Board staff would like the Board to consider adding the term, “four year” to section 1 of 18VAC10-20-210.B. as clarification for PE applicants who may not be clear on the fact that a four year degree is required.

- **Other Business**
- **Conflict of Interest Forms /**
- Travel Vouchers**
- **Adjourn**

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