

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION  
1511 Pontiac Avenue, Bldg. 68-2  
Cranston, Rhode Island 02920**

**Division of  
Design Professionals STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR  
PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD**

**DATE: 14 June 2016**

**PLACE: 1511 Pontiac Avenue, Building 68 Conference Room 68-1,  
Cranston, RI**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel  
R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and  
Member Michael Gaston**

**OTHERS PRESENT: Lois Marshall, Administrative Assistant  
Richard Leddy, PLS (Present from: 1:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.)  
Nathan Shushansky (Present from: 2:00 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.)**

**CALLED TO ORDER: Chair Michael J. McCormick called the meeting  
to order at 1:25 p.m.**

## **A. MEETING MINUTES (Review/Discuss/Take Action)**

### **• Approval of the 12 April 2016 Open Meeting Minutes**

**Vice-Chair Cotta moved to approve the 12 April 2016 open meeting minutes. Secretary Boyer seconded. The motion passed; four (4) in favor and one (1) abstained. Voting in favor were Chair Michael J. McCormick, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta and Member Amy N. Sonder. Member Michael J. Gaston abstained.**

## **B. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**(1) Because of the nature of the following items, Member Sonder moved to convene into Executive Session at 1:27 p.m. pursuant to RI General Laws, §42-46-5(a) (2), for sessions or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation and §42-46-5(a) (4) for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. Motion passed; five (5) in favor. Voting in favor were Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and Member Michael J. Gaston.**

**(2) Member Sonder moved to adjourn from Executive Session and to convene to an open meeting at 1:50 p.m. pursuant to RI General Laws §42 46-4. Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. Motion passed; five (5) in favor. Voting in favor were Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and Member Michael J. Gaston.**

**(3) Because of the nature of the following items, Member Sonder moved to reconvene into Executive Session at 2:19 p.m. pursuant to RI General Laws, §42-46-5(a) (2), for sessions or work sessions pertaining to collective bargaining or litigation and §42-46-5(a) (4) for investigative proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct. Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. Motion passed; five (5) in favor and one (1) absent. Voting in favor were Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and Member Michael J. Gaston.**

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**(4) Member Sonder moved to adjourn from Executive Session and to reconvene to an open meeting at 3:30 p.m. pursuant to RI General Laws §42 46-4. Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. Motion passed; five (5) in favor. Voting in favor were Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and Member Michael J. Gaston.**

**(5) Member Sonder moved to seal the executive session and record the votes taken in executive session pursuant to RI General Laws §42-46-4 and §42-46-5. Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. Motion passed; five (5) in favor. Voting in favor were Chair Michael J. McCormick,**

**Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and Member Michael J. Gaston.**

**(6) Member Sonder moved to record the votes taken in executive session in accordance with RI General Laws §42-46-4 as follows: Motion was made to continue the following agenda items C, D, E, F, G and H to close B Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. Motion passed; five (5) in favor and one (1) absent. Voting in favor were Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and Member Michael J. Gaston.**

**(7) Member Sonder moved pursuant to R I General Law §42-46-4 that the Board defer disclosure of all votes in executive session until such time as such disclosure would not jeopardize any strategy, negotiation, or investigation undertaken concerning RI General Law §42-46-5(a). Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. Motion passed; five (5) in favor. Voting in favor were Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and Member Michael J. Gaston.**

**(6) In Executive Session pending matters, there are seven (7) pending matters.**

**Secretary Boyer moved to approve the 12 April 2016 executive session meeting minutes. Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. The motion passed; four (4) in favor and one (1) abstained. Voting in favor were,**

**Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer and Member Amy N. Sonder. Member Michael J. Gaston abstained.**

**C. CORRESPONDENCE (Review/Discuss/Take Action)**

- **Nathan Shushansky – Present at 2:00p.m.**
- **Mr. Shushansky requested a formal meeting with the Board to clarify his educational requirements. Chairman McCormick explained to Mr. Shushansky that he needs to correlate his existing and proposed courses with Rhode Island General Laws (RIGL), §5-8.1-9(e)(iii). Chairman McCormick also informed Mr. Shushansky to contact the Community College of Rhode Island CCRI which may be offering surveying courses in the fall as well as online courses being offered by the Oklahoma State University and Oregon State University.**

**D. OLD BUSINESS (Review/Discuss/Take Action)**

**(1) Professional Development Hours (PDH) Approval Requests**

**Chair McCormick moved to approve Professional Development Hours (PDH) as follows:**

- **RI Flood Mitigation Association**

**Approved for a total of (7) PDH**

- **Connecticut Association of Land Surveyors (CALS) –**

**Approved the for a total of 3.25 PDH**

- **Red Vector**

**Approved Red Vector for a total of 6.75 PDH**

**Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. The motion passed; four (4) in favor and**

**one (1) abstained. Voting in favor were, Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Daniel R. Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer and Member Amy N. Sonder. Member Michael J. Gaston abstained.**

**(2) National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES)**

**2016 Annual Meeting –Secretary Boyer will be attending the Annual NCEES Meeting which will be held in Indianapolis, IN as a voting delegate.**

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**• NCEES – Surveying Education Award – Vice-Chair Cotta will be completing a survey requested by the EPS Committee Chair regarding the “minimum educational requirements” for a new Surveyor applicant in our jurisdiction.**

**(3) Rules and Regulation**

**A reminder was sent to the City/Town Clerks through the Lead of Clerks with the Town of Warren for distribution of the current Rules and Regulations.**

**(4) 2016 Legislation – Status Update**

**Attorney Algee gave the Board an update on the COA legislation. The amendment to the pending proposed legislation requires that Certificate of Authorization (COA) applications must be submitted electronically, Good Standing is no longer required and that the**

**number of required meetings be changed from ten (10) to three (3) per year.**

**(5) Professional Land Surveyor (PLS) Rhode Island Portion Examination**

- **Exam Database**

**Vice-Chair Cotta continues to work on exam database.**

- **RI Portion Exam**

**The Board will continue to review and revise the RI Portion Examination.**

**(6) Rhode Island Society of Professional Land Surveyors**

- **General Membership Meeting**

**(7) Any other Old Business**

**There is no old business at this time.**

**E. NEW BUSINESS (Review/Discuss/Take Action)**

**(1) Any Other New Business**

**(2) Comments from the General Public**

**There is no new business at this time,**

**F. Applications (Review/Discuss/Take Action)**

**(1) Certificate(s) of Authorization (COA) Application(s)**

**There were no COA applicants to review.**

**(2) Land Surveyor-in-Training/Professional Land Surveyor (LSIT/PLS)  
Application(s) by Examination and Comity**

- **Neal Hingorany – To submit back up information regarding equivalency courses taken UMass that would be similar to courses offered at CCRI which would be equal to state requirements.**

**Chair McCormick will contact Mr. Hingorany to send the Board more information.**

- **Christopher Glenn Palmer – Applying for LSIT – Passed the Fundamentals on 02/09/2016.**

**This application was continued due to lack of time.**

- **Michael Ross – Applying for LS by Registration by comity or endorsement – non-resident.**

**This application was continued due to lack of time.**

**Chair McCormick moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:21 p.m. Vice-Chair Cotta seconded. Motion passed; five (5) in favor. Voting in favor were, Chair Michael J. McCormick, Vice-Chair Cotta, Secretary Mark D. Boyer, Member Amy N. Sonder and Member Michael J. Gaston.**

**Posted on 13 July 2016 electronically on Secretary of State's Office website; pursuant to the Open Meetings Law, R.I. Gen. Laws Sec. 42-46-6(b), business not included in this notice may be considered with the consent of the majority of the members, and/or may convene into Executive (closed) Session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Sec. 42-46-5.**