Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists
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MINUTES

Board Meeting
May 21, 2026

A meeting of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists was held on Thursday, May 21, 2026 at the Board's office located at 603 Interstate Park Drive, Montgomery, Alabama. The following members attended: Mr. Chris Bryant (Board Chair), Ms. Leslie Noble (Board Vice Chair attending virtually), Dr. Scott Brande (member), Mr. Alex Owen (member) and Mr. Brad Jackson (member attending virtually). Member absent were Dr. David King (Secretary/Treasurer) and Mr. Griffin Gatschet (member). Also in attendance were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Secretary), Mr. Matt Duggin (Assistant Attorney General-Board's Legal Counsel) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary).

The regularly scheduled meeting was advertised to the public on the Board's website, (www.algeobd.alabama.gov), as well as the Secretary of State's website, (www.sos.alabama.gov), in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Chairman Bryant called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. Mr. Warren called the Board member roll and indicated that a quorum was present to conduct business and Chairman Bryant welcomed everyone attending the meeting.

Approval of Meeting Agenda:
Chairman Bryant presented a copy of the May 21, 2026 meeting agenda for the Board's approval. A copy of the agenda was provided to the members prior to the meeting for their review.
MOTION: Mr. Owen made the motion to approve the May meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Approval of Minutes:
Chairman Bryant presented for Board approval a copy of the minutes from the January 15, 2026 regular Board meeting. A copy of the minutes was provided to the members prior to the meeting for their review.
MOTION: Dr. Brande made a motion to approve the January minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Owen and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Executive Secretary Report:
Mr. Warren presented the Executive Secretary's Report and reported on the number of licenses as of the end of March, 2026 (copy of report in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

1. Professional Geologists (PGs): #526
   (comprised of 221 Alabama licensees and 305 out-of-state licensees)
2. Licenses not renewed (August 2025 – March 2026) #15
3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs) #9
4. Temporary License (current) #1

Mr. Warren reminded the Board that renewal of licenses would begin in April through June. The Board commented on the increased number of active licenses since the last Board meeting. Mr. Warren reported on the activities performed by the staff since the last meeting held in January and indicated that no consumer complaints had been received (copy of report in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Warren reported on Act 2026-160 which required board member training that would be provided by the Examiners of Public Accounts and indicated that the ASBOG annual meeting was scheduled in October 2026.

Financial Report

Mr. Warren reported on the financial activities of the Board (copy in the official Book of Minutes), and presented a report for the period of October 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026. He reviewed a list of expenditures by category compared to the budget.

1.	Revenue	$ 18,650.00
2.	Expenditures	$ 18,926.96
3.	Cash Balance	$ 37,915.45

MOTION: Mr. Owen made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

2026 Thornton L. (Tony) Neathery Outstanding Geology Student in the State of Alabama Award:

Dr. Brande reported that he and Dr. King had reviewed the candidates' information submitted for the Neathery award. A total of 3 recommendations were received; 2 candidates from Auburn University and 1 candidate from USA. Dr. Brande indicated that the Neathery Award Committee recommended the candidate from USA, Ms. Abbagale Looney, and commented on the outstanding recommendations. The Board agreed to invite Ms. Looney to the annual Board-sponsored CE Program and Mr. Warren indicated that he would explore the purchase of a rock pick hammer for the ceremony.

MOTION: Mr. Owen made the motion to approve Ms. Abbagale Looney as the 2026 Neathery Award recipient. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

2026 Board-Sponsored Annual Continuing Education Program:

Chairman Bryant commented on making plans for the 2026 CE Program sponsored by the Board. He commented on efforts by Dr. Brande and Ms. Noble in contacting speakers for the 2025 program and indicated that he had helped with securing sponsors. It was the consensus of the Board to have the program at the Pelham Civic Center again.

Mr. Warren indicated that he would follow-up with the auditors about allowed expenditures for this event, collection of sponsorship funds, and whether an AG opinion was needed on the matter. Mr. Duggin indicated that he would work on an AG request draft to present at the next board meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Owen made the motion to schedule the annual Board-sponsored CE program at the Pelham Civic Center on November 12, 2026. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Annual Election of Board Officers:
Chairman Bryant recommended that the election of Board officers be tabled to the next meeting based on the previous timing of the midyear election held for the vacant Board Chair position.

Board Terms:
Ms. Noble commented on the Board terms ending September 2026. She recommended Mr. Kendal Rich to fill the independent consultant position on the Board. Also noted were other three (3) members' terms also expiring in September.

Board Transition and Inter-Agency Agreement:
Mr. Warren reported on the transition from management services to State government by some of the Boards managed by Smith Warren. He explained that employees of Smith Warren were transitioning to State employment. He recommended the Board consider an Inter-agency Agreement with the Alabama Security Regulatory Board for administrative employee services, office space, investigative services and basic utilities as of June 1, 2026.
The Board reviewed the Inter-agency Agreement presented by Mr. Warren (copy available in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The staff of Smith Warren left the meeting and the Board discussed the proposed transition to State government.
MOTION: Mr. Owen made the motion to approve the Board's transition and proposed Inter-agency Agreement with the Alabama Security Regulatory Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.
Mr. Warren and staff were invited to return to the meeting and discussion with Mr. Warren continued about the transition to State government. Mr. Warren indicated that the Board's budget would be adjusted as needed for the transition.

Review and Approval of Applications for Licensure:
Mr. Warren presented, for the Board's review and approval, nine (9) applications for Professional Geologist (PG). The individual applications were reviewed by the Board.
MOTION: Mr. Owen made the motion to approve for licensure the nine (9) PG applications as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande, and following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER BUSINESS
Board Travel Reports: Three (3) travel expense forms for attending the May 21, 2026 Board meeting were submitted and approved by the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Owen made the motion to approve Mr. Brad Jackson to serve on the CE committee, along with Mr Kendall Rich, and Chairman Bryant assist with program sponsors. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande, and following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Next Board Meeting:
Chairman Bryant reminded the members that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled July 9, 2026, and the Board discussed moving the Board meeting to August. Mr. Warren indicated that he would email the Board about changing the Board meeting date.

The Board discussing having the October 15, 2026 Board meeting in Tuscaloosa on the University of Alabama campus. Mr. Warren indicated that he would reference the University's academic and sports calendar when confirming the date with the University's Department of Geological Sciences.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bryant called for other business and there were none.

MOTION: Mr. Owen made the motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Brande and unanimously approved by the Board. Chairman Bryant adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Bryant
Board Chair

Keith E. Warren
Executive Secretary

ckp rr/Minutes Approved on July 30, 2026 *(date).*