

1 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

2 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

3 BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

4

5 **FINAL MINUTES**

6

7 MEETING OF:

8

9 **STATE ARCHITECTS LICENSURE BOARD**

10

11 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

12

13 Held at

14 **PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

15 2525 North 7th Street

16 CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

17 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

18 as well as

19 **VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

20

21 September 11, 2025

22

23

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25

State Architects Licensure Board  
September 11, 2025

## BOARD MEMBERS:

7 Mary E. McClenaghan, RA, President  
8 William J. Bates, RA, Vice President  
9 Michael Johns, RA, Secretary  
10 Arion R. Claggett, Acting Commissioner of  
11 Professional and Occupational Affairs  
12 Seth Miller, Esquire, Office of Attorney General  
13 Jason Birl, RA  
14 Richard DeYoung, RA  
15 Nicole Dress, RA  
16 Patrick Endler, RA  
17 Merna T. Hoffman, Deputy Attorney General, Office of  
18 Attorney General

## BUREAU PERSONNEL:

23 Ashley Goshert, Esquire, Board Counsel  
24 Angela L. Solomon, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison  
25 Tyesha C. Miley, Esquire, Board Prosecutor  
26 Jessica Harris, Board Administrator  
27 Shana Walter, Deputy Chief Counsel of the Prosecution  
28 Division  
29 Danie Bendesky, Special Assistant for Strategic  
30 Initiatives

ALSO PRESENT:

35 Stephen M. Swarney, JD, Executive Director, American  
36 Institute of Architects Pennsylvania  
37 Carrie Hillman, Interior Design Legislative Coalition  
38 Of Pennsylvania  
39 Tineke Reali, Senior Interior Designer, Wildman  
40 Chalmers Design  
41 Ryan Wilkinson, Applicant  
42 Rick Smizer, Architectural Intern at FUSA Designs,  
43 LLC, Applicant  
44 Allison Walker, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,  
45 Inc.



1 Ms. Goshert noted that the Board entered into  
2 Executive Session with counsel for the purpose of  
3 conducting quasi-judicial deliberations and to  
4 receive advice of counsel.]

\* \* \*

## 6 Approval of Minutes

7 | PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

14 MR. BATES:

15 So approved.

16 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

17 And a second.

18 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

19                   Okay.    And Mr. Bates, could you call  
20                   the roll?

22 William Bates, aye; Jason Birl, aye;  
23 Arion Claggett, aye; Nicole Dress, aye;  
24 Patrick Endler, aye; Merna Hoffman,  
25 abstain; Michael Johns, aye; Mary

1                   McClenaghan, aye; Rich DeYoung, aye;  
2                   Seth Miller, aye.

3 [The motion carried. Merna Hoffman abstained from  
4 voting on the motion.]

5                   \* \* \*

6 Report of Prosecutorial Division

7 [Angela L. Solomon, Esquire, Board Prosecution  
8 Liaison, had no official report and no consent  
9 agreements for the Board to consider.

10                  Ms. Solomon introduced Shana Walter to the Board.  
11 Ms. Walter greeted the Board as the new Deputy Chief  
12 Counsel for the Prosecution and voiced her pleasure  
13 to work with the Board.]

14                  \* \* \*

15 Report of Board Counsel

16 ASHLEY GOSHERT:

17                  Based on Executive Session  
18                  deliberations, I believe the Board would  
19                  entertain a motion to approve the Final  
20                  Adjudication and Order for Jeffrey  
21                  Laufer.

22 MR. BATES:

23                  So moved.

24 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

25                  Second.

1 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

2 Roll Call.

3

4 William Bates, aye; Jason Birl, aye;  
5 Arion Claggett, aye; Nicole Dress, aye;  
6 Patrick Endler, aye; Rich DeYoung, aye;  
7 Merna Hoffman; Michael Johns, aye; Mary  
8 McClenaghan, aye; Seth Miller, aye.

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

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11 ASHLEY GOSHERT:

12 Based on Executive Session  
13 deliberations, I believe the Board would  
14 entertain a motion to grant the  
15 Commonwealth Motion for Judgement on the  
16 pleadings in the matter of IDS Architect  
17 LLC and Paul Levon and to direct Counsel  
18 to prepare a final Adjudication and  
19 Order consistent with the discussions  
20 held in Executive Session.

21 MR. BATES:

22 So moved.

23 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

24 Second.

25 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

1                   Roll call.

2

3                   William Bates, aye; Jason Birl, aye;  
4                   Arion Claggett, aye; Nicole Dress, aye;  
5                   Patrick Endler, aye; Merna Hoffman,  
6                   aye; Rich DeYoung, aye; Michael Johns,  
7                   aye; Mary McClenaghan, aye; Seth  
8                   Miller, aye.

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

10                  \*\*\*

11 Report of Board Counsel - Regulatory Report

12 [Ashley Goshert, Esquire, Board Counsel, discussed  
13 16A-4122: Continuing Education revised annex being  
14 drafted. The section of the regulation having to do  
15 with the exact definition of a place of primary  
16 practice continued to be up for discussion. Ms.  
17 Goshert reminded the Board, if a practitioner was  
18 compliant with their CE obligations in their own  
19 state of practice, they were automatically compliant  
20 with same in the state of Pennsylvania.

21 Ms. Goshert reviewed options on how to define the  
22 primary area of practice. The options included:  
23 Where the practitioner worked the most hours or where  
24 the practitioner made the most money from their  
25 practice. Her third option was a hybrid of the first

1 two, and her fourth option was determining where the  
2 practitioner primarily engages in the practice of  
3 architecture as determined by the licensee and  
4 communicated to the Board by same.

5 Ms. Goshert reviewed clarifying language on the  
6 matter of satisfying the continuing education  
7 requirement through another jurisdiction, § 9.305.  
8 The United States jurisdiction in which a licensee  
9 maintains the licensee's principal office for  
10 practice of architecture during the biennial renewal  
11 period... if the licensee does not maintain a  
12 principal office, the jurisdiction where the licensee  
13 performs the greatest number of hours of work during  
14 the biennial renewal period shall be their primary  
15 practice.

16 Mr. Bates discussed the fact that the larger  
17 firms that have offices across the country would  
18 likely have architects practicing in different  
19 states. He questioned how that instance would be  
20 handled. Ms. Goshert suggested recommending that the  
21 primary location of practice should be where the  
22 licensee did the most work. She stated this primary  
23 location of practice could be turned in by the  
24 licensee when submitting their continuing education  
25 requirements.

1       Board members discussed concerns about specific  
2 terms, such as the meaning of the primary location of  
3 practice. It was noted a practitioner could be  
4 physically living in Pennsylvania but working on  
5 projects in another state that would not necessarily  
6 be accurate in terms of primary location worked. Ms.  
7 Solomon advised, from a prosecutorial perspective,  
8 that type of issue would be messy. If a case of non-  
9 compliance was referred, it could get quite  
10 complicated and time consuming given the confusion as  
11 to how and where to file the case. Lastly, it could  
12 muddy the Board's ability to deliberate the case.

13       It was suggested the determination over the  
14 practice location could be the physical address the  
15 licensee uses to have their license mailed to them.  
16 Again, there was confusion between Board members as  
17 to the different possible scenarios.

18       Compliance or compliance not needed in other  
19 states was discussed. The fact of licensees working  
20 both remotely and in person was addressed. It was  
21 strongly advised that additional language be inserted  
22 into the regulation clarifying that if licensee's  
23 primary place of practice requires continuing  
24 education, they are automatically compliant with  
25 Pennsylvania's requirements. That statement was

1 somewhat negated by the declaration that three states  
2 do not have CE requirements and, therefore,  
3 Pennsylvania would not allow licensees of these  
4 states to work in the Commonwealth until such time as  
5 the licensee met Pennsylvania's requirements to work  
6 in the state.

7 It was agreed this was a regulation that remained  
8 in the early stages of development. Comments from  
9 the stakeholders would be coming back.

10 Ms. Goshert then asked if all Board members were  
11 satisfied with the regulation moving on to the  
12 stakeholders, with option number five. Ms. Goshert  
13 reiterated this was a regulation that would be re-  
14 visited after comments were returned from the  
15 stakeholders.]

16 ASHLEY GOSHERT:

17                   Would the Board entertain a motion to  
18                    approve the proposed annex with  
19                    revisions as discussed and authorize  
20                    Regulation 16A-4122 related to  
21                    continuing education to be approved and  
22                    circulated to stakeholders for comment?

23 MR. BATES:

24                   So moved.

25 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

1 | Second.

2 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

3 | Roll Call.

5 William Bates, aye; Jason Birl, aye;  
6 Arion Claggett, aye; Nicole Dress, aye;  
7 Patrick Endler, aye; Merna Hoffman,  
8 aye; Rich DeYoung, aye; Michael Johns,  
9 aye; Mary McClenaghan, aye; Seth  
0 Miller, aye.

11 [The motion carried unanimously.]

\* \* \*

13 [Ashley Goshert, Esquire, on behalf of Mark Farrell,  
14 Esquire, Regulatory Counsel, discussed 16A-4123:  
15 Certified Interior Designs-Initial, draft annex. She  
16 stated Mr. Farrell was working on the preliminary  
17 grant, which would be ready for the next Board's  
18 meeting.]

\* \* \*

20 | Report of the Commission - No Report

\* \* \*

22 | Report of the Board President

23 [President McClenaghan discussed the new NCARB MRA  
24 approval. She stated, while in the annual business  
25 meeting in June 2025 with NCARB, member licensing

1 boards ratified two mutual recognition agreements,  
2 (MRA), counterparts in Canada and in South Africa.  
3 She stated the agreements would go into effect in  
4 late 2025 or early 2026. The new agreement with  
5 Canada requires that licensees eligible for  
6 reciprocity must be licensed and in good standing in  
7 participating jurisdiction in their home country and  
8 hold an active NCARB certificate. She added, for  
9 South Africa, architects needed to be at the  
10 professional architect level, given that there are  
11 several levels of architectural expertise that exist  
12 there.

13 President McClenaghan stated the NCARB  
14 Correspondence included documents on Fast Facts from  
15 June and July 2025, as well as answers to questions  
16 that were asked at the annual business meeting (ABM)  
17 Town Hall, and NCARB updates to AXP (Architectural  
18 Experience Program).]

19 \*\*\*

20 Report of the Board Administrator - No Report

21 \*\*\*

22 Applications - Ratify Approval

23 ASHLEY GOSHERT:

24 For Item Nos. 7 and 8, based on  
25 Executive Session deliberations, I

1                   believe the Board would entertain a  
2                   motion to ratify the approvals for  
3                   Applicants Jeanmarie Zimmerman and  
4                   Amanda Havens.

5 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

6                   Do I have a motion to approve?

7 MR. BATES:

8                   So moved.

9 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

10                   Second.

11 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

12                   Roll call.

13

14                   William Bates, aye; Jason Birl, aye;  
15                   Arion Claggett, aye; Nicole Dress, aye;  
16                   Patrick Endler, aye; Merna Hoffman,  
17                   aye; Rich DeYoung, aye; Michael Johns,  
18                   aye; Mary McClenaghan, aye; Seth  
19                   Miller, aye.

20 [The motion carried unanimously.]

21                   \*\*\*

22 ASHLEY GOSHERT:

23                   For Item Nos.9 and 12, based on  
24                   Executive Session deliberations, I  
25                   believe the Board would entertain a

1 motion to approve the Application of  
2 Dean Giordano and Tyler Kane.

3 | PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

4 Do I have a motion to approve?

5 MR. BATES:

6 So moved.

7 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

8 | Second.

9 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

10 Roll call.

18 [The motion carried unanimously.]

\* \* \*

20 | ASHLEY GOSHERT:

1 Vera.

2 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

3 Do I have a motion to approve?

4 MR. BATES:

5 So moved.

6 COMMISSIONER CLAGGETT:

7 Second.

8 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN

## 9 Roll call.

10  
11                   William Bates, aye; Jason Birl, aye;  
12                   Arion Claggett, aye; Nicole Dress, aye;  
13                   Patrick Endler, aye; Merna Hoffman,  
14                   aye; Rich DeYoung, aye; Michael Johns,  
15                   aye; Mary McClenaghan, aye; Seth  
16                   Miller, aye.

17 [The motion carried unanimously.]

18 \* \* \*

19 | Miscellaneous - No report.

21 Appointments = ATA Pennsylvania Update

22 [Stephen M. Swarney, JD, Executive Director, American  
23 Institute of Architects Pennsylvania, presented an  
24 update of the PA AIA.

25 Mr. Swarney stated Ms. Hillman and he have been

1 in constant communication. The AIA has a tentative  
2 working group of people to discuss mutual issues with  
3 the Interior Design Legislative Coalition Of  
4 Pennsylvania group. A meeting is scheduled for the  
5 first week in October 2025.

6 Mr. Swarney reported the AIA Large States meeting  
7 will be in Michigan. Their past president and their  
8 current treasurer will be attending that meeting. He  
9 and Jamie Ober will be attending the NCARB event in  
10 Philadelphia during that period.

11 Mr. Swarney mentioned the awards presentation  
12 taking place on December 4, 2025.

13 Additional work taking place within the PA AIA  
14 included the Statute of Repose coalition moving  
15 forward and their coalition group is fairly  
16 extensive. He discussed the monitoring of two state  
17 Supreme Court cases up for oral argument in the fall.  
18 He cautioned the Board that since the legislators and  
19 the Governor are currently working on another issue,  
20 any other legislation will have to wait until the  
21 current issue is resolved.

22 Mr. Swarney informed the Board there is a school  
23 facilities survey bill circulating. He stated the PA  
24 AIA had a representative speaking in Philadelphia on  
25 September 22, 2025. There would be members speaking

1 on housing reform in Bucks County.

2 Mr. Swarney reported on a new partnership with  
3 the Union Mechanical Insulators Group for continuing  
4 education ideas, which he hoped will help ramp up for  
5 the mandatory continuing education requirements. He  
6 had no updates on any building code movement. He  
7 stated this was not an issue for them or for the  
8 state.

9 Mr. Swarney announced engaging a media relations  
10 firm, Sisler Media, which would be airing PA AIA Op  
11 Eds on housing and sustainability. He commented that  
12 two of their local architects had participated on  
13 podcasts about the revitalization of Harrisburg.

14 Mr. Swarney was recently appointed to AIA  
15 National's Government Affairs Board for their  
16 committee as well as voted by his colleagues as the  
17 AIA Component Executive of the year.

18 He conveyed the PA AIA newsletter wanted to do a  
19 story on some of the new Board members. He  
20 encouraged Mr. DeYoung to allow himself to be  
21 interviewed him for this.]

22 \* \* \*

23 Next Meeting Dates - November 7th, 2025

24 \* \* \*

25 Adjournment

1 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

2                   Are there any other comments or things  
3                   to discuss? Hearing none, we'll  
4                   adjourn.

5                   Do we have a motion to adjourn?

6 MR. BATES:

7                   So moved.

8 PRESIDENT MCCLENAGHAN:

9                   Thank you.

10                   \* \* \*

11 [There being no further business, the State  
12 Architects Licensure Board Meeting adjourned at  
13 11:16 a.m.]

14                   \* \* \*

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## CERTIFICATE

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4 I hereby certify that the foregoing summary  
5 minutes of the State Architects Licensure Board  
6 meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my  
7 supervision, and that the minutes accurately  
8 summarize the substance of the State Architects  
9 Licensure Board meeting.

10

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13

Allison Walker,

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Minute Clerk

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Sargent's Court Reporting

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Service, Inc.

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1 STATE ARCHITECTS LICENSURE BOARD  
2 REFERENCE INDEX  
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4 September 11, 2025  
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7	TIME	AGENDA
8	9:30	Executive Session
9	10:30	Return to Open Session
10	10:30	Official Call to Order
11	10:32	Introduction of Board Members and 12 Attendees
13	10:33	Approval of Minutes
14	10:35	Report of Prosecutorial Division
15	10:35	Appointment
16	10:36	Report of Board Counsel
17	11:02	Report of Board President
18	11:08	Appointment
19	11:15	Miscellaneous
20	11:16	Adjournment
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