

**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**BOARD OF LICENSURE**

**OF**

**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**AND**

**PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS**

SUBMITTED TO

**The Honorable Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter**

Fiscal Year

2017

November 17, 2017

Honorable Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter  
Statehouse Mail  
Boise, Idaho 83720

Dear Governor Otter:

Pursuant to Section 54-1210(3) of the Idaho Code, the Idaho Board of Licensure of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors has the honor of transmitting to you the following Annual Report of the Board covering activities from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
AND PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

Glenn Bennett, P.L.S. Chairman

Dusty Obermayer, P.L.S., Secretary

## INDEX

Members of the Board and Staff	1
Board Activities	2
Financial Statement for Fiscal Year 2017	
Summary of Receipts	4
Expenditures	4
Summary of Operations	5

**MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**

From May 25, 2016 to May 24, 2017

- George Murgel, PE, PhD Chairman.....Boise  
Appointed to the Board 2012. Reappointed to the Board in 2017. Term expires May 24, 2022.
- Glenn Bennett, PLS, Vice Chair .....Boise  
Appointed to the Board 2014. Term expires May 24, 2019.
- Raymond J. Watkins, PE, Secretary.....Coeur d'Alene  
Appointed to the Board 2016. Term expires May 24, 2020.
- John Tomkinson, Board Member ..... Star  
Appointed to the Board in 2016. Term expires May 24, 2018.
- Dusty Obermayer, PLS, Board Member.....Rathdrum  
Appointed to the Board 2016. Term expires May 24, 2020.
- George L. Wagner, PE, Board Member .....Boise  
Appointed to the Board 2010. Reappointed to the Board in 2015. Term expires May 24, 2020.
- John T. Elle, PE, PLS, Board Member..... Pocatello  
Appointed to the Board 2011. Reappointed to the Board in 2016. Term expires May 24, 2021.

**BOARD STAFF**

- Keith Simila, PE.....Executive Director
- James L. Szatkowski, PE.....Deputy Director
- Jennifer A. Rowe ..... Administrative Assistant
- Edith Williams ..... Technical Records Specialist

OFFICE OF THE BOARD  
1510 E. Watertower St., Ste. 110  
Meridian, Idaho 83642

## **BOARD ACTIVITIES**

During the 2017 fiscal year, the Board met for six regular meetings, four teleconference meetings and two special meeting to conduct Board business, review applications, grant licenses and consider complaints.

As of the end of the fiscal year, there were: 7,440 Professional Engineers of which 2,363 were Idaho residents; 617 Professional Land Surveyors of which 263 were residents; 36 combined Professional Engineer/Professional Land Surveyors of which 26 were residents; 955 Engineer Interns of which 571 were residents; 23 Land Surveyor Interns of which 21 were residents; 1,758 engineering and/or land surveying business entities of which 394 were physically located in Idaho and 763 persons who had elected to take Retired Status of which 335 were residents. All renewals, except business entities, are on a biennial basis. Business entities renew annually.

Licenses were issued to 405 engineers by comity with other states, to 67 who successfully completed the examination process as well as 6 individuals that were granted a faculty restricted license; 23 land surveyors by comity with other states and there were no individuals that took the examination. There were 98 Engineer Intern certificates issued to successful examinees in the Fundamentals of Engineering examination and 1 Land Surveyor Intern certificate was issued to a successful examinee in the Fundamentals of Surveying examination. In addition, Certificates of Authorization were issued to 159 business entities to perform professional engineering or professional land surveying or both in the State of Idaho.

The Board received a total of 15 complaints against engineers, land surveyors, business entities and unlicensed persons in fiscal year 2017 and 6 were carried over from previous years. Of these 21 complaints, 4 were dismissed or terminated without consent agreements or formal hearings and 13 were pending resolution at the end of the fiscal year. 4 complaints were closed following issuance of Final Orders of the Board accepting Consent Agreements which resulted in the admonishment or reprimand of 4 license holders and the deposit of \$ 6,250.00 in Administrative Penalties to the General Fund of the State of Idaho. In addition 49 cases of CPD deficiencies were filed against engineers and land surveyors of which 28 were dismissed and 3 cases resulted a license surrender. 9 individuals were found in default which resulted in 4 suspensions, 4 revocations and an additional surrender of a license. 9 CPD cases were closed following issuance of Final Orders of the Board accepting Consent Agreements which resulted in the admonishment or reprimand of 9 license holders and the deposit of \$ 3,000.00 in Administrative Penalties to the General Fund of the State of Idaho.

In fulfilling its Strategic Plan, the Board published two quality News Bulletins on the website and notified all license and certificate holders (over 11,000) as well as a number of public officials of their availability. A limited number of News Bulletins were printed and sent business entities that hold a Certificate of Authorization from the Board, the engineering and surveying departments at Idaho universities, and other licensing boards. The Board Members and staff made 45 presentations to groups or organizations to explain the function of the Board or further the mission of the agency. The legislature passed and the governor signed into law one bill in the 2017 session. The bill updated the definition of a basis of bearing for land surveying with the intent to provide consistency on how the basis is determined. The legislature concurred on three rules, one that outlined the licensure requirements for applicants holding a Ph. D, and teaching upper division engineering courses at Idaho

Universities. This is known as a Faculty Restricted License and the rule is a new provision. Another rule change updated the education requirements for land surveyor applicants for licensure. This change allows for unconditional acceptance of any surveying 4-year degree accredited by ABET, Inc., making it easier for applicants licensed in other states to become licensed in Idaho. Finally, a rule change was made to update the Board's ethics rule regarding professional opinions – that they must be in accordance with the standard of care. The results of a Satisfaction Survey indicates that while 94 percent of those to whom we provide applications are satisfied with the services they receive, there remains a dissatisfaction with the applications themselves. We intend to address this by implementing online applications with the intent of making them easier to use. The Board and staff remain active in regional and national organizations which prepare the licensing examinations and otherwise influence the trends of licensing in the professions of engineering and surveying. Dr. George Murgel, P.E. is the chair of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Professional Engineering Exam Committee, and consultant to the Examination Audit and Examination Policy and Procedures Committees. Keith Simila, P.E. served on the Member Board Administrators Committee, and Jim Szatkowski P.E., served on the Examination Audit Committee.

STATE OF IDAHO  
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONAL LAND  
SURVEYORS  
July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 (Fiscal Year 2017)

Summary of Receipts

CERTIFICATE, APPLICATION, COMITY AND RENEWAL FEES	\$599,755.00
PENALTIES (INCLUDING \$9,250.00 DEPOSITED TO THE GENERAL FUND)	<u>66,890.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$666,645.00

Expenditures Including Encumbrances from Previous Year

PERSONNEL COSTS Salaries and Wages, Personnel Benefits	\$412,576.77
OPERATING EXPENSES Travel, Professional Services, Other Services Communications, Materials and Supplies, Rentals, Repairs and Maintenance, Misc. Operating	283,574.15
CAPITAL OUTLAY	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$696,150.92

Summary of Operations

Free Fund Cash Balance as of July 1, 2016	\$ 473,777.30
Add: Revenues	\$ 666,645.00
Less Amount Deposited to General Fund	<u>9,250.00</u>
Total to account for	<u>\$1,131,172.30</u>
Less: Expenditures Including Encumbrances from Previous Year	<u>\$696,150.92</u>
Fund Balance as of June 30, 2017	\$435,021.38
Less: Encumbrances Carried Forward to FY 2018	0.00
Free Fund Cash Balance as of June 30, 2017	\$435,021.38