

Meeting Minutes

MEETING OF THE JOINT PRACTICE COMMITTEE  
held at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, February 8, 2024,  
Sandia Conference Room, 2nd FL, Wilson & Company, Inc.,  
4401 Masthead Street NE, Suite 150, Albuquerque, NM 87109  
Hybrid format

**Members Present-** Ben Aragon, PS, BLPEPS, Chair  
Michael Bodelson, RA, BEA, Vice-Chair  
Martin Romero, Bureau Chief, CBO, CID, Treasurer  
George Radnovich, PLA, ASLA, BLA  
Chris Green, PLA, BLA  
Emilie Dohleman, PE, BLPEPS

**Members Absent-** Bob Calvani, RA, BEA  
Ray Vigil, RA, BEA

**Others Present-** Perry Valdez, Executive Director, BLPEPS  
Melarie Gonzales, Executive Director, BEA  
Roxanne Romo, Board Administrator, BLA

1. **Convene, Roll Call and Introduction of Audience**

Mr. Aragon convened the meeting at 9:11 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was noted. There was no audience in attendance.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Romero requested to add Commercial Re-roof Submittals when an Architect or Engineer stamp is required.

Mr. Aragon requested Mr. Valdez add this item to the agenda as item 7. e.

**MOTION** by Ms. Dohleman to approve the agenda as amended to add item 7. e. ,  
**Seconded** by Mr. Bodelson

**PASSED unanimously.**

3. **Approval of Minutes**

a. **Minutes of September 20, 2023**

**MOTION** by Mr. Bodelson to approve the minutes of September 20, 2023, as presented, **SECONDED** by Mr. Romero,

Mr. Radnovich abstained.

**PASSED.**

#### 4. **Boards and Committee Reports**

##### a. **Board of Examiners for Architects**

Mr. Bodelson said that there was no significant report to provide since the last JPC meeting.

##### b. **Board of Landscape Architects**

Mr. Radnovich reported that that was replaced on the Board of Landscape Architects. He would continue to participate in the JPC until further notice.

Mr. Green informed the Committee there wasn't anything significant to report. He reiterated that Mr. Radnovich was replaced on the Board and a new professional member was appointed. However, the Board still needs a public member to fill the vacancy. Mr. Green stated they are working with the New Mexico chapter of The American Society of Landscape Architects (NMASLA) to find nominees.

##### c. **Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers & Professional Surveyors**

Mr. Valdez reported that NMBLPEPS was still in the process of procuring a new licensing system and progressing. He noted the Board made changes to the industrial exemption in their Practice Act. The Board heard from different industries regarding the change and the Full Board will be meeting to respond to their questions and concerns.

Mr. Aragon reiterated the industrial exemption has been a topic of discussion on what needed to be stamped and when a licensed individual was needed.

Mr. Valdez reported that there will be a Western Regional Conference being held in Las Vegas, Nevada. He said several of the surveying board members will be attending.

Mr. Aragon stated this is an event involving five other states. This is a conference where the licensed surveyors can earn their PDHs for license renewal.

Ms. Dohleman reported NMSPE (New Mexico Society of Professional Engineers) will hold their meeting at the end of February, during Engineers Week.

Mr. Aragon requested future agendas to include a report from CID.

#### 5. **Public Comment/Correspondence**

Mr. Valdez informed the Committee that there was no public comment or correspondence.

## 6. Old Business

### a. **General Services Department's Architect-Engineer-Land Surveyor Professional Services Selection Process – M. Bodelson**

Mr. Bodelson noted that Mr. Valdez reached out to the General Services Department (GSD) to schedule a meeting with them.

Mr. Valdez informed the Committee he had reached out to GSD and was waiting for some proposed meeting dates; at the time of the meeting, he had not heard back from GSD.

Mr. Valdez reported that the sub-committee of the JPC met and discussed the issues and concerns regarding the RFP processes. It was decided to schedule a meeting with GSD to discuss and address the Committee's concerns.

Mr. Bodelson added that the concerns could probably be resolved through communication with GSD. That there may be a lack of comprehension on how the statute is being applied. He explained that with a conversation, we could basically outline the requirement, some of the historical context and just see if we can get to the point where we can have their RFP process match more distinctly with the statute.

### b. **Annual Review of the Handbook for New Mexico Building Officials (2016 Version)**

Mr. Aragon informed the Committee that he thoroughly reviewed the Handbook. He recommended each of the Boards review any changes to our respective statutes and rules, then to propose updates and changes. Mr. Aragon asked Mr. Valdez if there was a word document available to share with the Committee members.

Mr. Valdez responded that there was a word document, and he would share it with the Committee Members.

Mr. Radnovich suggested having a schedule between today and the next JPC meeting; the project will have moved forward.

Mr. Bodelson agreed with Mr. Radnovich. This would allow for feedback and comments from our respective Boards.

Mr. Aragon suggested a May or June time frame would be appropriate to review the respective proposed edits. He requested the Directors to gather the respective edits for the Committee's review.

7. **New Business:**

**a. Update on effective date of Building code.**

Mr. Romero reported that CID adopted the new Building Code. He stated that the current codes are the 2021 IBC (International Building Code) and the 2021 IRC (International Residential Code) which took effect on July 14, 2023.

**b. Update on the proposed 2021 Energy code.**

Mr. Romero reported that CID is moving toward the 2021 Energy Code. He stated that the updated Code will take effect on July 30, 2024. There are some significant changes in the Energy Conservation Code that designers or architects are going to have to pay attention to; EV chargers are required for businesses, based on occupancy. Mr. Romero provided an example of the occupancy based on the parking spaces provided, there'll be a certain percentage of parking spaces that they would have to provide that are EV ready, such as they have to provide Level 2 chargers for those parking spaces. Businesses will have to provide capable parking spaces as well, which also means that they have to provide a raceway to that area. There are some exceptions to where these businesses could provide that raceway to a median or an island where they don't necessarily have to provide all the infrastructure for all those parking spaces at one point.

Mr. Romero stated a table was included as a reference for the percentages based on those occupancies.

Mr. Romero informed the Committee that CID is in the process of applying for some grant money to provide statewide training for architects, engineers, code officials, inspectors.

**c. Can Engineers or Architects conduct virtual inspections?**

Mr. Romero stated CID does not allow any type of virtual inspections. He said there are some architects and engineers who want to use COVID as a reason to conduct virtual inspections. Mr. Romero brought this item to the JPC to find out what each Board thought of this practice.

Ms. Dohleman shared the same concern as Mr. Romero. She said it would be easy to miss something viewing the area through a video or picture instead of being there physically inspecting.

Mr. Bodelson agreed with what was said, there are too many opportunities to miss something conducting a virtual inspection.

Mr. Radnovich said this was an interesting question because the virtual world is getting better and better. However, technology is not quite there yet to rely on virtual inspections. He noted that technology can assist in some ways, but it

cannot be a replacement for an in-person inspection.

Mr. Aragon suggested that each member of the JPC take this item back to their respective Boards to discuss this and bring their Board's decision on the matter back to the Committee.

Ms. Gonzales pointed out that it could be addressed in the Building Officials Handbook.

Mr. Romero noted this item will be on the agenda for his Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on February 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Albuquerque at the Gaming Commission.

Mr. Aragon asked how the JPC could address the issue. Mr. Valdez responded that per Ms. Gonzales' earlier suggestion, it could be addressed in the Handbook.

**d. Question? Is an architect or engineer stamp a form of a copyright.**

Martin explained this comes up quite often in his office. He provided an example of this issue; a site-specific design is submitted for a specific project but then somebody else decides they want to build that particular project elsewhere, but it was already site specific for a particular area.

Ms. Dohleman expressed her thoughts that the architect or engineer would have to revisit this project for the new site and provide some sort of comment if the new site meets the requirements for the project. She added that they must review the new place where the snow load has increased or they're now in flood zone, essentially the design for the old site is applicable to the new site.

Mr. Bodelson noted that anytime there's a site adapt, there's always something different. There's no identical site, such as utilities, terrain, climate, or whatever. He stated there's always something different and it always takes reviewing.

Mr. Aragon agreed with Mr. Bodelson's remarks.

Mr. Radnovich said this was a good question. He added that photographers copyright their photographs if that photograph is used in some way, and songwriters copyright their songs and if it's used in some way by someone else as either a starting point or a point of departure. There have been court cases about copyrights, and he asked, are architecture, engineering, and landscape architecture subject to the same copyright rules? It doesn't seem to me that that would be the case.

Mr. Bodelson commented it gets to the point where somebody's re-used the drawings, the design, in some form or fashion they say that's a legal question but

it's definitely intellectual property.

Mr. Radnovich added that he has seen some offices copyright illustratives, so they get credit for it if it's reused but not whole plan sets. He thought this is also a topic to bring back to the respective Boards for discussion.

**e. Commercial Re-roof Submittals**

Mr. Romero stated that re-roofing is one of the biggest problems in New Mexico, it's a statewide issue. CID is updating the GS21 exam to cover different types of applications and adding more reference manuals. He indicated that the NMRCA is saying that if the re-roofing is like-for-like it shouldn't require an engineer's or architect's stamp. However, codes change, especially the energy conservation code, there could be more insulation requirements based on current code; the re-roofing must be brought up to current code.

Mr. Romero said he was thinking of adding the verbiage that on a like-for-like roof repair and replacement engineer, designer, professional seals may not be required on a case-by-case basis at the direction of the AJI. His opinion is that it must be on a case-by-case basis because we want to make sure it's based on current code. At the end of the day, it's about life safety and making sure that the building is code compliant.

Mr. Romero also stated that another option CID is looking at is creating three separate licenses, a GS 21 for residential, one just for commercial, and we're thinking of separating spray foam and creating a standalone license for spray foam only.

Mr. Romero noted this item will also be on the agenda for his Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on February 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in Albuquerque at the Gaming Commission.

**8. Next Scheduled Meeting Date**

After a short discussion, the Committee agreed to meet again on June 20, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

**9. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Submitted by:

s/Perry Valdez  
Perry Valdez, Executive Director

Approved by:

s/Ben Aragon  
Ben Aragon, Chair

September 20, 2024      Approved Date