Guam Board of Registration for Professional Engineers, Architects, and Land Surveyors
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 23, 2026 | 2:10 PM – 3:51 PM

Recording status: The meeting was recorded; livestreaming was unavailable because of Zoom connection issues.

Item 1, Call to order

Board Chairman, Cedric Q.T. Cruz, RA called the meeting or order 2:10 PM.

The Board's mission statement was recited:

To safeguard life, health, property, and public welfare through the regulation of the practice of professional engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, and related professional services.

Item 2, Roll call

Board Members and Staff Present

Cedric Q.T. Cruz, RA — Board Chair and Architect Member
Zenon E. Belanger, PE —Board Vice Chair and Engineer Member
Paul L. Santos, PLS — Secretary Treasurer and Surveyor Member
Maria 'Maily' Elizabeth V. Cristi, PE — Engineer Member
Catherine S Gutierrez, Executive Board Administrator
Nixon Isaac, Board Investigator

Board Members Absent

Vincent P Arriola, Director DPW — Board Member
Cathyann C Gogue — Public Member (Not able to attend via Zoom due to connection issues)

Public Attendees

Resty Jorge Sison, PE – Certificate recipient
Lloyd Cyrus Mostoles, EIT – Certificate recipient
Sai Samanth Anuma, PE – Certificate recipient

Other family/colleagues of the above mentioned.

Item 3, Certificate presentation

The Board conducted a certificate presentation for a newly registered professional civil engineer who had successfully passed the Fundamentals examination.

The recipient:

- Received a certificate of registration as a professional civil engineer.
- Recited the professional pledge.
- Received support and guidance commitments from the Board.
- Was congratulated by the Board and invited to remain for the meeting or depart as needed.

Item 4, Review and approval of prior meeting minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 11, 2026 meeting.

Motion approve the minutes subject to additional grammatical, spelling, and other revisions.

Motioned: Board Member Cristi
Seconded: Board Member Belanger

Motion passed unanimously

Follow-up: Additional revisions are to be provided to Catherine Gutierrez for incorporation into the final minutes.

Item 5, Executive Board Administrator's Report

a. The Executive Board Administrator reported the following:

Representatives attending the upcoming NCEES meeting in Henderson from approximately August 18–20, 2026

Zenon E Belanger, PE – Board Vice Chairman and Engineer Member
Paul L Santos, PLS – Board Secretary/Treasurer and Surveyor Member
Maria 'Maily' Elizabeth V Cristi, PE – Board Engineer Member

Financial report

- The special funds account balance was reported at approximately $190,822.
- A check for approximately $540 was issued for an advertisement in the Pacific Daily News.
- The Board's annual membership fees were discussed, including approximately:

$1,000 for the Western Zone/Region 6 membership.
$4,000 for the applicable annual organization fees.

Total payment of approximately $5,000.

No additional questions were raised regarding the report. The board chairman moved onto the next agenda item.

Item 6, Board Investigator's Report

a. The Investigator reported:

There were no pending investigation cases requiring action.
There were no current legal cases reported.
The Board has not received a response from the Attorney General's/legal office regarding a prior request, despite follow-up correspondence in March and June.
The Board discussed closing the matter while preserving the opportunity for the affected party or agency to submit additional information later.

b. Drone and topographic survey inquiry

The Board discussed an inquiry concerning a company advertising drone-based topographic mapping or surveying services.

Key points included:

Drone technology itself is a tool and is not independently licensed by the Board.

The critical issue is whether the company is merely collecting and supplying data or is representing that it is providing a professional survey.

Professional opinions, certifications, or survey services must be performed or supervised by an appropriately licensed professional.

Advertising should clearly distinguish between raw data collection and regulated surveying services.
The Board agreed that the matter was an inquiry rather than a formal complaint.

Action: Catherine Gutierrez will circulate the relevant email and supporting information to Board members. The matter may be placed on a future agenda for further discussion.

Item 7, Old business:

a. The Board's review of the law, rules, and regulations remains ongoing.

The Board discussed scheduling a work session or report session after August to continue the review.

Board members are currently working on Island Initiative presentation to NCEES Board of Directors. The sessions may also include presentations or discussions concerning:

- Licensure and workforce development.
- Engineering and surveying education.

- Outreach to students and early STEM participants.
- Coordination with universities, K–12 systems, professional organizations, consulting firms, and regional partners.
- Potential impacts on the neighboring islands and communities affected by recent storms and typhoons.

The Board recognized that the Island Initiative had become too extensive and discussed narrowing it to focused objectives, particularly:

1. Early STEM exposure.
2. College-level engineering and surveying pipeline development.

Action: A date for a future work session will be identified and reserved after Board members' schedules are reviewed.

b. Examination request from registrant residing in Japan

The Board discussed a request from a registrant residing in Japan who wished to take the applicable land-surveying examination remotely.

The discussion noted that:

- The Board is not currently set up to administer the examination remotely from Japan.
- Possible testing-provider or examination-center options were considered.
- The matter will require additional review before a response is finalized.

Action: The matter will be revisited at a future meeting.

c. Discussion regarding Peter Bautista

The Board revisited the status of Peter Bautista's temporary license.

The discussion covered:

- A temporary license had previously been issued for one year because the registrant's original license from another jurisdiction had expired.
- The Board had been awaiting a legal opinion regarding the appropriate licensing pathway.
- Possible pathways included reinstatement of the original registration or registration by comity, subject to satisfaction of applicable requirements.
- The Board considered whether the registrant's active license and examination history in another jurisdiction would support registration by comity.
- Ethical and procedural questions were raised regarding the registrant's practice during any lapse in registration.

Motion

A motion was made and seconded to allow Mr. Bautista to pursue licensure by comity.

Motioned: Board Member Cristi, PE
Seconded: Board Member Santos, PLS
Motion passed with three votes in favor and one opposed

The Board noted that reinstatement of the original license remained an alternative pathway, subject to applicable fees, penalties, and requirements.

Item 8, Board Discussion

a. Experience verification and supervisory attestations

The Board discussed applicants who obtain professional experience while employed by general contractors or other entities, but whose technical work is supervised by a licensed architect, engineer, or surveyor employed by a separate organization.

The discussion addressed:

- How supervised professional experience should be documented.
- Whether an applicant's direct employer must also be the supervising professional.
- The use of an attestation from the licensed professional who actually supervised the work.
- The need for documentation identifying:
- Project name.
- Project duration.
- Nature of the work performed.
- Hours or period of qualifying experience.
- Name and license information of the supervising professional.

Motion

A motion was made and seconded to develop or require a supervisory attestation from the licensed design professional who supervised an applicant's qualifying experience when the applicant's employer is not the supervising professional.

Motioned: Board Member Cristi, PE
Seconded: Board Member Belanger, PE
Motion pass unanimously

b. Construction management licensure and regulatory scope

The Board discussed construction management education, registration, and the relationship between construction management services and the Board's existing professional disciplines.

Topics included:

- Whether construction management should be treated as an individual professional license or as a service associated with an existing engineering or architectural license.
- The educational curriculum for construction management programs.
- Whether construction management applicants should be required to satisfy civil engineering or other discipline-specific examination requirements.
- The distinction between a construction management certificate of authorization and an individual license.
- The need to assess how existing laws and regulations apply to evolving construction management programs and professional roles.

c. Design-build and coordination responsibilities

The Board discussed concerns arising from design-build projects, particularly situations in which:

- A general contractor manages multiple design subcontractors.
- Separate electrical, mechanical, fire protection, architectural, and engineering designs are produced without adequate coordination.
- Responsibility for overall design coordination is unclear.

The Board discussed the importance of identifying a responsible design professional or coordinating party to ensure communication and consistency among the various disciplines.

No formal action was taken. The matter may be considered during the continuing review of laws, rules, regulations, and professional responsibilities.

Item 9 Public Comments

Seeing no raised hands for public comments, the board chairman moved to the next agenda item.

Item 10, DPW Permit and Application Review

a. The Board reviewed application and permit-related administrative procedures.

Discussion included:

- Retaining payment documentation for application files.

- Improving the process for printing or saving only the payment portion of an application.
- Exploring secure online document sharing for Board members.
- Potential use of a shared platform for applications and supporting documents.
- The need to restrict access to authorized users.
- Concerns regarding subscription fees and available agency payment methods.

The Board also reviewed an initial electrical registration application involving applicants who passed the Fundamentals of Engineering and Professional Engineering examinations in different jurisdictions or at different times.

The Board clarified that:

- Electrical and electrical/computer power examinations fall within the electrical discipline.
- Passing examinations does not itself establish registration.
- The applicant must still satisfy the experience and documentation requirements for initial registration.

Item 11, New business

The Board briefly discussed:

- The increasing number of disputes involving contractors and design professionals.
- The need for clearer coordination and responsibility on design-build projects.
- The continuing evolution of professional practice and the need to update Board rules and regulations accordingly.

Item 12, Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motioned: Board Member Santos, PLS
Seconded: Board Member Cristi, PE
Motioned passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 3:51 pm

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Thursday, July 23, 2026 | 2:10 PM – 3:51 PM

Prepared by:
Catherine Gutierrez, Executive Board Administrator
Date prepared: July 30, 2026

Certification of Minutes
I hereby certify that these minutes are an accurate and complete record of the proceedings of the PEALS Board meeting held on July 23, 2026.

Cedric Cruz, AIA Board Architect Member & Board Chairman

Signature: _____

Date: 10/9/26

Paul L Santos, PLS Board Surveyor Member & Secretary Treasurer

Signature: _____

Date: 10/1/2026