

## ***Part I – Agency Profile***

### **Agency Overview**

The Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors was created by the Legislature in 1939, prior to which the Department of Law Enforcement was responsible for licensing and enforcement. The Board consists of four professional engineers and one professional land surveyor appointed by the Governor from among nominees submitted by statewide engineer and land surveyor societies. The Board hired an Executive Director, Keith A. Simila, P.E. in 2013 who manages the Board office and supervises three additional office staff in the office in Meridian.

The Board exists to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by assuring that those offering their services to the public as engineers and land surveyors are properly qualified. Prior to 1978 an individual could be licensed separately as a land surveyor, but all persons licensed as engineers were allowed to practice land surveying. For a one-year time period beginning in 1978 those persons then licensed as engineers were required to submit evidence of competency in land surveying in order to retain their license as a land surveyor. After that time, separate credentials were required to qualify as a land surveyor. Currently, the Board licenses both Engineers and Land Surveyors with separate but similar examination and credential verification processes.

One development which has affected the operation of the Board includes the globalization of commerce. A large percentage of license holders are not residents of Idaho and we rely to a great extent on the revenue from their application and renewal fees to fund the agency. The economic recovery that is ongoing in Idaho has created the need for additional engineering and surveying services to make those projects become realities. The Board's function in this matter is to assure that those who wish to offer their services are qualified to do so.

An increase in the complexity of complaints and the manner in which they must be investigated and resolved has resulted in an increase in the number of complaints that are difficult to resolve in a timely manner. The Board filled the position of Deputy Director whose primary responsibility has been to investigate complaints and the timeliness of those investigations has improved.

Until recently the Board operation has been quite "paper intensive." The Board obtained an imaging system to reduce the retention of hard copies of documents as well as to better maintain the database of license and certificate holders.

### **Core Functions/Idaho Code**

The Board's Core Functions include information sharing and liaison with other agencies and licensing boards in other jurisdictions; enforcement of the laws and rules of the State of Idaho; maintenance of professional relations with other groups and stakeholders; issuance of licenses and certificates as authorized by Idaho Code; interface with the legislature to assure that the licensing laws remain relevant and current; and effectively perform the administrative activities required to accomplish the Board mission.

Idaho Code Section 54-1208 is entitled "Board—Powers" and lists those authorities vested in the Board. The Board is empowered to adopt Administrative Rules, and has adopted four chapters including Rules of Procedure, Professional Responsibility, Corner Perpetuation and Filing, and Continuing Professional Development. The Board promulgated Administrative Rules in 2008-9 to include engineers, in addition to land surveyors, in the requirement for continuing professional development as a condition of renewal. The Board annually reviews or audits five percent of the licensees for compliance with CPD. The Board may subpoena witnesses and require the submission of evidence in disciplinary matters. It may seek injunctive relief in District Court to enforce the provisions of the enabling legislation or to restrain violation of it. The board may subject applicants for certification and license to examinations in order to determine minimum competency. The board maintains a current roster of license and certificate holders on the internet as provided in Idaho Code Section 54-1211. The Board requires biennial renewal of licenses and certificates as provided in Idaho Code Section 54-1216 and issues licenses to persons who are licensed in other jurisdictions as allowed in Idaho Code Section 54-1219. Idaho Code Section 54-1220 allows the Board to investigate and adjudicate allegations of violation of the Idaho Code and Administrative Rules.

**Revenue and Expenditures:**

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>
State Regulatory Fund	\$463,000	\$518,500	\$477,300	\$481,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$463,000</b>	<b>\$518,500</b>	<b>\$477,300</b>	<b>\$481,200</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>
Personnel Costs	\$321,900	\$318,800	\$324,400	\$357,900
Operating Expenditures	\$192,900	\$163,000	\$212,900	\$170,900
Capital Outlay	\$7,600	\$1,400	\$2,100	\$0
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$522,400</b>	<b>\$483,200</b>	<b>\$539,400</b>	<b>\$528,800</b>

**Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided**

<b>Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011</b>	<b>FY 2012</b>	<b>FY 2013</b>
Staff and Board Member presentations to general stakeholders	26	40	23	24
Publish and distribute a quality NEWS BULLETIN	2	2	2	2
Issue licenses and certificates to the satisfaction of applicants	94.2%	92.1%	91.8%	94.2%

**Performance Highlights**

The Board recently began more aggressive outreach to license and certificate holders to discuss and explain matters of interest. In FY 2013 the Board made presentations at the annual meeting of the Idaho Society of Professional Land Surveyors as well as the Idaho Society of Professional Engineers. Board Members and staff are active in the 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 a member of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Subcommittee on Examinations for Professional Engineers. Retired Executive Director David L. Curtis, P.E., was Chair of the NCEES Mobility Task Force and was Secretary/Treasurer of the Western Zone of NCEES. John Howe, P.L.S. served as member of the NCEES Subcommittee on Examinations for Professional Surveyors. John Elle, P.E., P.L.S. served on the Member Board Administrators Committee. Emeritus board member Dr. James Milligan served on the Examination Audit Committee.

**Part II – Performance Measures**

Performance Measure	2010	2011	2012	2013	Benchmark
1. Presentations made to organizations	26	40	26	24	30
2. Publish a quality News Bulletin	2	2	2	2	2
3. Meet at diverse locations	4 Boise 3 Other	4 Boise 2 Other	4 Boise 2 Other	4 Boise 2 Other	4 in Boise and 3 in Idaho outside Boise
4. Prepare a report on applicant satisfaction with recommendations for improvement	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Complete Annually
5. Submit legislation to modernize the licensing law	Passed HB 425 and 478	Passed HB 132	Passed HB 374 and 375	Passed HB 45	Present to Legislature as necessary
6. Prepare desk manuals for each staff position.	Outlines Completed	Outlines Completed	Outlines Completed	Completed	Keep Current

**For More Information Contact**

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