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Board of Registration of Architects
December 9, 2025, Public MEETING MINUTES

A public meeting of the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Architects (the Board) was held remotely via video and telephone conferencing pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2022, allowing remote participation by Board members and the public.

Attending Members: Aelan Tierney, Board Chair; Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Vice Chair; Kerry Dietz; Edward Ransom

Members Absent: None

DOL Staff: Colleen Maloney, Acting Executive Director; James Curley, Executive Director; Stephen Pleva, Board Counsel; John Hill, Board Administrative Staff

Meeting Called to Order

Remote meeting procedures – Chair called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., when Quorum was established.

Read and Approve Minutes:

- Minutes from the October 14th, 2025 Public Board Meeting were reviewed and discussed. Board members voted to accept the minutes:
 - Board Chair called for a roll call vote. Moved by Kerry Dietz, seconded by Edward Ransom
 - Members in Favor: Aelan Tierney, Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Edward Ransom, and Kerry Dietz
 - Members Opposed: None
 - Motion passes

Discussion Items

- New Executive Director and Board Counsel
 - James Curley gave an introduction
 - Stephen Pleva gave an introduction
- NCARB Conference
 - Chair, Aelan Tierney advised that there are 2 significant meetings: Regional March 19-21, Annual June 25-27



- Regional Meeting: Oklahoma City, OK March 19-21. All jurisdictions meet and discuss various topics and challenges each jurisdiction is facing. Provide support with guidance on licensing and regulations.
- Annual Meeting: Minneapolis, MN June 25-27
- Chair, Aelan Tierney asked that members inform her of who is attending by end of year
- Board Counsel, Stephen Pleva reminded members of travel and funding forms
- Acting Executive Director, Colleen Maloney informed members she will send out those forms
- NCARB Statement on Professional Degrees
 - Chair, Aelan Tierney advised according to the current federal administration, within the department of education, Architect degrees are longer being considered professional degrees. This limits funding that students can receive for an advanced or professional degree.
 - Kerry Dietz mentioned the Board should take a stance on this
 - John Nunnari, President of MA-AIA, noted this would only affect Master's and PHD students. Would lower borrowing limits, depending on the program, to between \$100,000 to \$200,000
 - AIA is urging the department of education to restore architecture to the definition of professional degree
 - Formal public comment period for this will open in early 2026

Application Review:

- Lana Yoon Reinstatement
 - Edward Ransom makes a motion to Reinstate. Seconded by Keery Dietz
 - Members in Favor: Aelan Tierney, Edward Ransom, Kerry Dietz
 - Members Opposed: None
 - Recused: Emily Grandstaff-Rice
 - Motion passes
- Application Review: 2025-410-AR-AAPP
 - Kerry Dietz makes a motion to grant reciprocity, seconded by Edward Ransom.
 - Members in Favor: Aelan Tierney, Edward Ransom, Kerry Dietz
 - Members Opposed: None
 - Abstained: Emily Grandstaff-Rice

Executive Director Report

- 2026 Calendar
 - 2/17/26: 9 AM Virtual
 - 4/14/26: 10:00 AM in person in Boston
 - 6/9/26: 9 AM Virtual
 - 8/11/26: 9 AM Virtual
 - 10/13/26: 10:00 AM in person as a potential make-up date
 - 12/8/26: 9:00 AM Virtual
- Licensing update:
 - 435 applications this year.
 - 5 not reviewed yet
 - 77 currently active either pending review or waiting for response from applicant
 - 523 licenses granted between 1/1/25-12/8/25

Board Counsel Report

- New regulations went into effect on November 7, 2025
- NCARB Equivalency vs Model Law

Public Comment: None

Topics not reasonably anticipated None

CLOSED SESSIONS

At 9:55 AM there was a MOTION to exit open meeting and move into Closed Executive Session followed by Investigative Conference per M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C and the Board will not reconvene in public session

- Motion made by Emily Grandstaff-Rice, seconded by Edward Ransom
 - Chair called for a roll call vote
 - Members in favor: Aelan Tierney, Emily Grandstaff-Rice, Kerry Dietz Edward Ransom.
 - Members opposed: None
 - Motion Passes

See separate Minutes of Executive Session.

Investigative Conference (Closed per M.G.L. c. 112, § 65C):

The following actions were taken during the Investigative Conference:

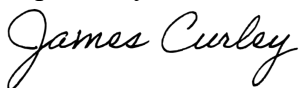
Settlements: None

Cases:

- 2025-000905-IT-ENF: Refer to Prosecutions
- 2025-000896-IT-ENF: Send to EN/LS
- 2025-000898-IT-ENF: Tabled
- 2025-000897-IT-ENF: Tabled
- 2025-000799-IT-ENF: Return to OI
- 2025-000800-IT-ENF: Return to OI
- 2025-000790-IT-ENF: Return to OI
- 2025-000216-IT-ENF: Tabled

Adjournment: The Board Meeting was Adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



James Curley
Executive Director

Documents Used During the Open Meeting:

- Agenda for the Open Meeting
- Minutes from the Open Architect Board Meeting held October 14, 2025
- Lana Yoon Projects
- 2025-410-AR-AAPP Reinstatement email correspondence
- 2026 NCARB Funding Memorandum
- NCARB Statement on the Department of Education's Professional Degree List