

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Seacrest called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and noted the location of the Open Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on August 13, 2024, and on the Board's website under the Open Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Jennifer Seacrest, Chairperson; Jonathan Hauck, Vice-Chairperson; Kristin Engler; Bradley Swerczek, Derek Miller; Absent: Kristin Engler

Staff Present: Jean Lais, Administrative Programs Officer (APO)

PUBLIC COMMENT/APPOINTMENTS

Engler entered the meeting at 9:16 a.m.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement was reviewed. No revisions were made.

Public Awareness

Public Awareness was removed as its own section and added to *Communication*.

Legislative Awareness

A draft of the senator's letter presented at the July meeting was provided. Chair Seacrest provided a revision, which was shared with the members to review and make revisions prior to the October meeting. A final draft will be provided then.

Discussions occurred regarding whether to include examples of projects in the letter or supporting documents. Further discussion will take place at the October meeting. The members are to compile a list of Nebraska projects to review at the meeting. A specific request was made to find projects outside the Omaha and Lincoln areas.

Communication

Copies of informational handouts from the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and the Association for Responsible Professional Licensure (ARPL) were provided. The ASLA handouts are editable to include state-specific information and photos.

Public Awareness was added as part of *Communication*. The following revisions were made:

The purpose of conducting ongoing communication and awareness is to help the public and emerging professionals understand the importance of landscape architect licensure in protecting public health, safety, and welfare.

Goals

Continuously update the website and communication strategies to ensure that licensees, applicants, and the public have the most up-to-date and relevant information from the Board regarding licensure.

Action Plan

- *Update the website to ensure the information is accurate and relevant as needed*
- *Update the landscape architecture project photos on the website periodically*
- *Engage with emerging professionals to discuss the importance of licensure to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare*

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- *Collaborate with professional organizations to interact with the public to discuss the importance of landscape architecture in protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare*

Discussion was held as to how the Board may better connect with emerging professionals. It was suggested that the Board contact the College of Architecture to see if there may be an opportunity to present to a studio design class in addition to the ASLA-Student Chapter. It was also suggested to present to an interim term class.

A draft of the Strategic Plan will be provided at the October meeting for approval.

2025-2027 BIENNIUM BUDGET REQUEST

[Overview of the Budget Process](#)

An overview of the budget request process was provided, and the spreadsheet used. APO Lais outlined the issues addressed in the request. These include a projected 3% increase in the administrative services contract with the Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA); an increase in the Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards (CLARB) dues due to the uncertainty of being able to utilize the current 29% discount for requiring the CLARB dues; a decrease alignment in the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) fees; and an increase in travel expenses.

The CLARB Uniform Standard for Licensure for Landscape Architects adopted by the membership in 2022 no longer specifies jurisdictions must require the CLARB record as part of the licensure process. As a result, the CLARB Board of Directors has been reviewing the relevance of the current membership dues discount of 29%. Per discussions staff has had with CLARB, the Board of Directors is examining the possibility of replacing the discount with a similar discount for adopting or aligning with the Uniform Standard. However, the certainty of the discount cannot be guaranteed, so the Board is requesting the full membership dues fee for the biennium.

With the projected Cash Fund balance at just over two times the requested appropriation in FY2026-27, which is in line with Board Policy LA P08.01, staff recommended no fee adjustments during the biennium.

APO Lais informed the members that there will be an additional issue related to a Payment Card Industry (PCI) Data Security Standard (DSS) scanning requirement for online and Point of Sale (POS) transactions that will go into effect in March 2025. The estimated yearly cost is \$500.00.

The overall request is \$38,487 for FY2025-26 and \$39,716 for FY2026-27. That is an approximate 25.7% and 29.7% increase, respectfully, over the FY2024-25 appropriated expenses and a 3.2% increase from FY2025-26 to FY2026-27.

Motion by Engler, second by Swerczek, to approve the 2025-2027 Biennium Budget request as presented. Voting Yes: Engler, Hauck, Miller, Swerczek, Seacrest; Voting No: None

CLARB BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2024-2025 ELECTIONS

Candidate information for the President-Elect and the Leadership Advisory Council was provided.

President-Elect

Brian Verardo – New Mexico

Leadership Advisory Council (Vote for two)

Keven Graham – Illinois

Jolene Rieck – North Dakota

Motion by Hauck, second by Engler, to authorize the voting delegate to vote in favor of Verardo as President-Elect and Graham and Rieck as the Leadership Advisory Council members. Voting Yes: Engler, Hauck, Miller, Swerczek, Seacrest; Voting No: None

Directors-at-Large Appointments:

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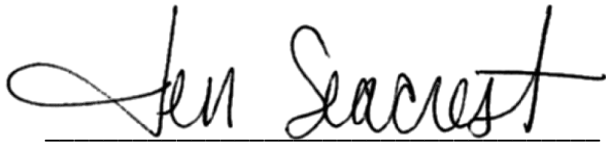
Edward Kinney – South Carolina, Landscape Architect

Leehu Loon – Texas, Department Chair and Professor, Texas Tech University

Ramon Murray – Florida, Landscape Architect

ADJOURNMENT

| Chair Seacrest adjourned the meeting at 10:32 a.m.



Board Member