

## Washington State Board of Licensure for Landscape Architects Meeting Transcript – August 10, 2023

Chair LaPierre (00:02):

3:00 AM calling to this regular board meeting of West Washington Board of Licensure for Landscape Architects to order. As a courtesy, to reduce the background noise when others are speaking, we encourage participants to mute their mics when you are not speaking. One challenge is remembering to unmute when you are speaking, so please remember that. Also, for board members to help us capture information correctly, please state your name when making comments. The board will provide an opportunity for public comment during the meeting. We will ask you to unmute yourself prior to the public comment to allow an opportunity for anyone who would like to speak. Thank you.

(00:51):

Susan, could you please call the roll? And board members, respond if in attendance.

Susan (00:59):

I'll start with you. Chair LaPierre?

Chair LaPierre (01:02):

I'm present.

Susan (01:04):

Vice Chair Crabill?

Vice Chair Crabill (01:07):

Here.

Susan (01:08):

Secretary Robinson-Losey?

Sharon Robinson-Losey (01:10):

I'm here.

Susan (01:12):

And board member Peters? Okay, make note of that, and hopefully she joins us soon.

Chair LaPierre (01:32):

I'd like to call for approval of the agenda, and that needs a motion for approval.

Vice Chair Crabill (01:40):

This is Daren. I so move as written.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (01:47):

This is Sharon. I second.

Chair LaPierre (01:50):

Moved and second. Any objections? Hearing none. Your agenda is approved. I need a motion for approval of the minutes. That's of May 11th, 2023, located on pages five to eight. Any motion for approval?

Vice Chair Crabill (02:21):

This is Daren. I'll move.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (02:21):

This is Sharon. I'll second.

Chair LaPierre (02:23):

Thank you. Without any objection, we'll approve the minutes of May 11th. We'll move on to agenda item number five, awards and recognition. Thank you, Len, for being here today. This is your recognition of service on the board, and Sydney will present that. This is for Len's long service on the board. Sydney?

Sydney Muhle (03:00):

Len served with us from 2011 through October of last year and took a couple turns as Chair, served on a number of different committees, a wide range of projects for the board, and so we wanted to take a moment and just recognize his service, and also provide an opportunity for board members to show their appreciation for him as well. We do have a plaque that will be mailed to Len that Alyssa is displaying, but recognizing his service and thanking him for everything he did for the residents of Washington. So thank you, Len.

Len Zickler (03:42):

Well, thank you. Honestly, this comes as a bit of a surprise, so I very much appreciated the time that I had serving on the board and the folks that shared that task with me over the last 10 years, and it was a pleasure. It was certainly a pleasure to do that, and thank you so much. I'm surprised.

Chair LaPierre (04:13):

Len, I'm just curious, are you retired now, or are you still practicing?

Len Zickler (04:18):

Well, I'm still doing some planning work. Actually, I'm doing a little bit of work in the real estate world, and so bringing the experience that I gained at AHBL for five years. And so occasionally I get called on to offer some advice and so I'm happy to do that, and yeah, it's fun. It's fun to stay engaged, actually.

Chair LaPierre (04:48):

Yeah, I imagine. Well, great. Well, congratulations, and I know everyone appreciated your service.

Len Zickler (04:59):

Thank you, Curtis. Appreciate it.

Sydney Muhle (05:01):

I didn't know if either Sharon or Daren wanted to share anything with Len while he's here, but wanted to give that opportunity as well.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (05:17):

Well, this is Sharon, and I just want to say thank you so much, Len, because I was such a newbie when I showed up and knew nothing. And the onboarding was really quick, I jumped in with both feet, and you just treated me like I'd been there for years, and you were just so friendly, and I really appreciate that a lot.

Len Zickler (05:34):

Thanks, Sharon.

Vice Chair Crabill (05:36):

Yep. Certainly appreciate the professionalism and ability to take on the topics with that attitude and a very even keel, so appreciate your service as well.

Len Zickler (05:53):

Thank you, Daren. I will say that I also appreciate Curtis, Daren, Sharon, certainly Deb, your involvement with WSLA over the years, that your leadership has been very, very valuable, and you bring a lot to the table. And so I hope you continue to provide counsel that way.

Chair LaPierre (06:20):

Well, thanks. Plan to.

Sydney Muhle (06:26):

Thank you, Len, and we will be getting that plaque in the mail to you probably this afternoon. So I don't know how long it will take to get to you, but hopefully it will go out quickly.

Chair LaPierre (06:36):

Four to six weeks probably, Len.

Len Zickler (06:39):

Yeah. Excellent. Thanks so much. I appreciate it. Great to see you all.

Chair LaPierre (06:45):

Thanks again.

Len Zickler (06:48):

You bet.

Chair LaPierre (06:48):

Moving on to item 5.2 on the agenda, I'd like to introduce, or Sydney will actually introduce, new Department of Licensing Director Marcus Glasper. Sydney?

Sydney Muhle (07:03):

Yes, it is my pleasure to introduce Director Marcus Glasper to the board. Director Glasper joined the Department of Licensing this past spring, and I will turn it over to him to introduce himself a little bit more.

Marcus Glasper (07:14):

Well, thank you. Good morning everyone, and thank you for allowing me the opportunity to meet all of you and introduce myself. As was said, my name is Marcus Glasper, and I use he/him pronouns. I've been in my role now for a little over four months, about four months in a week, coming up on that six month mark where you can no longer claim that you're new. But having said that, I am enjoying the work here so far.

(07:51):

As you can see on the slide, I'm southern grown, hailing from the state of Louisiana where I was reared and got my undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering. Interestingly enough, since I'm talking to architects, I always wanted to be an architect, but for some reason my guidance counselor in high school steered me away from the profession, telling me how hard it was to make it in that industry, so I do appreciate the work that you do.

(08:33):

But nevertheless, after I graduated I moved to the tri-city, so that's what brought me to Washington State to work for the Department of Energy at the Hanford nuclear cleanup site. So I did that for about 10 years before coming to Washington State Government in 2003. So I've moved around a bit over the last 20 years, with Licensing being my fourth agency in state service.

(09:07):

So over my 30 year career, it just definitely has taken me some interesting places, from nuclear waste to prisons, to taxes, to gambling, which I was at the lottery right before I came here. And now I am here at Licensing serving the residents of Washington. But all of these experiences, I would say, however, have grounded me in public service, which I've always believed to be my calling. And I think Licensing is truly a great fit, as this agency touches the lives of almost every Washingtonian.

(09:46):

As you can imagine, as I said, even though I've been here a little over four months, I'm still in the learning phase as the breadth of licensing mission is extensive. But some of my focus areas over the next couple of years will include looking at the agency's strategic framework. I really want to understand what guides our work and decision making, and then work together collaboratively to make improvements where we can.

(10:17):

I'm also about preparing the agency for its future stability. We definitely have a central role in collecting revenue for the transportation network, transportation system here in Washington, collecting over \$3 billion in fuel taxes. So it is important that we look at how we can continue to support that transportation network.

(10:44):

Supporting the Washington Traffic Safety platform. We have a key role there, and we want to be good partners in advancing traffic safety on Washington roadways, supporting our business and professions, which is some of the work that you are doing, and improving our infrastructure so that we can make it easier for our businesses and professions to obtain their licensure so they can live and thrive in this state.

(11:16):

I always want to look at the customer experience. We serve almost 8 million residents of Washington, and so that is a key and top priority for us. We are the face of state government in many ways if you think about it, and how many people we touch on a daily basis. And then ensuring a diverse, equitable, inclusive culture and focusing on operational excellence.

(11:41):

So those are really the things that are top of mind for me and where I want to focus some of my priorities here for the next couple of years. So that's me in a nutshell. I just wanted to take a few minutes to introduce myself to you. I don't want to take up any more time on your important agenda, but I do want to thank you for your service to this board, your profession, and quite frankly, the residents of Washington for the work you do to help our licensees as well as ensuring safe and equitable practices for the public. So if there are any questions, I'm happy to take questions, but hope you enjoy the rest of your meeting today.

Chair LaPierre (12:34):

Hi, this is Curtis LaPierre. Just wondering, have you seen anything in your first four months that you think really needs to change, or are you pretty happy with the way everything is so far?

Marcus Glasper (12:48):

Well, what I will say is that I am excited about the engaged and passionate employees we have, and so coming into an organization, that is probably a foundational element to establishing the culture that you want an agency to have. So that is level one, and I'm pleased to find that.

(13:15):

I do have quite a bit of administrative experience in state government, and even outside of state government. And I think that there are some operational improvement opportunities. As I said, I wanted to really look at what's going to bring us to that next level of operational excellence and how we serve our customers. And we always need to be looking at trends about how we serve our customers. So I think that there are some areas that we would want to focus on so that we are continually improving, but all in all, I am very happy with the direction that we are on.

(13:56):

We just released our strategic plan on July one, and it has some exciting initiatives on the horizon for us. For example, we are doing more work on a mobile unit for DOL where we can bring our services to customers. So right now, customers have to come to us to get some of the services that they need. We are looking at how we can deploy our services on a mobile basis so that we can reach more people who may not be able to have good access to us coming to an office. So lots of things like that that are more customer-centric that we want to take some time to explore. So I hope that answers your question.

Chair LaPierre (14:43):

Yes, thank you.

Marcus Glasper (14:47):

Anything else I can answer?

Chair LaPierre (14:52):

Thanks for being here today.

Marcus Glasper (14:53):

Yeah. Thank you all, and thank you for the work that you do.

Chair LaPierre (14:57):

And we certainly think we have a great staff working with us on this board.

Marcus Glasper (15:03):

Yes, I only hear great things. So enjoy the rest of your meeting, and nice to meet all of you.

Chair LaPierre (15:11):

All right. Thank you. Moving on to item six, old business, in terms of outreach update, I think I could start that. I did reach out to University of Washington and have not heard back yet. It's surprising. It's, I guess, between quarters, so maybe they're all on vacation. So we'll wait to hear back and see when... I think the main question there is, when are they offering their professional practice class, and do we have an opportunity? And Daren, I think you were reaching out to WSU, right?

Vice Chair Crabill (16:08):

Yeah, I did do that. I did get an out of office reply saying that they would begin combing through their summer emails in August, so I expected that sometime in early Fall we'll get a response on how we can be helpful to them.

Chair LaPierre (16:28):

Right.

Sydney Muhle (16:32):

Chair LaPierre, that's something we've been hearing across all of our boards trying to get into the universities, that they're just not going to hear anything until hopefully later this month, but more likely September, as they start really working through scheduling.

(16:46):

The other thing I want to point out, which we'll talk a little bit more later in this meeting, but we do have a new board member who's going to be joining us. He's actually effective now, but by the time his appointment came through, he already had a family vacation scheduled and couldn't join us today. But board member Jason Anderson does serve on the landscape architect committee, I guess, for WSU, so he could be a great resource for us to reach them as well.

Chair LaPierre (17:18):

Oh, good. Good. Wasn't he going to Hawaii? That's-

Sydney Muhle (17:21):

I believe so.

Chair LaPierre (17:22):

Depending on where he was going, not-

Sydney Muhle (17:24):

Yeah, so hopefully he is safe, he and his family are safe. We are not certain where exactly they were going, but.

Vice Chair Crabill (17:30):

We'll hope for the big island.

Chair LaPierre (17:34):

Yeah. Anything else on outreach? I've been doing some ongoing interaction with the students at the University of Idaho, but that's a different state. But a lot of them end up certainly licensed here, coming to work here in Washington. So it's good that they know, and I'll have to say, they're very curious about Washington, how to get licensed in Washington and reciprocity, that sort of thing. So there's a lot of interest.

(18:20):

Okay. Item 6.2, the American Society of Landscape Architects, ASLA, and CLARB, the Consulate of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards, did do a joint licensure summit. I did attend that. Julia was there, and I think Julia is not able to be here today. I have to admit, that was one of those things where I was kind of working, doing double duty, keeping things here at work going as well as listening in. That was a lengthy summit that we had. But Sydney, do you have some of Julia's notes on that?

Sydney Muhle (19:08):

I do. I have Julia's notes handy. There were three key takeaways that Julia highlighted for us. And Julia apologizes, she was going to do her best to call in today, but she is in the middle of nowhere in the Midwest and wasn't certain she was going to have cell phone service to be able to phone in today, so I'm assuming that it worked out she did not.

(19:29):

But the licensure summit was an all day event. The three key takeaways that she wanted to highlight were they talked about communicating the value of licensure and the boards, specifically working to counter a prevailing narrative that's slowly finding its way throughout the country, working to counter it about anti-licensure being pro-business, and determining strategies to promote the role and value of the licensure boards across the country.

(20:03):

Another topic was leading licensure reform, how to step into licensure reform discussions in a proactive way. The group discussed the need to understand nationwide trends, what universal licensure is, and how uniform standards can differ, and the benefits of the boards and licensure. With that, they also discussed the Council of Landscape Architect Registration Board's, CLARB's, work to implement licensure standards across the different state boards.

(20:37):

And then they also discussed engaging with legislatures and how to really have impactful discussions with our legislatures when we are able to get before them.

Chair LaPierre (20:52):

Right. Any questions, or anything anyone wants to add on that item? Okay, let's move on to item seven, new business, the CLARB, Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Board's annual meeting, and Susan, you're going to talk about that. We're going to select a voting delegate, is that correct? You're muted.

Susan (21:33):

Sorry about that.

Chair LaPierre (21:34):

There you go.

Susan (21:37):

We have designated who will be going, so Curtis and Sharon and Julia Manley will be attending. Julia just recently registered everybody, so we're continuing to work on all of the rest of it that comes with the annual meeting.

(21:58):

The meeting will be held in Henderson, Nevada on September 20th through 22nd, so today we will be talking about the candidates that you guys would like to submit your vote with. So we have, in the

packet that I sent out last week, you had videos and a candidate interest form that went through all of the candidates and all of their experience, and so hopefully you guys had an opportunity to review that.

(22:31):

We have the president elect candidate, Joel Kurokawa from Hawaii. The treasure candidate is Craig Coronato, and the leadership advisor candidates are John Cawthorne from Mississippi, Candace Dillingham from Oklahoma, and Kevin Graham from Illinois.

(22:51):

The director at large positions are not something that this board will vote on. That is an appointment made by the Leadership Council Advisory Council. So just the top tier there. You guys will have a discussion on and make a determination of how you would like to place your votes.

Sydney Muhle (23:10):

And there will also be a determination of who your voting delegate will be, so of the attendees being Curtis and Sharon, who you guys would like the delegate to be. And then we usually, in this case, since there's two people going, usually whoever the second person is would just automatically be considered an alternate just in case something happens, family emergencies, things like that do come up, so we always provide an alternate as well.

Susan (23:40):

I vote for Curtis. I'll be the alternate.

Chair LaPierre (23:42):

You're really quick.

Susan (23:45):

I am.

Chair LaPierre (23:48):

I was going to say, "I vote for Sharon."

Susan (23:49):

I knew it.

Chair LaPierre (23:51):

No, I'm happy to do that. I've served with Joel and Craig and Kevin on ASLA board of trustees, so I know these folks pretty well. It seems like where there is only one candidate, that's not something that we need to discuss too much, or is that correct?

Sydney Muhle (24:29):

Yeah, it's one of those situations that technically you guys have to cast a vote, and if for whatever reason somebody really felt strongly that a single candidate shouldn't be, I assume you could vote against them. But yeah, typically that's the only option that you have.

Chair LaPierre (24:54):

Yeah. I could just tell you, as far as the president-elect, Joel, was very active on the ASLA board of trustees. I believe he owns his own business, if I recall correctly. And he's been serving with CLARB now for a while. So definitely would have my vote. Any other comments on president-elect? We have to formally take a vote one by one, is that correct?

Sydney Muhle (25:29):

No, you can do it as a slate.

Chair LaPierre (25:31):

Okay. I'll just go ahead and... Go ahead, Daren.

Vice Chair Crabill (25:37):

Just a quick question. Daren Crabill. Do we need three council candidates? I can't remember how many council candidates are required.

Sydney Muhle (25:52):

Susan, do you have the list handy?

Susan (25:58):

Let me see if I can pull up her...

Chair LaPierre (26:02):

Oh, that's a good question. I don't know if we're voting for one or for all, if all three.

Vice Chair Crabill (26:10):

If there's three seats, yeah.

Sydney Muhle (26:33):

We are both trying to find the form just to verify.

Vice Chair Crabill (26:37):

Yep.

Susan (26:39):

I'm going to stop sharing for just a moment.

Chair LaPierre (26:41):

Okay.

Vice Chair Crabill (26:50):

Just while they review that, I've reviewed all the candidates. I don't have any strong opinions against any of them, so I guess that was the reason I'm asking the question, because if there's only two spots or one spot, then we have a little bit of vetting to do. But on a general basis, they all seem committed and interested, obviously.

Chair LaPierre (27:39):

Right. Did you have a preference?

Vice Chair Crabill (27:53):

I'll be honest that I am always interested in giving new blood an opportunity to serve, because I have found just generally in organizations that you see a lot of the same faces, which is good to a certain extent, but when someone is willing to put themselves out there and try their hand and become a new face and a new voice, I think that's also quite important to have a new voice available to leadership. And so I guess that puts Kevin as, in my mind, a leading candidate to provide that new voice, because he doesn't have, quote unquote, "direct" CLARB experience. And I think that would be where I would put my vote if I had to choose one.

Susan (29:07):

And just if I may interject, it is two, so it would be two for the advisory council candidates. So my apologies in regards to that.

Vice Chair Crabill (29:16):

No worries.

Chair LaPierre (29:16):

Yeah. I think it's K-E-V-I-N. I don't know that that's how he spells his name. Maybe it is.

Susan (29:28):

It is. I double checked it multiple times.

Chair LaPierre (29:33):

Oh, really?

Susan (29:33):

Yeah.

Chair LaPierre (29:33):

I never realized that.

Susan (29:33):

And it's on all of the documents that they sent us, so yeah. I did double check. I thought at first it was a typo in the first one, and then all the documents have it.

Chair LaPierre (29:42):

Right. It's funny, I never noticed that. I did serve with Kevin again on ASLA's trustees board. Kevin I know has been very involved in the licensure work at Illinois, which was a tough fight for a long time. They had the landscape contractors, they weren't quite seeing eye to eye for quite a long time. So that was a real effort, and I think Kevin was a pretty important part of that. So in my mind, he would be a good candidate.

Vice Chair Crabill (30:20):

I might also throw out that some diversity across both gender and location is maybe worthwhile to consider. And so with that in mind, I might also throw support towards Candace to provide some diversity on that leadership slate. But again, that is apropos of nothing beyond those things that I mentioned and taking a look at their past service history, so take that with whatever grain of salt you need to.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (31:04):

So Curtis, if I may, this is Sharon.

Chair LaPierre (31:05):

Sharon?

Sharon Robinson-Losey (31:07):

So no, Kevin would've been my vote if there was only one. I know nobody, I'm just going off of the dossier. But my only problem with Candace is the fact that she's sort of all over the map. She's got her hand in an awful lot of things. She's doing an awful lot of things. And that's not really a criticism, but the concern I would have is sometimes when people are really well-rounded and have lots of things going on, they really don't have time to focus on the new thing they need to. And that would be my only consideration when I'm looking at her dossier as opposed to John's. That's just my thought.

Chair LaPierre (31:54):

Sounds like then we need to separate out the leadership advisory council candidates. Is that right?

Vice Chair Crabill (32:06):

Well, we need to choose two.

Sydney Muhle (32:08):

We need to choose two out of the three.

Chair LaPierre (32:11):

Okay. Let's just do it this way. It sounds like we have votes for Kevin, and then maybe Candace and/or John. So let's say the slate of Kevin and Candace, all those in favor? And I would say aye.

Vice Chair Crabill (32:35):

I'll say aye as well.

Chair LaPierre (32:36):

Aye.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (32:37):

Aye.

Chair LaPierre (32:40):

Okay. And then the next slate would be Kevin and John. All those in favor of those two? Okay, it sounds like Kevin and Candace, and then without objection, Craig Coronato for treasurer and Joel Kurokawa for president-elect.

Sydney Muhle (33:09):

So if we could just, now that you guys have worked through that, if we could just get a formal motion to approve this slate of Joel Kurokawa for president-elect, Craig Coronato for treasurer candidate, and then Candace Dillingham and Kevin Graham for the Leadership Advisory Council, and to provide that direction to your voting delegate.

Vice Chair Crabill (33:35):

This is Daren. I so move as so eloquently put forward by Sydney.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (33:43):

I'll second.

Chair LaPierre (33:44):

Second. Thank you. All those in favor?

Vice Chair Crabill (33:49):

Aye.

Chair LaPierre (33:49):

Aye.

Sydney Muhle (33:56):

Sharon, you're muted.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (33:57):

Aye, finally.

Chair LaPierre (34:01):

There we go.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (34:02):

Sorry, guys.

Sydney Muhle (34:03):

Technology is just a struggle today.

Chair LaPierre (34:06):

So as your official delegate, that's the way I'll vote unless I'm hit by a bus, in which case Sharon will vote that way. I shouldn't say that. I think we're ready to move on to the next item?

Sydney Muhle (34:29):

And I'll be taking the lead on this one, but again, this is a report that was provided by Julia, so I won't go into too much detail. The executive summary was included in the packet for your review, but just some of the highlights. This was a request from the Landscape Architect's technical committee to the California Department of Consumer Affairs and their Office of Professional Examination Services to complete a review of the LARE exam. They were looking to do an occupational analysis examination development, look at the examination development and scoring, the passing scores and passing rates, test administration and score reporting, and then the test security procedures.

(35:18):

In April, California did report back their shared results, finding that the LARE exam does appear to meet the professional standards and guidelines for their standards for education and psychological testing. However, they did come back with some recommendations for the Council of Landscape Architect registration boards to phase out the service for educators and examination development processes, closely monitor remote proctoring items or remote proctoring item performance data to detect potentially compromised examination items, obtaining pass rates for first time test takers so that comparisons to repeat test takers can be performed, attempting to increase participation from subject matter experts licensed less than five years to ensure that entry level perspective is maintained, and to update test preparation resources to increase fairness to candidates.

(36:32):

So this was really more of just a report out to the board on the work that has been done, so I'd be happy to answer any questions that I can, or to take any questions back and provide some additional research for you.

Chair LaPierre (36:48):

Okay. Any questions or discussions on that item? No. Okay. Moving on to... Go ahead.

Sydney Muhle (37:02):

Mr. Chair, before we go too far, just our minute takers in the background just called us out. We did not get a formal motion to delegate you as our voting delegate for the annual meeting, so if we could get that just to formalize it for our meeting minutes.

Chair LaPierre (37:18):

Okay. Thank you.

Vice Chair Crabill (37:20):

I will so move to make Curtis LaPierre our formal voting delegate and Sharon as our backup.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (37:30):

I'll second.

Vice Chair Crabill (37:30):

It's necessary.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (37:32):

I'll second.

Chair LaPierre (37:37):

Okay. I guess all those in favor? I'm not sure if I can vote, but I will just-

Sydney Muhle (37:41):

You can.

Chair LaPierre (37:45):

Okay. All those in favor? Aye.

Vice Chair Crabill (37:45):

I do.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (37:46):

Aye.

Chair LaPierre (37:48):

All right, great. Thank you for that.

Sydney Muhle (37:50):

Thank you. They're keeping us honest in the background, so we appreciate it.

Chair LaPierre (37:54):

That's good. And then item 7.3, our new board member, Jason Anderson. Sydney, did you want to-

Sydney Muhle (38:04):

Yes. As I touched on-

Chair LaPierre (38:06):

You started to mention him?

Sydney Muhle (38:08):

I did. I started to mention him earlier. We did have a new board member appointed by the Governor's office in July. His name is Jason Anderson, and he was fulfilling the remainder of the term vacated by Len Zickler, which expires here coming up, so he will be receiving another reappointment from the Governor's office after that, and then spending a full term with us.

(38:35):

Mr. Anderson is currently located in Renton, Washington, and he's coming to us with 25 years of experience in landscape architecture. He is currently a small business owner with his own firm, and also serves, as I previously mentioned, on the board for the Washington State University School of Landscape Architecture, and participates in educating the next generation of professionals.

(38:55):

He did ask that we pass along his apologies for not being able to attend, but he didn't feel that this was a valid reason for him to cancel on his family for their pre-planned vacation-

Chair LaPierre (39:08):

Right.

Sydney Muhle (39:08):

Which is, either fortunately or unfortunately, depending on where he and his family were going to Hawaii, so hopefully they are safe and are enjoying a beach instead of dealing with some of the tragedy that's happening over there, but we're sending positive vibes to them either way.

Chair LaPierre (39:30):

Thanks, Sydney. Moving on to item eight, complaint cases for review. I see that one's got my name attached to it. I think this one was completed some time ago?

Sydney Muhle (39:52):

Yes, this is one that was completed some time ago. However, it was never reported out to the board, and because of all of the chaos that happened during COVID, a lot of our cases just fell through the cracks and never made their way to the appropriate board. So this cleanup is going on with all five of our regulatory boards, some more so than others, and I believe this is the last one to get you guys caught up.

Chair LaPierre (40:18):

Okay.

Sydney Muhle (40:20):

So Mr. Chair, if you have your complaint summary, if you want to present it to the board, otherwise I can read it on your behalf if you need me to.

Chair LaPierre (40:31):

I'd rather you read it in case I don't remember. I mean, I can add some discussion to it to fill out some of the background, but if you could, please.

Sydney Muhle (40:43):

Yeah. This is case number 2021 07 1644 00 LAN. The complaint was received July of 2021 that the respondent was operating and advertising as a licensed professional without being licensed for the last 10 years. The respondent's license expired in 2012. The facts are that DOL and the Landscape Architect Board required back fees and proof of continuing education hours, all of which has been provided to DOL, and the respondent's license is now current and active. And we did verify that that is still the case, since we're about two years behind on this case being presented to the board, and they are still active and current with their license.

Chair LaPierre (41:35):

The only thing that when I reviewed this case, I sent a question back to the respondent, given that you have to stamp your work and your stamp contains an expiration date, how could you have possibly gone 10 years without realizing that your license had expired? And the respondent responded with that they do not do work that... Primarily a residential design capacity. They don't do work that requires permits for that kind of approval, and so the respondent had not been stamping plans. And so in our next subject, the committee task force on the WAC, we can get into that whole discussion, but that did get us talking and get some thought. And I actually wrote something for the WASA newsletter that addressed what do you have to stamp and when according to the law. And I think that probably needs more work. So that's the good that has come out of this. And fortunately, that respondent is now all set, able to practice, everything's good to go. Any questions?

Sydney Muhle (43:21):

And so the recommendation is to close with no further action?

Chair LaPierre (43:23):

Yes. Any questions on that one? We can just go ahead and close that, there's no vote there, right?

Sydney Muhle (43:34):

Yeah, we will need a formal vote to accept the case manager recommendation.

Chair LaPierre (43:38):

Okay.

Vice Chair Crabill (43:40):

This is Daren. I so move to accept the case recommendation as noted.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (43:47):

This is Sharon. Second.

Chair LaPierre (43:50):

Moved and second. All those in favor? Aye.

Vice Chair Crabill (43:54):

I do.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (43:55):

Aye.

Chair LaPierre (43:57):

Thank you. We can move on to item nine, reports. And Sydney, you're going to present reports?

Sydney Muhle (44:10):

I will present reports, but this I'm going to be turning over to you, Mr. Chair, and to Daren, to discuss the WAC review committee.

Vice Chair Crabill (44:21):

I can take this on as I've been on this subcommittee since the beginning. It started out with Len, a part of it. This has taken longer than expected because of the handoff between Len and now Chair LaPierre. But we are getting close. We have gone through and made edits to the WACs based on recommendations, and we have maybe one or two more just to look at as a small group. Following this meeting, we're looking for a date for that, and following that, we will share our recommendation with the full board with hope to take action on that in our next meeting. Much of this was cleanup of language to be in line with recommendations and just old, making some clearer language around some of these WACs on how to go about getting your license and other processes. So that was much of the work that was done.

Chair LaPierre (45:45):

Thank you, Daren. This is Curtis LaPierre. As I reviewed it, it all looked very good. Really good changes, a lot of clarity, with one exception, and that was, as we were just discussing, what products, specifications, plans, reports, that sort of thing, need to be sealed or stamped by the licensees. And I think we're not quite there yet on that. I think there's this almost a contradiction in the WAC language, and I don't know how we want to follow up on that. I think a discussion would help if we could just get together for a few minutes and go through it.

Vice Chair Crabill (46:35):

Yeah, that's the plan. That's what Sydney has unfortunately been tasked with finding some time on our calendars to get together and talk through that one or two items, and then we should be good to go.

Chair LaPierre (46:52):

Good. Sharon, any questions, or no? Okay. Thank you.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (46:59):

No, I know it's a very unwieldy process, and like you said, the handoff made it last longer than anyone intended for it to last. But when you're dealing with the verbiage, I mean, you have to look at every single word. It takes forever. It really does.

Chair LaPierre (47:14):

Right. Thank you. Let's go ahead and move on then to item 9.2, central investigation and audits unit report.

Sydney Muhle (47:30):

Yep. So this is our... There we go. This is our complaint status report as of June 26th, 2023. We have two that are in closed status, one that is currently in a management review, which I believe is the one that was just taken care of, for a grand total of three. So we love giving you guys these reports because your numbers are so much smaller, which we appreciate hearing. Hopefully that means everybody is doing really good work out there. We do have some that those numbers are double digits.

Vice Chair Crabill (48:05):

Oh, really?

Sydney Muhle (48:07):

We have some boards that their groups are very, very active.

(48:12):

So just a further case closed report. This is a new way that we're providing some of these statuses. We're trying to change up how we're reporting on both our closed cases and our licensees. So you may see these formats changing and evolving over the next couple of months, but it's based on feedback that we're getting from several of our boards wanting some additional clarification. So if you have any feedback along the way, please share that with us and we'll incorporate that as well. But we're trying to get some uniform reporting across all of ours to give you guys the best information that we can.

(48:46):

So this is just a look at what those three cases were. Two of them were no action taken, either for unsubstantiated or no jurisdiction, and then one that has been an investigation and is now closed.

Vice Chair Crabill (49:04):

I have a quick question on that.

Sydney Muhle (49:05):

Yeah?

Vice Chair Crabill (49:09):

I noticed that the complaint owner name is the same for all three. Does that mean that they start the complaint, or is that some other-

Sydney Muhle (49:20):

That is the investigator, so that's just-

Vice Chair Crabill (49:20):

Oh, that's the investigator.

Sydney Muhle (49:23):

That's the investigator. So that's just how it's classified in the Polaris system. In the background is the owner, is the investigator and they will see it through.

Vice Chair Crabill (49:35):

Got it. Okay. Thank you. Great. Thanks.

Sydney Muhle (49:42):

All right, so taking a look at our licensee count, for our total number of licensees we have 910, and then Washington State only... Oh, that got cut off. Let me find it on my side. For our Washington state only, we have 623.

Vice Chair Crabill (50:04):

Just a quick comment. As someone who just re-upped their license, renewed their license here recently, I thought the new process was quite nice and smooth, so it was a nice change of process for us.

Sydney Muhle (50:21):

Oh, good. We will share that with our licensing team. They will love to hear that.

Vice Chair Crabill (50:27):

Yeah, I think having a place to upload your PDHs was a nice, an obvious thing to do maybe, but hadn't been a part of the previous processes. So thanks.

Sydney Muhle (50:47):

Well, I think we have some members of our licensing team here, but if we don't, we will make sure that that comment gets back to them. So thank you very much for sharing that.

(50:54):

And then report out on our renewals. So I won't go through all of the metrics, but I'd be happy to answer any questions that you guys have. And again, this is a brand new report just trying to show you guys a different way with our renewals, so if you have any comments, questions, please feel free to ask them or feedback, and we'll take that back and see if we can incorporate it moving forward. But this is just our renewals for the first half of the year.

Chair LaPierre (51:24):

Sydney, are we tracking people that are going, I think it's called inactive status or retired, essentially?

Sydney Muhle (51:34):

We are not currently other than, Susan, can you go back to the previous slide? So we do under inactive, we do have both of those, but we haven't been tracking them from month to month, so we can certainly build a report for that to provide that for you guys.

Chair LaPierre (51:56):

Yeah, this is something I brought up before that given all the licensees we have that are older, baby boom sort of, that would be retiring, it'd be nice to know that we're getting replaced and there's going to be enough massed to keep things going in the state here and provide service the public's looking for.

Sydney Muhle (52:28):

Yep. Yeah, you did bring that up in one of our check-ins, so we did provide that feedback. Unfortunately all of our reports for this meeting had already been produced, but we'll look at doing that for the next meeting so that you guys have that additional metric to show where your trends are going.

Chair LaPierre (52:44):

That'd be great. Thanks, Sydney. Anything else on this? Any questions?

Sydney Muhle (52:57):

And then for the master action item review, I'm actually going to turn it over to Susan.

Susan (53:05):

So with the master action item list, we have the board charter update. I don't believe that's complete, is it?

Sydney Muhle (53:17):

It's still in progress.

Susan (53:18):

Still in progress.

Sydney Muhle (53:19):

We have some additional discussions behind the scenes, so we'll bring that to the board as in a variable.

Susan (53:25):

And we got an update from the WAC committee. There's going to be one more meeting that I will schedule, hopefully that will be the finalized meeting, to go over the last questions that were presented. Then hopefully it will come to the board, and the board will get a full presentation of what the committee's been working on. We're continuing to work on outreach, and hopefully with our new board member we'll be able to be even stronger with that. And for the Governor's recruitment for Deb Peter's upcoming vacancy, we're currently working on that and hopefully we'll be submitting something to the Governor's office really soon for the replacement for Deb Peter's vacancy.

Sydney Muhle (54:11):

And we did reach out to the Governor's office after the last meeting. Unfortunately they've been going through a whole lot of staffing changes in their board and commission side, but we did finally hear back from them the very end of last week giving us the thumbs up to go ahead and submit the request to fill from the most recent recruitment that they did. So we are in the process of getting that request to fill drafted and then we'll get it back over to them. We don't know how long it will take. With Mr. Anderson's appointment, it took us about three months from the time we submitted the request to fill. So hopefully we have Ms. Peters for one more meeting, but if for whatever reason the Governor's appointment comes through faster than that, we'll certainly make sure that she is able to attend, hopefully the next meeting, but otherwise an upcoming meeting to receive her recognition for her service as well.

Chair LaPierre (55:04):

Great. We've reached item 10, the public comments section. Do I need to read this, Sydney?

Sydney Muhle (55:17):

I can.

Chair LaPierre (55:18):

Okay.

Sydney Muhle (55:19):

The public can address the board on matters within the board's jurisdiction, either verbally during the meeting or by submitting written comments in advance. Verbal comments are limited to one three minute comment. Written comments are limited to no more than 500 words and must be emailed to [dolboards@dol.wa.gov](mailto:dolboards@dol.wa.gov). No less than two business days prior to the meeting with the subject line Public Comment Landscape Architect Board. In response to all public comments, the board is limited to requesting that the matter be added to a future agenda for discussion or directing staff to study the matter further. Inflammatory comments and language will not be permitted.

(55:59):

I don't know if we have any public members in attendance today, but if so, this would be the time to comment. Just looking through the list of people who are on, we don't have any public members, so I think we're good.

Chair LaPierre (56:18):

Seeing none, we can move on to item 11, conclusion. First item is any announcements from the board or staff members, anything you'd like to share?

Vice Chair Crabill (56:34):

None from me.

Chair LaPierre (56:36):

Thank you. Let's go to the next item then. That's our-

Vice Chair Crabill (56:42):

It looks like Sharon might have something.

Chair LaPierre (56:44):

Sharon. Sorry.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (56:45):

Sharon just wanted to say it has nothing to do with board business, but tomorrow was my final chemo after 18 months, so I expect to have some brain cells in the future, guys.

Chair LaPierre (56:57):

Wonderful.

Sydney Muhle (56:57):

That is a great announcement.

Vice Chair Crabill (56:59):

Congratulations.

Chair LaPierre (57:01):

Congratulations. I thought you were just trying to have a haircut like me and Daren, kind of fit in.

Vice Chair Crabill (57:06):

Solidarity.

Sharon Robinson-Losey (57:09):

Yeah, I want to fit in. That's right. I wanted to be one of the guys. But I don't think I'm going to get any more hair than this either, so I think I'll still be one of the guys.

Chair LaPierre (57:19):

All right. Well, congratulations on that, Sharon. That's great. Thanks. Anything else on that then, in terms of announcements? How about requests for future agenda items? Anything out there?

Vice Chair Crabill (57:41):

Nothing beyond what is I think planned around the WACs for next time.

Chair LaPierre (57:46):

Right. Okay. Susan, if you could review the action items from today's meeting, please.

Susan (57:55):

So what I captured today is that, like I said earlier, that I'll schedule the meeting with the WAC review committee for one last meeting, and then hopefully we will add an agenda item for a presentation of

the work that you guys have completed. I will be sending Ms. Julia the voting package for the candidates that you voted for today and the request for the inactive status report along with the licensee counts. And if I've missed something, or you want to add anything, I'd be happy to take note.

Chair LaPierre (58:36):

Nothing from me. Okay, sounds good. Unless there's anything else, we can adjourn. It is now 11:02 AM, Thursday, August 10th, 2023. This meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much.

Vice Chair Crabill (58:59):

Thanks, everybody.

Sydney Muhle (58:59):

Thank you.

Susan (59:00):

Thank you all.

Vice Chair Crabill (59:01):

Have a great weekend.

Chair LaPierre (59:02):

Bye now.