



MEETING MINUTES CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

November 6, 2025
Sacramento, CA

ITEMS ARE PRESENTED IN THE ORDER THEY WERE DISCUSSED, AS SOME
ITEMS WERE TAKEN OUT OF ORDER

A. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

On November 6, 2025, Board President Ron Jones called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. and Secretary Victoria Brash called the roll.

Board Members Present

Ron Jones, President
Robert Pearman, Vice President
Victoria Brash, Secretary
Tian Feng (arrived at 10:15 a.m.)
Amanda Steidlmayer
Fuad Sweiss
Charles "Sonny" Ward

Six members of the Board present constitutes a quorum; a quorum was established.

Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Members Present

Jon Wreschinsky, Committee Member

Board Staff Present

Laura Zuniga, Executive Officer
Jesse Laxton, Assistant Executive Officer
Kourtney Fontes, Administration Manager
Alicia Kroeger, Enforcement Manager
Kimberly McDaniel, LATC Program Manager
Marccus Reinhardt, Licensing Manager
Timothy Rodda, Regulations Manager
Nailea Cortez, Human Resources Liaison
Michael Sganga, Lead Enforcement Analyst

DCA Staff Present

Suzanne Balkis, Budget Manager
Elizabeth Coronel, Strategic Planning Manager
Luke Fitzgerald, Budget Analyst
Michael Kanotz, Attorney III
Susan Kilcrease, Legislative Analyst

Bryce Penney, Television Specialist
Sam Singh, Attorney III
Matthew Wainwright, Legislative and Regulatory Manager

Guests Present

Jerry Dohn, Petitioner
Sheronda L. Edwards, Deputy Attorney General
Eric Sawyer, Administrative Law Judge
Brian Soublet, Retired Chief Deputy Director, Chief Counsel, California Department of Motor Vehicles
Mark Teer, CEO, Black Spectacles

B. PRESIDENT’S PROCEDURAL REMARKS AND BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

President Jones opened the meeting and stated that all motions and seconds will be repeated for the record and votes on motions will be taken by roll call.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mark Teer commented that his company, Black Spectacles, helps candidates on their journey to achieve their architecture license. He stated that candidates have expressed test anxiety as part of their exam experience and asked how to inquire whether the Board would publish screenshots of the exam interface for the general public. President Jones directed the Executive Officer to review the item raised and place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting.

D. UPDATE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS (DCA) AND DISCUSSION OF SAME

Susan Kilcrease presented the DCA update which included new appointments to the DCA executive team and a reminder about the mandatory trainings for Board Members.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

E. BUDGET UPDATE FROM THE DCA BUDGET OFFICE AND DISCUSSION OF SAME

Budget Analyst Luke Fitzgerald summarized the Board’s expenditure projections and fund condition statement included in the meeting materials. Mr. Fitzgerald and Budget Manager Suzanne Balkis answered questions posed by members of the Board.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

F. HEARING ON PETITION FOR REDUCTION OF PROBATION – JERRY DOHN

Jerry Dohn (C-21996) petitioned for reduction of probation. Board members asked questions and went into closed session to deliberate.

P. CLOSED SESSION (11:25 a.m.)

RECONVENE OPEN SESSION (12:35 p.m.)

A quorum was established with seven members present: President Jones, Members Pearman, Brash, Feng, Steidlmayer, Sweiss and Ward.

G. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND REGULATORY OVERSIGHT OF AN EMERGING TECHNOLOGY – BRIAN SOUBLET, RETIRED CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CHIEF COUNSEL, CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

President Jones stated that the Board is considering potential benefits and risks of artificial intelligence to the practice of architecture and how it serves the public interest. He explained that other agencies have already engaged this conversation and introduced Brian Souble, Retired Chief Deputy Director, Chief Counsel, California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Brian Soublet shared his experience regulating emerging technologies at the California Department of Motor Vehicles and answered questions posed by members of the Board.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

H. REVIEW, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON AUGUST 21, 2025, BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Charles Ward moved to approve the August 21, 2025, minutes.

Victoria Brash seconded the motion.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Members Jones, Brash, Feng, Pearman, Steidlmayer, Sweiss and Ward voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

I. UPDATE AND DISCUSS NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BOARDS (NCARB)

1. Update and Discuss Education, Experience and Examination Committee Meetings

Ms. Zuniga stated that she and Vice President Pearman are currently on the Credentials Committee, which will hold a webinar soon to discuss the elections process for next year. Tian Feng provided an update on the upcoming meetings of the WCARB Executive Committee and NCARB Board of Directors.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

J. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON BOARD COMMITTEES

1. October 21, 2025, Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Meeting

a. Review, Discuss, and Possibly Take Action on LATC Recommendation Regarding Approval of the UC Los Angeles Extension Certificate Program

Ms. Zuniga presented an update on the October 21, 2025, LATC meeting and answered questions posed by members of the Board. Jon Wreschinsky explained that the LATC is in full support of approval of the UCLA Extension Landscape Architecture Program for another accreditation period of six years. He stated that the Program is in the process of filling its vacant director position with a licensee. Mr. Feng commended the LATC visiting team volunteers for their thorough review of the Program.

Tian Feng moved to approve the UCLA Extension Landscape Architecture Program for a period of six years.

Charles Ward seconded the motion.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Members Jones, Brash, Feng, Pearman, Steidlmayer, Sweiss and Ward voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

K. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT AND DISCUSSION: BOARD'S ADMINISTRATION / MANAGEMENT, EXAMINATION, LICENSING, AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

Ms. Zuniga reported on the Board's upcoming outreach events, regulation changes, examination statistics, and enforcement activity. Ms. Zuniga answered questions posed by members of the Board.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

L. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Zuniga presented summaries of AB 667, AB 671, AB 742, AB 759, AB 1341, and SB 641. Ms. Zuniga answered questions posed by members of the Board.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

M. REGULATIONS UPDATE

1. Consideration of, Discussion, and Possible Action on Proposed Amendments to California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Division 2, Article 1, section 103 (Delegation of Certain Functions)

Timothy Rodda explained the proposed amendments to 16 CCR 103 (Delegation of Certain Functions). Mr. Rodda answered questions posed by members of the Board.

Robert Pearman moved to approve the proposed regulatory text for Section 103, direct staff to submit the text to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs and the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency for review and if no adverse comments are received, authorize the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any non-substantive changes to the package, and set the matter for a hearing if requested.

If the Board does not receive any comments providing objections or adverse recommendations specifically directed at the proposed action or to the procedures followed by the board in proposing or adopting the action, during the 45-day comment period, and no hearing is requested then the Board authorizes the Executive Officer to take all steps necessary to initiate the rulemaking process, make any technical or nonsubstantive changes to the package, and adopt the proposed regulations at Section 103 as noticed.

Charles Ward seconded the motion.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Members Jones, Brash, Feng, Pearman, Steidlmayer, Sweiss and Ward voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

N. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

The Board discussed future Board and Committee meeting dates.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

O. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

Mr. Ward stated that the slate proposed by the Nominations Committee is Ron Jones, President; Robert Pearman, Vice President; and Victoria Brash, Secretary.

Charles Ward moved to elect the Nominations Committee's recommended slate as listed, Ron Jones, President; Robert Pearman, Vice President; and Victoria Brash, Secretary.

Fuad Sweiss seconded the motion.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Members Jones, Brash, Feng, Pearman, Steidlmayer, Sweiss and Ward voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

P. CLOSED SESSION - Pursuant to Government Code sections 11126(c)(3), the Board Will Meet in Closed Session to:

- 1. Deliberate and Vote on Disciplinary Matters**
- 2. Approve February 20, 2025, closed session minutes**

N. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned after closed session.