

Phone: 608-266-2112 Web: http://dsps.wi.gov Email: dsps@wisconsin.gov

Tony Evers, Governor Dan Hereth, Secretary

HYBRID (IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL) EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS, AND SOIL SCIENTISTS N208, 4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison Contact: Will Johnson (608) 266-2112 June 11, 2025

The following agenda describes the issues that the Board plans to consider at the meeting. At the time of the meeting, items may be removed from the agenda. Please consult the meeting minutes for a record of the actions of the Board. Be advised that board members may attend meetings designated as "Hybrid" in-person or virtually

AGENDA

11:00 A.M.

OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

- A. Adoption of Agenda (1-3)
- B. Approval of Minutes of February 5, 2025 (4-6)
- C. Reminders: Conflicts of Interest, Scheduling Concerns
- D. Introductions, Announcements and Recognition

E. Administrative Matters

- 1) Department, Staff and Board Updates
- 2) Board Members Term Expiration Dates:
 - a. Freedman, Zac 7/1/2025
 - b. Gbolo, Prosper 7/1/2029
 - c. Hirekatur, Ann 7/1/2028
 - d. Huang, Jingyi 7/1/2028
 - e. Hunt, Randall -7/1/2012
 - f. Nobile, Trevor W. 7/1/2028
 - g. Popova, Inna 7/1/2026
 - h. Small, John 7/1/2026
 - i. Williams, Stephanie -7/1/2017

F. 11:00 A.M. Preliminary Public Hearing on Scope Statement SS-012-25 for GHSS 1 to 4 Relating to Licensure and Examinations (7-8)

G. Administrative Rule Matters – Discussion and Consideration (9-12)

1) Discussion of comments on Scope Statement for GHSS 1 to 4

- 2) Progress Update on GHSS 1 and 2 Relating to Professional Development for Professional Geologists
- 3) Progress Update on GHSS 1 and 3 Relating to Professional Development for Professional Hydrologists
- 4) Pending or Possible Rulemaking Projects

H. Section Reports – Discussion (13)

- 1) Geologist Section
- 2) Hydrologist Section
- 3) Soil Scientist Section

I. Emerging Trends in GHSS Professions – Discussion (14)

- J. Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) Matters Discussion and Consideration
- K. Legislative and Policy Matters Discussion and Consideration
- L. Deliberation on Items Added After Preparation of Agenda:
 - 1) Introductions, Announcements and Recognition
 - 2) Administrative Matters
 - 3) Election of Officers
 - 4) Appointment of Liaisons and Alternates
 - 5) Delegation of Authorities
 - 6) Education and Examination Matters
 - 7) Credentialing Matters
 - 8) Practice Matters
 - 9) Legislative and Policy Matters
 - 10) Public Health Emergencies
 - 11) Administrative Rule Matters
 - 12) Liaison Reports
 - 13) Board Liaison Training and Appointment of Mentors
 - 14) Informational Items
 - 15) Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) Matters
 - 16) Motions
 - 17) Petitions
 - 18) Appearances from Requests Received or Renewed
 - 19) Speaking Engagements, Travel, or Public Relation Requests, and Reports

M. Public Comments

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 6, 2025

MEETINGS AND HEARINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, AND MAY BE CANCELLED WITHOUT NOTICE.

Times listed for meeting items are approximate and depend on the length of discussion and voting. All meetings are held virtually unless otherwise indicated. In-person meetings are typically conducted at 4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison, Wisconsin, unless an alternative location is listed on the meeting notice. In order to confirm a meeting or to request a complete copy of the board's agenda, please visit the Department website at https://dsps.wi.gov. The board may also consider materials or items filed after the transmission of this notice. Times listed for the commencement of any agenda item may be changed by the board for the convenience of the parties. The person credentialed by the board has the right to demand that the meeting

at which final action may be taken against the credential be held in open session. Requests for interpreters for the hard of hearing, or other accommodations, are considered upon request by contacting the Affirmative Action Officer or reach the Meeting Staff by calling 608-267-7213.

HYBRID (IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL) EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS, AND SOIL SCIENTISTS MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 5, 2025

- **PRESENT:** Zachary Freedman, Ann Hirekatur, Jingyi Huang (*via Zoom*), Randall Hunt, Trevor Nobile, Inna Popova (*via Zoom*), John Small, Stephanie Williams
- **ABSENT:** Prosper Gbolo
- **STAFF:** Will Johnson, Executive Director; Whitney DeVoe, Legal Counsel; Jacob Pelegrin, Administrative Rule Coordinator; Ashley Sarnosky, Board Administration Specialist; and other Department staff.

CALL TO ORDER

Trevor Nobile, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. A quorum was confirmed with eight (8) members present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: John Small moved, seconded by Stephanie Williams, to adopt the Agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2024

MOTION: Zachary Freedman moved, seconded by John Small, to approve the Minutes of August 7, 2024 as published. Motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RECOGNITION

DSPS Secretary Hereth

MOTION: Trevor Nobile moved, seconded by John Small, to acknowledge and thank Secretary Hereth, for their appearance to the Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

Slate of Officers

NOMINATION: Trevor Nobile nominated the 2024 slate of officers to continue in 2025. All officers accepted their nominations.

Will Johnson, Executive Director, called for nominations three (3) times.

The Slate of Officers was elected by unanimous voice vote.

2025 ELECTION RESULTS

GHSS Examining Board Meeting Minutes February 5, 2025 Page 1 of 3

Chairperson	Trevor Nobile		
Vice Chairperson	Ann Hirekatur		
Secretary	Stephanie Williams		

Delegation of Authorities

2025 Delegations

Delegation to Handle Administrative Rule Matters

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by Stephanie Williams, to delegate authority to the Chairperson (or, in the absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving Board member in that succession), to act on behalf of the Board regarding administrative rule matters between meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approval of 2024 Delegations including new modifications

MOTION: Trevor Nobile moved, seconded by Ann Hirekatur, to reaffirm all delegation motions made in 2024, as reflected in the February 5, 2025 agenda materials, which were not otherwise modified or amended during the February 5, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE MATTERS

<u>Discussion of Clearinghouse Report and Final Rule Draft for GHSS 1 and 2 relating to</u> <u>Professional Development for Professional Geologists</u>

MOTION:	Stephanie Williams moved, seconded by Trevor Nobile, to reject
	Clearinghouse comment numbers 5d, 5j, and accept all remaining
	Clearinghouse comments for rule CR 24-078 relating to Professional
	Development for Professional Geologists. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Stephanie Williams moved, seconded by Randall Hunt, to authorize the Chair, or in the absence of the Chair, the highest ranked or longest serving member in that succession, to approve the Final Rule Draft and Report to the Legislature for rule CR 24-078 relating to Professional Development for Professional Geologists. Motion carried unanimously.

Zachary Freedman left at 1:15 p.m.

<u>Discussion of Clearinghouse Report and Final Rule Draft for GHSS 1 and 3 relating to</u> <u>Professional Development for Professional Hydrologists</u>

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by Ann Hirekatur, to reject Clearinghouse comment numbers 5c, 5i and 5j, and accept all remaining Clearinghouse

comments for rule CR 24-079 relating to Professional Development for Professional Hydrologists. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by John Small, to authorize the Chair, or in the absence of the Chair, the highest ranked or longest serving member in that succession, to approve the Final Rule Draft and Report to the Legislature for rule CR 24-079 relating to Professional Development for Professional Hydrologists.. Motion carried unanimously.

<u>Discussion of Proposed Scope Statement for GHSS 1 to 4 relating to Licensure and Examinations</u>

MOTION: John Small moved, seconded by Ann Hirekatur, to approve the Scope Statement revising rules GHSS 1 to 4 relating to Licensure and Examinations for submission to the Governor's Office and for publication in the Register. Additionally, the Board authorizes the Chair to approve the Scope Statement for implementation no less than 10 days after publication. If the Board is directed to hold a preliminary public hearing on the Scope Statement, the Chair is authorized to approve the required notice of hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Biennial Rules Report

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by John Small, to authorize the Chair, or in the absence of the Chair, the highest ranked or longest serving member in that succession, to approve the 2025 Biennial Rules Report under s. 227.29 (1), Stats., on board rules which may be unauthorized, obsolete, or duplicative. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by Stephanie Williams, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

1) Name and title of pers	son submitting the	e request:	2) Date wh	en request submitted:			
Jake Pelegrin		5/29/25					
Administrative Rules Coordinator			Items will be considered late if submitted after 12:00 p.m. on the deadline date which is 8 business days before the meeting				
3) Name of Board, Committee, Council, Sections:							
GHSS Examining Boar	rd						
4) Meeting Date:	5)	6) How should th	ie item be titl	ed on the agenda page?			
6/11/25	Attachments:	 11•00 AM Preli	minary Puł	olic Hearing on Scope Statement SS-012-25 for			
	Yes		inninar y 1 ut	The field ing on Scope Statement SS 012 23 for			
	No No	GHSS 1 to 4 Re	elating to Li	censure and Examinations			
7) Place Item in:		ince before the Boa		9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if required:			
☑ Open Session		yes, please complete <mark>quest</mark> for Non-DSPS		N/A			
Closed Session	☐ Yes		,				
	⊠ No						
10) Describe the issue a		uld be addressed:					
Attachments: -Notice of preliminary	v public hearing						
	, paone nearing						
11)		Authoriza	ation				
Jake Pelegrin				5/29/25			
Signature of person making this request				Date			
Supervisor (if required) Date							
Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda) Date							
	Directions for including supporting documents: 1. This form should be attached to any documents submitted to the agenda.						
2. Post Agenda Deadline items must be authorized by a Supervisor and the Policy Development Executive Director.							
3. If necessary, provide				signature to the Bureau Assistant prior to the start of a			
meeting.							

Notice of Preliminary Public Hearing

The Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists, and Soil Scientists announces that it will hold a preliminary public hearing on the proposed Scope Statement SS 012-25. This proposed scope statement addresses rules GHSS 1 to 4 relating to Licensure and Examinations. The hearing will be at the time and place shown below.

Hearing Information

Date: June 11, 2025

Time: 11:00 A.M.

Location: Information concerning the location of the hearing will be available at: https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/BoardsCouncils/GHSS/Meetings.aspx

Appearances at the Hearing and Submittal of Written Comments

The scope may be reviewed and comments submitted at: <u>Scope Statements with Public Hearings Pending</u>

Comments may also be submitted to Jake Pelegrin, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Department of Safety and Professional Services, Division of Policy Development, P.O. Box 8366, Madison, WI 53708-8366, email to DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov.

Comments must be received at or before the public hearing to be included in the record of rulemaking proceedings.

Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The proposed rule will not have an effect on small businesses, as defined under s. 227.114 (1).

Agency Small Business Regulatory Coordinator

The Department's Regulatory Review Coordinator may be contacted by calling (608) 266-2112.

This Notice of Preliminary Hearing on Statement of Scope is approved by:

The

3/14/2025

Chair

Date

1) Name and title of pers	son submitting the	e request:	2) Date whe	n request submitted:		
Jake Pelegrin		5/29/25				
Administrative Rules Coordinator		Items will be considered late if submitted after 12:00 p.m. on the deadline date which is 8 business days before the meeting				
3) Name of Board, Committee, Council, Sections:			uate which is	o business days before the meeting		
GHSS Examining Boar						
4) Meeting Date:	5)	6) How should the	e item be title	d on the agenda page?		
6/11/25	Attachments:	Administrative	Rule Matter	s – Discussion and Consideration		
	No	1. Discussion of	of comments	on Scope Statement for GHSS 1 to 4		
		2. Progress upo Professional		5 1 and 2 relating to Professional Development for		
			-	3 1 and 3 relating to Professional Development for		
		Professional	Hydrologists	3		
		4. Pending or p	ossible rulen	naking projects		
7) Place Item in:		ince before the Boa		9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if required:		
☑ Open Session		yes, please complete <mark>quest</mark> for Non-DSPS		N/A		
Closed Session	☐ Yes		,			
	⊠ No					
10) Describe the issue a	nd action that sho	uld be addressed:				
Attachments: -Proposed Scope Statement for GHSS 1 to 4 relating to Licensure and Examinations -Rules Projects Chart						
11)		Authoriza	tion			
Jake Pelegrin				5/29/25		
Signature of person making this request Date						
Supervisor (if required) Date						
Executive Director signa	ature (indicates ap	proval to add post	agenda deadl	ine item to agenda) Date		
	Directions for including supporting documents: 1. This form should be attached to any documents submitted to the agenda.					
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2. Post Agenda Deadlin	e items must be a	uthorized by a Supe	ervisor and th	a. e Policy Development Executive Director. gnature to the Bureau Assistant prior to the start of a		

STATEMENT OF SCOPE

EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS AND SOIL SCIENTISTS

Rule No.: GHSS 1 to 4

Relating to: Licensure and Examinations of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists

Rule Type: Permanent

1. Finding/nature of emergency (Emergency Rule only):

N/A

2. Detailed description of the objective of the proposed rule:

The objective of the proposed rule is to bring the GHSS administrative code into compliance with 2013 Act 114, which prohibits credentialing boards from requiring a person to complete postsecondary education before the person is eligible to take an examination for a credential.

3. Description of the existing policies relevant to the rule, new policies proposed to be included in the rule, and an analysis of policy alternatives:

2013 Act 114 prohibits credentialing boards from requiring a person to complete postsecondary education before the person is eligible to take an examination for a credential. The proposed rule will revise the GHSS administrative code to bring it into compliance with the Act.

The proposed rule will update and clarify the examination requirements including the removal of outdated and obsolete provisions.

If this rule is not pursued, the GHSS administrative code will remain out of compliance with the new legislation and may continue to have obsolete or confusing provisions relating to exams.

4. Detailed explanation of statutory authority for the rule (including the statutory citation and language):

Section 15.08 (5) (b), Stats., provides that each examining board "[s]hall promulgate rules for its own guidance and for the guidance of the trade or profession to which it pertains, and define and enforce professional conduct and unethical practices not inconsistent with the law relating to the particular trade or profession."

Section 227.11 (2) (a), Stats., provides that "[e]ach agency may promulgate rules interpreting the provisions of any statute enforced or administered by the agency, if the agency considers it necessary to effectuate the purpose of the statute, but a rule is not valid if the rule exceeds the bounds of correct interpretation."

Section 470.03 (1) (a) to (c), Stats.: "(1) The examining board shall do all of the following:

(a) Upon the advice of the professional geologist section, promulgate rules establishing requirements and standards for the practice of professional geology by a person who is licensed as a professional geologist under this chapter, including a code of ethics that governs the practice of professional geology.

(b) Upon the advice of the professional hydrologist section, promulgate rules establishing requirements and standards for the practice of professional hydrology by a person who is licensed as a professional hydrologist under this chapter, including a code of ethics that governs the practice of professional hydrology.

(c) Upon the advice of the professional soil scientist section, promulgate rules establishing requirements and standards for the practice of professional soil science by a person who is licensed as a professional soil scientist under this chapter, including a code of ethics that governs the practice of professional soil science."

5. Estimate of amount of time that state employees will spend developing the rule and of other resources necessary to develop the rule:

80 hours

6. List with description of all entities that may be affected by the proposed rule:

Professional geologists, professional hydrologists, professional soil scientists, and those looking to enter those professions in Wisconsin.

7. Summary and preliminary comparison with any existing or proposed federal regulation that is intended to address the activities to be regulated by the proposed rule:

None.

8. Anticipated economic impact of implementing the rule (note if the rule is likely to have a significant economic impact on small businesses):

The proposed rule is likely to have minimal or no economic impact on small businesses and the state's economy as a whole.

Contact Person: Jake Pelegrin, Administrative Rules Coordinator, (608) 267-0989.

Approved for publication:

Authorized Signature

Approved for implementation:

Authorized Signature

02/10/2025 Date Submitted

Date Submitted

Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists

Clearinghouse Rule Number	Scope #	Scope Expiration	Code Chapter Affected	Relating clause/ Summary	Current Stage	Next Step
24-078	043-23	12/26/25	GHSS 1 and 2	Professional Development - Geologists. Review and update rules for continuing education and professional development for geologists.	Legislative review – the legislature's last day for action is approx. 6/18/25.	Board approval of rule Adoption Order.
24-079	063-23	2/28/2026	GHSS 1 and 3	Professional Development - Hydrologists. Review and update rules for continuing education and professional development for hydrologists.	Legislative review – the legislature's last day for action is approx. 6/18/25.	Board approval of rule Adoption Order.
	012-25	9/10/2027	GHSS 1 to 4	Licensure and Examinations. The objective is to bring the GHSS code into compliance with 2013 Act 114, which prohibits credentialing boards from requiring a person to complete postsecondary education before the person can take an examination for a credential.	Hold preliminary public hearing on the scope statement at next board meeting.	Scope implementation and rule drafting.

1) Name and Title of Person Submitting the Request:		2) Date When Request Submitted: 06/04/2025				
Trevor Nobile, Chair				Items will be considered late if submitted after 4:30 p.m. and less than: 10 work days before the meeting for Medical Board 14 work days before the meeting for all others		
3) Name of Board, Com	mittee, Cou	uncil, Sections: Ex	amining		al Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists	
4) Meeting Date: 06/11/2025	025 🗌 Yes Section R			should the item be titled on the agenda page? Reports – Discussion Geologist Section Hydrologist Section		
			3.	Soil Scientist Secti		
7) Place Item in: Open Session Closed Session Both		scheduled?	ce before	e the Board being opearance Request)	9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if required:	
10) Describe the issue a	nd action	that should be ad	dracead.			
11)			Authoriza	tion		
,						
Will Johnson					06/11/2025	
Signature of person making this request Date						
Supervisor (if required)					Date	
Executive Director signa	Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda) Date					
	attached to e items m	o any documents ust be authorized	by a Sup	ervisor and the Polic	y Development Executive Director. e to the Board Admin Specialist prior to the	

1) Name and Title of Person Submitting the Request:		2) Date When Request Submitted: 06/04/2025				
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3) Name of Board, Com	mittee, Co	ouncil, Sections: Ex	amining		Il Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists	
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4) Meeting Date: 06/11/2025	5) Attac	hments:			led on the agenda page? rofessions – Discussion	
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Open Session						
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10) Describe the issue a	ind actior		Iressed:			
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			atiron 24			
Will Johnson Signature of person making this request					06/11/2025 Date	
biginature of person making this request						
Supervisor (if required)					Date	
Executive Director sign	Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda) Date					
Directions for including 1. This form should be			ubmitte	d to the agenda.		
2. Post Agenda Deadlin	ie items n	nust be authorized b	oy a Sup	ervisor and the Policy	/ Development Executive Director. e to the Board Admin Specialist prior to the	
start of a meeting.	onginal	accuments needing	j buaru (shanperson signature	e to the Board Admin Specialist prior to the	