



**VIRTUAL/TELECONFERENCE
PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTIST SECTION
EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS,
HYDROLOGISTS, AND SOIL SCIENTISTS
Virtual, 4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison
Contact: Will Johnson (608) 266-2112
January 28, 2025**

The following agenda describes the issues that the Section 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 Section.

AGENDA

9:00 A.M.

OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

- A. Adoption of Agenda (1-3)**
- B. Approval of Minutes of December 8, 2011 (4-5)**
- C. Introductions, Announcements and Recognition**
- D. Reminders: Conflicts of Interest, Scheduling Concerns
- E. Administrative Matters (6-26)**
 - 1) Department, Staff and Section Updates
 - 2) **2025 Meeting Dates (6)**
 - 3) **Annual Policy Review (7-10)**
 - 4) **Election of Officers, Appointment of Liaisons and Alternates, and Delegation of Authorities (11-26)**
 - 5) Board Members – Term Expiration Dates:
 - a. Freedman, Zac – 7/1/2025
 - b. Huang, Jingyi – 7/1/2028
 - c. Popova, Inna – 7/1/2026
- F. Legislative and Policy Matters – Discussion and Consideration
- G. Education and Examining Matters – Discussion and Consideration
- H. Administrative Rule Matters – Discussion and Consideration (27-28)**
 - 1) Pending or Possible Rulemaking Projects
- I. Speaking Engagements, Travel, or Public Relation Requests, and Reports – Discussion and Consideration
- J. 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) Presentations of Petitions for Summary Suspension
- 17) Petitions for Designation of Hearing Examiner
- 18) Presentation of Stipulations, Final Decisions and Orders
- 19) Presentation of Proposed Final Decisions and Orders
- 20) Presentation of Interim Orders
- 21) Petitions for Re-Hearing
- 22) Petitions for Assessments
- 23) Petitions to Vacate Orders
- 24) Requests for Disciplinary Proceeding Presentations
- 25) Motions
- 26) Petitions
- 27) Appearances from Requests Received or Renewed
- 28) Speaking Engagements, Travel, or Public Relation Requests, and Reports

K. Public Comments

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION to deliberate on cases following hearing (s. 19.85(1)(a), Stats.); to consider licensure or certification of individuals (s. 19.85(1)(b), Stats.); to consider closing disciplinary investigations with administrative warnings (ss. 19.85(1)(b), and 440.205, Stats.); to consider individual histories or disciplinary data (s. 19.85(1)(f), Stats.); and to confer with legal counsel (s. 19.85(1)(g), Stats.).

L. Deliberation of Items Added After Preparation of the Agenda

- 1) Education and Examination Matters
- 2) Credentialing Matters
- 3) DLSC Matters
- 4) Monitoring Matters
- 5) Professional Assistance Procedure (PAP) Matters
- 6) Petitions for Summary Suspensions
- 7) Petitions for Designation of Hearing Examiner
- 8) Proposed Stipulations, Final Decisions and Order
- 9) Proposed Interim Orders
- 10) Administrative Warnings
- 11) Review of Administrative Warnings
- 12) Proposed Final Decisions and Orders
- 13) Matters Relating to Costs/Orders Fixing Costs
- 14) Case Closings

- 15) Board Liaison Training
- 16) Petitions for Assessments and Evaluations
- 17) Petitions to Vacate Orders
- 18) Remedial Education Cases
- 19) Motions
- 20) Petitions for Re-Hearing
- 21) Appearances from Requests Received or Renewed

M. Consulting with Legal Counsel

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

N. Vote on Items Considered or Deliberated Upon in Closed Session, if Voting is Appropriate

O. Open Session Items Noticed Above Not Completed in the Initial Open Session

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: JUNE 11, 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://dps.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.

**SOIL SCIENCE SECTION
EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS,
HYDROLOGISTS AND SOIL SCIENTISTS
TELECONFERENCE MINUTES
DECEMBER 8, 2011**

PRESENT: John Hahn, Frederick Madison, Patricia Trochlell

STAFF PRESENT: Dan Williams, Executive Director; Colleen Baird, Legal Counsel; Kimberly Wood, Bureau Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Fredrick Madison, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. A quorum of three (3) members was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: John Hahn moved, seconded by Patricia Trochlell, to approve the agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

MOTION: Patricia Trochlell moved, seconded by John Hahn, to approve the minutes of September 28, 2006 as published. Motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2011 & 2012

The Soil Science Section held elections for officers to serve in 2011 and for 2012.

NOMINATION: Patricia Trochlell nominated the existing slate of officers to continue in 2011 & 2012. Nominations carried by unanimous vote.

Frederick Madison, Chair, called for other nominations three (3) times.

2011 & 2012 ELECTION RESULTS	
Chair	Frederick Madison
Vice Chair	Patricia Trochlell
Secretary	John Hahn

SECTION APPOINTMENTS FOR 2012

Frederick Madison, Chair, made the following appointments for 2012.

- Credentialing Liaison: Frederick Madison, Patricia Trochlell – Alternate
- Screening Panel: Frederick Madison
- Monitoring Liaison: Patricia Trochlell
- Professional Assistance Procedure (PAP) Liaison: John Hahn

**SELECTION OF A SECTION MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE
GHSS RULES COMMITTEE**

The Section discussed which member would represent the Section on the Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists Rules Committee.

MOTION: Patricia Trochlell moved, seconded by John Hahn, to designate Frederick Madison to represent the Soil Scientist Section on the Rules Committee of the Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists' as the Section's professional member representative. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

2012 Meeting Dates

The Section reviewed its 2012 meeting date schedules.

**DISCUSSION RELATING TO CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
LICENSED PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS**

In the interest of time, the Section deferred discussion of this matter until its April 4, 2012 meeting.

**REVIEW OF PRACTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS POSTED ON THE DEPARTMENT
WEBSITE**

The Section reviewed its scope of practice questions as currently provided on the Department website. The Section found its scope of practice questions and answers, as currently provided on the website, to be sufficient.

ADJOURNMENT


MOTION: John Hahn moved, seconded by Patricia Trochlell, to adjourn the meeting at 2:54 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

**EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS,
HYDROLOGISTS, AND SOIL SCIENTISTS
2025 Meeting Dates**

Board/Section/Council	Meeting Date	Start time	Location	Agenda Item Deadline
GHSS	Wednesday, February 5, 2025	11:00 AM	Hybrid	1/24/25
GHSS	Wednesday, June 11, 2025	11:00 AM	Virtual	5/30/25
GHSS	Wednesday, August 6, 2025	11:00 AM	Virtual	7/25/25
GHSS: Geologist Section	Wednesday, January 29, 2025	9:00 AM	Virtual	1/17/25
GHSS: Geologist Section	Wednesday, May 14, 2025	1:00 PM	Virtual	5/2/25
GHSS: Geologist Section	Tuesday, August 5, 2025	9:00 AM	Virtual	7/24/25
GHSS: Hydrologist Section	Wednesday, February 5, 2025	1:00 PM	Hybrid	1/24/25
GHSS: Hydrologist Section	Tuesday, May 13, 2025	9:30 AM	Virtual	5/1/25
GHSS: Hydrologist Section	Wednesday, August 6, 2025	1:00 PM	Virtual	7/25/25
GHSS: Soil Scientist Section	Tuesday, January 28, 2025	9:00 AM	Virtual	1/16/25
GHSS: Soil Scientist Section	Wednesday, June 11, 2025	9:00 AM	Virtual	5/30/25
GHSS: Soil Scientist Section	Wednesday, August 6, 2025	9:00 AM	Virtual	7/25/25

**State of Wisconsin
Department of Safety & Professional Services**

AGENDA REQUEST FORM

1) Name and title of person submitting the request: Brenda Taylor, Board Services Supervisor		2) Date when request submitted: 12/1/2024	
3) Name of Board, Committee, Council, Sections: All Boards			
4) Meeting Date: First Meeting of 2025	5) Attachments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	6) How should the item be titled on the agenda page? Administrative Matters: Annual Policy Review	
7) Place Item in: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open Session	8) Is an appearance before the Board being scheduled? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if applicable: N/A	
10) Describe the issue and action that should be addressed: Board SharePoint Site: https://dsps.boards.wisconsin.gov/			
<p>Please be advised of the following Policy Items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In-Person and Virtual Meetings: Depending on the frequency of scheduled meetings, discussion topics, and member availability, DSPTS may host one or more in-person meetings. Virtual connection options are available for all board meetings. 2. Attendance/Quorum: Thank you for your service and commitment to meeting attendance. If you cannot attend a meeting or have scheduling conflicts impacting your attendance, please let us know as soon as possible. A quorum is required for Boards, Sections, and Councils to meet pursuant to Open Meetings Law. Connect to / arrive at meetings 10 minutes before posted start time to allow for audio/connection testing, and timely Call to Order and Roll Call. Virtual meetings include viewable onscreen materials and A/V (speaker/microphone/video) connections. 3. Walking Quorum: Board/Section/Council members must not collectively discuss the body's business outside a properly noticed meeting. If several members of a body do so, they could be violating the open meetings law. 4. Mandatory Training: All Board Members must complete Public Records and Ethics Training, annually. Register to set up an account in the Cornerstone LearnCenter online portal or Log in to an existing account. 5. Agenda Deadlines: Please communicate agenda topics to your Executive Director before the agenda submission deadline at 12:00 p.m., eight business days before a meeting. (Attachment: Timeline of a Meeting) 6. Travel Voucher and Per Diem Submissions: Please submit all Per Diem and Reimbursement claims to DSPTS within 30 days of the close of each month in which expenses are incurred. (Attachment: Per Diem Form) Travel Vouchers are distributed on travel approval. 7. Lodging Accommodations/Hotel Cancellation Policy: Lodging accommodations are available to eligible members for in-person meetings. Standard eligibility: the member must leave home before 6:00 a.m. to attend an in-person meeting by the scheduled start time. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If a member cannot attend a meeting, they must cancel their reservation with the hotel within the applicable cancellation timeframe. b. If a meeting is changed to occur remotely, is canceled, or rescheduled, DSPTS staff will cancel or modify reservations as appropriate. 8. Inclement Weather Policy: In inclement weather, the DSPTS may change a meeting from an in-person venue to a virtual/teleconference only. 			
11) Authorization			
		12/02/2024	
<p>Directions for including supporting documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This form should be saved with any other documents submitted to the Agenda Items folders. 2. Post Agenda Deadline items must be authorized by a Supervisor and the Policy Development Executive Director 			

Timeline of a Meeting

8 business days prior to the meeting: All agenda materials are due to the Department by 12:00 pm, 8 business days prior to the meeting date.

7 business days prior to the meeting: The draft agenda page is due to the Executive Director. The Executive Director transmits to the Chair for review and approval.

5 business days prior to the meeting: The approved agenda is returned to the Board Administration Specialist for agenda packet production and compilation.

4 business days prior to the meeting: Agenda packets are posted on the DSPS Board SharePoint site and on the Department website.

Agenda Item Examples:

- Approval of the Agenda and previous meeting Minutes
- Open Session Items
 - Public Hearings (relating to Administrative Rules)
 - Administrative Matters
 - Legislation and Policy Matters
 - Administrative Rules Matters
 - Credentialing Matters
 - Education and Exam Issues
 - Public Agenda Requests
 - Current Issues Affecting the Profession
 - Public Comments
- Closed Session items
 - Deliberations on Proposed Disciplinary Actions
 - Stipulations
 - Administrative Warnings
 - Case Closings
 - Monitoring Matters
 - Professional Assistance Procedure (PAP) Issues
 - Proposed Final Decisions and Orders
 - Orders Fixing Costs/Matters Relating to Costs
 - Credentialing Matters
 - Education and Exam Issues

Thursday of the Week Prior to the Meeting: Agendas are published for public notice on the Public Notices and Meeting Minutes website: publicmeetings.wi.gov.

1 business day after the Meeting: "Action" lists are distributed by staff detailing board actions on closed session business.

5 business days after the Meeting: "To Do" lists are distributed to staff to ensure that board decisions are acted on and/or implemented within the appropriate divisions in the Department. Minutes approved by the board are published on the the Public Notices and Meeting Minutes website: publicmeetings.wi.gov.

PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTIST SECTION
OFFICERS AND LIAISONS

ELECTION RESULTS	
Chairperson	Frederick Madison
Vice Chairperson	Patricia Trochlell
Secretary	John Hahn

LIAISON APPOINTMENTS	
Credentialing Liaison(s)	Frederick Madison <i>Alternate:</i> Patricia Trochlell
Monitoring Liaison(s)	Patricia Trochlell
Professional Assistance Procedure (PAP) Liaison(s)	John Hahn
Screening Panel	Frederick Madison

**State of Wisconsin
Department of Safety & Professional Services**

AGENDA REQUEST FORM

1) Name and title of person submitting the request: Paralegal Richanda Turner, on behalf of Attorney Whitney DeVoe		2) Date when request submitted: 01/16/2025 <small>Items will be considered late if submitted after 12:00 p.m. on the deadline date which is 8 business days before the meeting</small>	
3) Name of Board, Committee, Council, Sections: Professional Soil Scientist Section			
4) Meeting Date: 01/28/25	5) Attachments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	6) How should the item be titled on the agenda page? Reaffirming 2024 delegations and new 2025 delegations	
7) Place Item in: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open Session <input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	8) Is an appearance before the Board being scheduled? <i>(If yes, please complete Appearance Request for Non-DSPS Staff)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if applicable: N/A	
10) Describe the issue and action that should be addressed: The Board members need to review and consider reaffirming 2024 delegations and new delegations for 2025.			
11) Authorization			
<i>Richanda Turner</i>		01/16/25	
Signature of person making this request		Date	
Supervisor (Only required for post agenda deadline items)		Date	
Executive Director signature (Indicates approval for post agenda deadline items)		Date	
Directions for including supporting documents: 1. This form should be saved with any other documents submitted to the Agenda Items folders. 2. Post Agenda Deadline items must be authorized by a Supervisor and the Policy Development Executive Director. 3. If necessary, provide original documents needing Board Chairperson signature to the Bureau Assistant prior to the start of a meeting.			



State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
CORRESPONDENCE / MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 1, 2025

TO: Board, Council, and Committee Members

FROM: Legal Counsel

SUBJECT: Liaison Definitions and Delegations Explanations

Overall Purpose of Liaison Appointments

Each Board/Section (Board) has inherent authority that is established in our Wisconsin Statutes. This authority may change from Board to Board. Further information on your Board's authority can be found in Wis. Stat. ch. 15. Generally, each Board has authority to grant credentials, discipline credential holders, and set standards for education and examinations. In order to efficiently accomplish these tasks, Boards may appoint Liaisons. Liaisons assist with the operations of the Boards' purpose by weighing in on legislative matters, traveling to national conferences, or communicating with stakeholders.

The Department asks that each year the Boards make Liaison appointments to assist the Board and Department to accomplish these tasks in an efficient manner. Your practical knowledge and experience, as an appointed member of a professional board, are essential in making determinations regularly. The Liaison positions listed below assist the Department to complete operations between Board meetings. In most cases, Liaisons can make decisions for the full Board in their designated area. However, these areas are determined through the delegation process. Please note, a Liaison may also decide to send the delegated matter to the full Board for consideration as appropriate. Delegations assist the Board in defining the roles and authorities of each Liaison and other Board functions.

Liaison Definitions

Credentialing Liaison: The Credentialing Liaison is empowered by the Board to review and make determinations regarding certain credential applications. The Credentialing Liaison may be called on by Department staff to answer questions that pertain to qualifications for licensure, which may include whether a particular degree is suitable for the application requirements, whether an applicant's specific work experience satisfies the requirements in statute or rule for licensure, or

whether an applicant's criminal or disciplinary history is substantially related to the practice of the profession in such a way that granting the applicant a credential would create a risk of harm to the public. Questions will likely be sent by Department staff to the Credentialing Liaison via email and may include application materials. The Credentialing Liaison serves a very important role in the credentialing process.

Monitoring Liaison: The Monitoring Liaison is empowered by the Board to make decisions on any credential that is limited either through a disciplinary order or initial licensure. The Department Monitors will send requests from credential holders to the Monitoring Liaison. These requests vary wildly. A common request could be to remove a limitation that has been placed on a credential or to petition for full licensure. The Monitoring Liaison can review these requests and make decisions on behalf of the Board. The Board has the authority to grant decision making latitude to their liaison to any degree. If the Monitoring Liaison has a question on a request, it is advisable for the Liaison to consult further with Department staff or bring the matter to the full Board for consideration.

Professional Assistance Procedure (PAP) Liaison: PAP is a voluntary program open to credential holders with substance abuse issues who wish to seek help by being held accountable through treatment and monitoring by the Department and Board. As part of PAP, the credential holder enters into an agreement with the Department to undergo testing, counseling, or other rehabilitation. The PAP Liaison's role includes responding to credential holders' requests for modifications and terminations of provisions of the agreement. Similar to the Monitoring Liaison, the Department Monitors will send requests from credential holders to the PAP Liaison for further review.

Education and Examination Liaison: Some Boards are required by statute or rule to approve qualifying education and examinations. The Education and Examination Liaison provides guidance to Department staff to exercise authority of the Board to approve or decline examinations and educational programs. This determination requires a level of professional expertise and should be performed by a professional member of the Board. For some Boards, the Education and Examination Liaison will also be tasked with approving continuing education programs and courses.

Legislative Liaison: The Legislative Liaison is permitted to act and speak on the Board's behalf regarding pending and enacted legislation or actions being considered by the legislature outside of Board meetings. The Legislative Liaison is not the Board's designated lobbyist and should exercise their delegated authority carefully.

Travel Authorization Liaison: The Travel Authorization Liaison is authorized to approve a Board member to travel to events and speak or act on the Board's behalf between Board meetings. The Travel Authorization Liaison is called upon to make decisions when sufficient notice was not received, and the full Board could not determine a representative to travel. The Travel Authorization Liaison is tasked with making determinations if the Board appointed representative is not able to attend or if the Board becomes authorized to send additional members as scholarship and funding streams can be unpredictable.

Communication Liaison: The Communication Liaison responds to questions that arise on behalf of the Board. The Communication Liaison works with the Department to cultivate an appropriate response which will be sent by the Executive Director or Board Counsel. The Communication Liaison **can** be responsible for all types of communication on behalf of the Board. However, the Board can appoint a separate **Website Liaison** to work with DSPS staff to make changes and ensure the Board webpage contains updated and accurate information. Additionally, for the Boards that are required by statute to produce a newsletter or digest, the Board can appoint a separate **Newsletter/Digest Liaison** to assemble and approve content for those communications.

Screening Panel Members: Screening Panel Members review incoming complaints against credential holders and determine which complaints should be opened for investigation and which complaints should be closed without further action. The complexity and amount of work in this role depends substantially on your Board. As a member of the Screening Panel, you are asked to apply your professional expertise to determine if a complaint alleges unprofessional conduct.

Delegations Explanations

CREDENTIALING DELEGATIONS

The overall purpose of credentialing delegations is to allow the credentialing process to proceed as efficiently and effectively as possible.

Delegation of Authority to Credentialing Liaison (Generic)

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Credentialing Liaison(s) to serve as a liaison between the Department and the Board and to act on behalf of the Board in regard to credentialing applications or questions presented to them, including the signing of documents related to applications.

PURPOSE: To allow a representative of the Board to assist Department staff with credentialing applications and eliminate the need for the entire Board to convene to consider credential application content or questions. Additionally, it is most efficient to have the designated liaison who has assisted with the credentialing process be able to effectuate decisions which require a signature.

Delegation of Authority to DSPS When Credentialing Criteria is Met

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate credentialing authority to the Department to act upon applications that meet all credentialing statutory and regulatory requirements without Board or Board liaison review.

PURPOSE: To permit Department staff to efficiently issue credentials and eliminate the need for Board/Section/Liaison review when all credentialing legal requirements are met in an application. This delegation greatly decreases workload on Board members and cuts down processing time on applications.

Delegation of Authority for Predetermination Reviews

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Department Attorneys to make decisions regarding predetermination applications pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 111.335(4)(f).

PURPOSE: In general, the Wisconsin Fair Employment Act (codified in Wis. Stat. Ch. 111) prohibits licensing agencies from discriminating against applicants because of their arrest and/or conviction record. However, there are exceptions which permit denial of a license in certain circumstances. Individuals who do not possess a license have a legal right to apply for a determination of whether they are disqualified from obtaining a license due to their conviction record. This process is called “Predetermination.” Predetermination reviews must be completed within 30 days. This delegation allows Department Attorneys to conduct predetermination reviews and efficiently make these legal determinations without need for Board/Section/Liaison review.

Delegation of Authority for Conviction Reviews

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Department Attorneys to review and approve applications with convictions which are not substantially related to the relevant professional practice.

PURPOSE: As used here, “substantially related” is a legal standard that is used in the Wisconsin Fair Employment Act. The concept of what is “substantially related” is informed by case law. This delegation permits Department Attorneys to independently conduct conviction reviews and efficiently approve applications if convictions are not substantially related to the practice of the profession. Applications that contain conviction records that may be substantially related to the practice of a profession will still be submitted to the Credentialing Liaison for input.

Delegation to DSPS When Applicant’s Disciplinary History Has Been Previously Reviewed

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to Department staff to approve applications where Applicant’s prior discipline has been approved for a previous credential and there is no new discipline.

PURPOSE: Some Boards offer progressive levels of credentials. This delegation eliminates the need for a re-review of discipline that has already been considered and approved by the Board/Section/Liaison for a lower-level credential.

Delegation to DSPS When Applicant’s Conviction History Has Been Previously Reviewed

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to Department staff to approve applications where criminal background checks have been approved for a previous credential and there is no new conviction record.

PURPOSE: Some Boards offer progressive levels of credentials. This delegation eliminates the need for a re-review of conviction history that has already been reviewed and approved for a lower-level credential.

Delegation of Authority for Reciprocity Reviews

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Department Attorneys to review and approve reciprocity applications in which the out of state license requirements meet Wisconsin license requirements. (specific legal standards are referenced in the motion depending on credential/profession type).

PURPOSE: Applications via reciprocity or endorsement require comparison of Wisconsin licensing requirements to the licensing requirements of another jurisdiction. These reviews consider the legal standard for reciprocity, which varies by profession, as well as the specified legal requirements to obtain licensure in the profession. This delegation permits Department Attorneys to independently conduct reciprocity reviews and efficiently approve applications if legal standards and requirements are met for licensure. Applications for which reciprocity may not be available will still be submitted to the Credentialing Liaison for input.

Delegation of Authority for Military Reciprocity Reviews

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Department Attorneys to review and approve military reciprocity applications in which the individual meets the requirements of Wis. Stat. § 440.09.

PURPOSE: The law permits service members, former service members, and their spouses to be licensed if they hold licensure in other jurisdictions that qualify them to perform acts authorized by the credential they are seeking in Wisconsin. This is a shortened path to licensure that does not require meeting the specific requirements/standards for licensure/reciprocity in a profession. By law, the Department/Board must expedite the issuance of a reciprocal license via military reciprocity. This delegation permits Department Attorneys to independently conduct military reciprocity reviews and efficiently approve applications if legal standards and requirements are met for licensure. Applications for which reciprocity may not be available will still be submitted to the Credentialing Liaison for input.

Delegation of Authority for Application Denial Reviews

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Department's Attorney Supervisors to serve as the Board designee for purposes of reviewing and acting on requests for hearing as a result of a denial of a credential.

PURPOSE: When an application is denied, the applicant has a legal right to appeal the denial determination. Applicants must meet a specified legal standard in order to have an appeal granted. Additionally, Wisconsin law sets specific time frames for appeal decisions. This delegation permits Department Attorney Supervisors to independently review and efficiently act on requests for hearing as a result of a denial of a credential.

Delegation to Department Attorneys to Approve Duplicate Legal Issue

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to Department Attorneys to approve a legal matter in connection with a renewal application when that same/similar matter was already addressed by the Board and there are no new legal issues for that credential holder.

PURPOSE: The intent of this delegation is to be able to approve prior discipline by the Board for the renewal applicant. This delegation eliminates the need for a re-review of discipline that has already been considered and approved by the Board/Section/Liaison.

Delegation to Department Attorneys to Approve Prior Discipline

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to Department Attorneys to approve an applicant's prior professional discipline which resulted in a forfeiture/fine/other monetary penalty, remedial education, and/or reprimand, that is 10 years old or older, and the previously disciplined credential is currently in good standing.

PURPOSE: In order to continue improving processing application legal reviews in a timely matter, this delegation gives Department Attorneys authority to approve prior professional discipline which meets all of the following criteria: (1) it is at least ten years old; (2) it resulted in a monetary penalty, remedial education, and/or reprimand; and (3) the previously disciplined credential is currently in good standing.

MONITORING DELEGATIONS

The overall purpose of monitoring delegations is to be able to enforce the Boards orders and limited licenses as efficiently and effectively as possible. Monitoring delegations have two categories: delegations to the Monitoring Liaison and delegations to the Department Monitor.

Delegation of Authority to Department Monitor

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Department Monitor:

- a. to grant full reinstatement of licensure if education is the only limitation and credential holder has submitted the required proof of course completion.
- b. to suspend the credential if the credential holder has not completed Board ordered education, paid costs, paid forfeitures, within the time specified by the Board Order.
- c. to lift a suspension when compliance with education and costs provisions have been met.

PURPOSE: These delegations allow for the Department Monitor to automatically act on requests when certain criteria are met or not met without needing to burden the Monitoring Liaison. The Board can set their own criteria for what actions they would like to be handled by the Department, the Monitoring Liaison, and the full Board.

Delegation of Authority to Monitoring Liaison

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Monitoring Liaison to approve or deny all requests received by the credential holder.

PURPOSE: These delegations allow the Board to set criteria for what decisions can be made by the Board member(s) serving as the Monitoring Liaison and what matters should be decided by the full Board.

Education and Examination Delegations

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Education and Examination Liaison(s) to address all issues related to qualifying education, continuing education and examinations. Motion carried unanimously. (Differs by Board)

PURPOSE: Some Boards are responsible for approving qualifying educational programs or continuing education courses. A delegation is executed in order for an Education and Examination Liaison to make these determinations on behalf of the Board and with assistance of the Department. Additionally, some Boards review examinations and individual scores to qualify for a credential.

MISCELLANEOUS DELEGATIONS

Document Signature

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate authority to the Chairperson (or in absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving board member in that succession) to sign documents on behalf of the Board in order to carry out its duties. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION EXAMPLE: in order to carry out duties of the Board, the Chairperson (or in absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving board member in that succession) has the ability to delegate signature authority for purposes of facilitating the completion of assignments during or between meetings. The members of the Board hereby delegate to the Executive Director, Board Counsel, or DPD Division Administrator the authority to sign on behalf of a Board member as necessary. Motion carried unanimously.

PURPOSE: To take the action approved at Board meetings, the Department may need to draft correspondence and/or Orders after the meetings have adjourned. These actions then need to be signed by a Board Member. This interaction usually takes place over email and a Board member can authorize the use of his/her signature that is kept on file.

Urgent Matters

MOTION EXAMPLE: in order to facilitate the completion of urgent matters between meetings, the Board delegates its authority to the Chairperson (or, in the absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving Board member in that succession), to appoint liaisons to the Department to act in urgent matters. Motion carried unanimously.

PURPOSE: Allows for quick responses to urgent matters that may need Board approval or for which the Department requires guidance from the Board.

Delegation to Chief Legal Counsel-Due to Loss of Quorum

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate the review and authority to act on disciplinary cases to the Department's Chief Legal Counsel due to lack of/loss of quorum after two consecutive meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

PURPOSE: Sometimes Boards can struggle to meet quorum necessary to conduct business. This happens for a multitude of reasons, but this delegation allows for the Boards to have disciplinary cases decided by Chief Legal Counsel if the Board fails to meet quorum for two consecutive meetings.

Delegation to Chief Legal Counsel-Stipulated Resolutions

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate to the Department's Chief Legal Counsel (CLC) the authority to act on behalf of the Board concerning stipulated resolutions providing for a surrender, suspension, or revocation of a credential, where the underlying merits involve serious and dangerous behavior, and where the signed stipulation is received between Board meetings. The Board further requests that CLC only act on such matters when the best interests of the Board, Department, and the Public are best served by acting upon the stipulated resolution at the time the signed stipulation is received versus waiting for the next Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PURPOSE: For matters of public safety, it may be necessary to take immediate action on a stipulated agreement rather than allowing a credential holder to continue practicing unencumbered until the next scheduled meeting. This delegation allows CLC to act on behalf of the Board when there is a stipulated agreement. A stipulated agreement is an agreement to which all relevant parties have consented to the terms.

Voluntary Surrenders

MOTION: to delegate authority to the assigned case advisor to accept or refuse a request for voluntary surrender pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.19 for a credential holder who has a pending complaint or disciplinary matter.

MOTION: to delegate authority to the Department to accept the voluntary surrender of a credential when there is no pending complaint or disciplinary matter with the Department pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.19.

PURPOSE: Credential holders can ask the Boards to accept surrender of their credentials at any time. These delegations are in place for the different situations that arise from those requests. If a credential holder is seeking to surrender their credential because they wish to leave the profession, that can be processed with this delegation by the Department if they have no pending disciplinary complaints. If the credential holder wishes to surrender while they have a pending disciplinary complaint, that request is reviewed by the individual Board member assigned to the case.

DLSC Pre-screening

MOTION EXAMPLE: to delegate pre-screening decision making authority to the DSPS screening attorney for opening cases where the credential holder has failed to respond to allegations contained in the complaint when requested by intake (case will be opened on failure to respond and the merits of the complaint).

PURPOSE: Pre-screening delegations exist so the Board can define specific parameters where the Department can review disciplinary complaints and open those cases if they meet certain criteria. Boards also have the authority to set certain criteria that would allow the Department to review and close a case if the criteria is met.

Delegation to Handle Administrative Rule Matters

MOTION EXAMPLE: 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.

PURPOSE: In order to advance the administrative rules process, action may need to occur between meetings. This allows for quick responses to urgent matters that may need Board approval or for which the Department requires guidance from the Board.

**SOIL SCIENCE SECTION
EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS,
HYDROLOGISTS AND SOIL SCIENTISTS
2025 NEW DELEGATIONS**

Document Signature Delegations

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to the Chairperson (or in absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving Section member in that succession) to sign documents on behalf of the Section in order to carry out its duties. Motion carried [].

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], in order to carry out duties of the Section, the Chairperson (or in absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving Section member in that succession) has the ability to delegate signature authority for purposes of facilitating the completion of assignments during or between meetings. The members of the Section hereby delegate to the Executive Director, Board Counsel or DPD Division Administrator, the authority to sign on behalf of a Section member as necessary. Motion carried [].

Delegated Authority for Urgent Matters

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], that in order to facilitate the completion of urgent matters between meetings, the Section delegates its authority to the Chairperson (or, in the absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving Section member in that succession), to appoint liaisons to the Department to act in urgent matters. Motion carried [].

Delegation to Chief Legal Counsel Due to Loss of Quorum

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate the review and authority to act on disciplinary cases to the Department's Chief Legal Counsel due to lack of/loss of quorum after two consecutive meetings. Motion carried [].

Delegation to Chief Legal Counsel for Stipulated Resolutions

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate to DSPS Chief Legal Counsel the authority to act on behalf of the Section concerning stipulated resolutions providing for a surrender, suspension, or revocation of a credential, where the underlying merits

involve serious and dangerous behavior, and where the signed stipulation is received between Section meetings. The Section further requests that CLC only act on such matters when the best interests of the Section, Department and the Public are best served by acting upon the stipulated resolution at the time the signed stipulation is received versus waiting for the next Section meeting. Motion carried [REDACTED].

Monitoring Delegations

Delegation of Authorities for Legal Counsel to Sign Monitoring Orders

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate to Legal Counsel the authority to sign Monitoring orders that result from Section meetings on behalf of the Section Chairperson. Motion carried [REDACTED].

Delegation to Monitoring Liaison

MOTION: [Section Member Name] moved, seconded by [Section Member Name], to delegate authority to the Monitoring Liaison(s) to make any determination on Orders under monitoring and to refer to the Full Section any matter the Monitoring Liaison deems appropriate. Motion carried [REDACTED].

Delegation to Department Monitor

MOTION: [Section Member Name] moved, seconded by [Section Member Name], to delegate authority to the Department Monitor as outlined below:

1. to grant reinstatement of licensure if education and/or costs are the sole condition of the order and the credential holder has submitted the required proof of completion for approved courses and paid the costs.
2. to suspend the license if the credential holder has not completed Section ordered education and/or paid costs and forfeitures within the time specified by the Section order. The Department Monitor may remove the suspension and issue an order when proof of completion and/or payment has been received.
3. to suspend the license (or remove stay of suspension) if a credential holder fails to enroll and participate in an Approved Program for drug and alcohol testing within 30 days of the order, or if credential holder ceases participation in the Approved Program without Section approval. This delegated authority only pertains to respondents who must comply with drug and/or alcohol testing requirements.
4. to grant or deny approval when a credential holder proposes treatment providers, mentors, and supervisors unless the Order specifically requires full-Section or Section designee approval.

5. to grant a maximum of one 90-day extension, if warranted and requested in writing by a credential holder, to complete Section ordered continuing, disciplinary, or remedial education.
6. to grant a maximum of one 90-day extension or payment plan for proceeding costs and/or forfeitures if warranted and requested in writing by a credential holder.
7. to grant a maximum of one 90-day extension, if warranted and requested in writing by a credential holder, to complete a Section ordered evaluation or exam.

Motion carried [REDACTED].

Credentialing Authority Delegations

Delegation to Department Attorneys to Approve Prior Discipline

MOTION: [REDACTED] moved, seconded by [REDACTED], to delegate authority to Department Attorneys to approve an applicant's prior professional discipline which resulted in a forfeiture/fine/other monetary penalty, remedial education, and/or reprimand, that is 10 years old or older, and the previously disciplined credential is currently in good standing. Motion carried [REDACTED].

Delegation to Department Attorneys to Approve Duplicate Legal Issue

MOTION: [REDACTED] moved, seconded by [REDACTED], to delegate authority to Department Attorneys to approve a legal matter in connection with a renewal application when that same/similar matter was already addressed by the Board and there are no new legal issues. Motion carried [REDACTED].

Delegation of Authority to Credentialing Liaison

MOTION: [REDACTED] moved, seconded by [REDACTED], to delegate authority to the Credentialing Liaison(s) to serve as a liaison between the Department and the Section and to act on behalf of the Section in regard to credentialing applications or questions presented to them, including the signing of documents related to applications. Motion carried [REDACTED].

Delegation of Authority for Predetermination Reviews

MOTION: [REDACTED] moved, seconded by [REDACTED], to delegate authority to the Department Attorneys to make decisions regarding predetermination applications pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 111.335(4)(f). Motion carried [REDACTED].

Delegation of Authority for Conviction Reviews

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to the Department Attorneys to review and approve applications with convictions which are not substantially related to the practice of professional soil science. Motion carried [].

Delegation to DSPS When Applicant's Discipline History Has Been Previously Reviewed

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to Department staff to approve firms, partnerships, and corporation applications where Applicant's prior discipline has been approved for a previous soil scientist credential and there is no new discipline. Motion carried [].

Delegation to DSPS When Applicant's Conviction History Has Been Previously Reviewed

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to Department staff to approve firms, partnerships, and corporation applications where criminal background checks have been approved for a previous soil scientist credential and there is no new conviction record. Motion carried [].

Delegated Authority for Application Denial Reviews

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to the Department's Attorney Supervisors to serve as the Section's designee for purposes of reviewing and acting on requests for hearing as a result of a denial of a credential. Motion carried [].

Voluntary Surrenders

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to the assigned case advisor to accept or refuse a request for voluntary surrender pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.19 for a credential holder who has a pending complaint or disciplinary matter. Motion carried [].

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to the Department to accept the voluntary surrender of a credential when there is no pending complaint or disciplinary matter with the Department pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 440.19. Motion carried [].

Screening Decision Delegation

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to authorize DSPS to contact the Chairperson (or, in the absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving section member in that succession) when enforcement action is needed, and to authorize the Chairperson (their designee or, in the absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving section member in that succession) to request that a screening panel be convened. Motion carried [].

Education and Examination Liaison(s) Delegation

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to the Education and Examination Liaison(s) to address all issues related to education and examinations. Motion carried Motion carried [].

Authorization for DSPS to Provide Section Member Contact Information to National Regulatory Related Bodies

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to authorize the Department staff to provide national regulatory related bodies with all section member contact information that the Department retains on file. Motion carried [].

Optional Renewal Notice Insert Delegation

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to designate the Chairperson (or, in the absence of the Chairperson, the highest-ranking officer or longest serving board member in that succession) to provide a brief statement or link relating to Section-related business within the license renewal notice at the Section's or Section designee's request. Motion carried [].

Legislative Liaison Delegation

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to the Legislative Liaisons to speak on behalf of the Section regarding legislative matters. Motion carried [].

Travel Authorization Liaison Delegation

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to delegate authority to the Travel Authorization Liaison to approve any section member travel to and/or participation in events germane to the Section, and to designate representatives from the Section to speak and/or act on the Section's behalf at such events. Motion carried [].

Website Liaison(s) Delegation

MOTION: [Section member name] moved, seconded by [Section member name], to authorize the Website Liaison(s) to act on behalf of the Section in working with Department staff to identify and execute website updates. Motion carried [] .

**State of Wisconsin
Department of Safety & Professional Services**

AGENDA REQUEST FORM

1) Name and title of person submitting the request: Jake Pelegrin Administrative Rules Coordinator		2) Date when request submitted: 1/15/25 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: Soil Scientists Section			
4) Meeting Date: 1/28/25	5) Attachments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	6) How should the item be titled on the agenda page? Administrative Rule Matters – Discussion and Consideration 1. Pending or possible rulemaking projects	
7) Place Item in: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open Session <input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	8) Is an appearance before the Board being scheduled? <i>(If yes, please complete Appearance Request for Non-DSPS Staff)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if required: N/A	
10) Describe the issue and action that should be addressed: Attachments: -Rule Projects Chart			
11) <i>Jake Pelegrin</i>		Authorization 1/15/25	
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 original documents needing Board Chairperson signature to the Bureau Assistant prior to the start of a meeting.			

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.	Hold public hearing, discuss Clearinghouse comments, prepare Final Rule Draft.	Board approval of Final Rule Draft for submittal to Governor and Legislature.
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.	Hold public hearing, discuss Clearinghouse comments, prepare Final Rule Draft.	Board approval of Final Rule Draft for submittal to Governor and Legislature.
			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.	Present new scope statement to the board.	Board approval of the scope statement for next steps.