

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE (BOA)
Minutes of a Special Meeting (conducted by videoconference)
March 2, 2026, 3:05 PM
Ridgeland, Mississippi

Members Present: Charles Barlow, Jr., Larry Bishop, Leigh Jaunsen, Bradford Jones, Richard McNeel

Others Present: John Cothron, Andrew Kilpatrick, Derek Wyatt (Special Assistant Attorney General)

Guests: Leon H. Rittenberg III, Roland F. "Skipper" Samson III, Michael J. Wolf

With a quorum present, Mr. McNeel called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item	Explanation	Actions Taken/Planned
<p>1. Business Name Approval Request: Wilson & Company, Inc., Engineers & Architects</p>	<p>Mr. Kilpatrick and Mr. Wyatt reviewed the business name approval request letter submitted by Mr. Wolf and advised that use of the business name "Wilson & Company, Inc., Engineers & Architects" would not be allowable because the firm does not meet the requirements of <i>Miss. Code. Ann. § 73-1-19</i>. They noted that the BOA does not have authority to waive statutory requirements. Mr. Wolf then addressed the BOA to provide additional context for the request.</p>	<p>Motion was made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Ms. Jaunsen to declare an executive session to discuss an enforcement-related matter. The motion passed unanimously, at which point Messrs. Rittenberg, Samson, and Wolf departed from the meeting.</p> <p>Motion was made by Ms. Jaunsen and seconded by Mr. Bishop to come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously, at which point Messrs. Rittenberg and Samson rejoined the meeting (Mr. Wolf did not return to the meeting).</p> <p>Mr. McNeel announced that the following motion was made in executive session:</p> <p>Motion was made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Ms. Jaunsen to deny the business name approval request. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>2. Ownership in an Architectural Firm by a Professional Corporation</p>	<p>Mr. Kilpatrick and Mr. Wyatt reviewed the letter submitted by Mr. Samson requesting that a foreign professional corporation be allowed to have ownership interest in a Mississippi professional corporation offering architectural services and advised that this would not be allowable unless all the stockholders of the foreign professional corporation are licensed architects in Mississippi and the entity has obtained a certificate of authority from the Mississippi Secretary of State in accordance with <i>Miss. Code. Ann. §§ 79-10-31 and 79-10-91</i>. Messrs. Samson and Rittenberg addressed the BOA to provide additional context for the request.</p>	<p>Motion was made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Mr. Jones to table this matter to allow legal counsel to discuss and provide further clarification or alternatives for the professional corporation to consider. The motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>Mr. Samson and Mr. Rittenberg departed from the meeting.</p>		

3. Licensing System Proposals	Mr. Cothron provided a summary of the licensing system proposals submitted by U.S. Next, Lineup, and the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services. He noted that the proposed U.S. Next system has the lowest total lifecycle cost.	Motion was made by Mr. Barlow and seconded by Mr. Bishop to select U.S. Next as the licensing system vendor. The motion passed unanimously.
Motion was made by Mr. Bishop and seconded by Ms. Jaunsen to table the remaining agenda items (discussion of reciprocity requirements and legislative update) until the next meeting and to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.		

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with unanimous consent at 4:21 PM.

4/22/2026
Date Approved


Richard H. McNeel, President


Leigh Jaunsen, Secretary/Treasurer


Prepared by John Cothron, Executive Director, on 3/3/2026

NOTE: This meeting was conducted by videoconference at the Board's office in compliance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-5. The equipment used allowed all members of the public body and members of the public who attended the meeting to hear the deliberations. Notice of this meeting was posted on February 18, 2026.