

South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters

MINUTES

Board Meeting

10:00 A.M., April 16, 2002

Synergy Business Park

110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Room 108

Columbia, South Carolina

Hugh Ryan, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the S.C. Board of Registration for Foresters to order at 10:00 a.m. Other members present for the meeting included: Marietta Singleton, Vice Chairman; Raymond Boozer, Dr. Larry Nelson, Patricia Straka and Virgil Wall.

Fred Gantt, Secretary was not present for the meeting.

Staff participating at various time during the meeting included: Sharon Dantzler, Deputy General Counsel, LLR-Office of General Counsel; Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; Dwight Hayes, Interim Administrator; and Barry Moreland, Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Ryan announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Registration for Foresters office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act. A quorum is present.

Invocation

Mr. Wall delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the January 10, 2002 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Straka noted one change to the minutes. She noted that Mr. Funderburke's first name is spelled Kenney.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved the minutes of the January 10, 2002 meeting be approved as amended. Dr. Nelson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks

Mr. Ryan asked that the board discuss the LAC report in executive session.

Administrator's Remarks

Mr. Hayes stated seven registrations have been received since the last meeting. He also noted that there have been no complaints received since the last meeting. He also stated much of staff's time has been spent dealing with the LAC report.

Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office

There was no legislative update given during the April 16, 2002 meeting.

Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel

There were no advisory opinions given during the April 16, 2002 meeting.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Ryan discussed Lawrence Gering, who was on the Alabama Board and is also registered in Arkansas.

New Business

Applicants for Registration Approval

LaFrage, James

Mr. LaFrage has an Associate's Degree in Forest Management and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. He has 21 years of employment that has been verified by Meadwestvaco. He has worked under a registered for 23 years. He has not yet taken the exam.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the board approve the application. The motion was seconded by Dr. Nelson and unanimously carried.

2. Eddy, Hazen M.

Mr. Eddy has an Associate's Degree in Forest Technology and Criminal Justice. He has six years of employment verified by Brigman, Springfield, and Auburn University. He has not yet taken the examination.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the board approve Mr. Eddy's application to take the exam. Dr. Nelson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. Feldner, Britt A.

Mr. Feldner has an Associate's Degree in Forestry Management Technology. He has six years of employment that has been verified by the Brigman Company.

Mr. Hayes stated staff has received four of the five personal/professional references.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the board approve Mr. Feldner to take the examination upon receipt of the fifth reference. The motion was seconded by Dr. Nelson and unanimously carried.

4. Foy, Henry Lee

Mr. Foy currently holds a forester's license in Georgia, which is valid through December 31, 2003. Mr. Foy's application indicates he holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Clemson University although staff has not yet received the education records. He has four years of verified employment with Corbett Timber Company. Mr. Foy successfully passed the examination in the State of Georgia.

MOTION

Ms. Straka moved to approve the application for registration by reciprocity upon receipt of the transcripts. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. Hewett, Gregory

Mr. Hewett has an Associate's Degree in Forestry Management Technology and ten years of employment that has been verified by Corbett Timber Company. Mr. Hewett has not yet taken the examination.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the board approve Mr. Hewett to sit for the exam. The motion was seconded by Ms. Straka and unanimously carried.

6. Bradley, Thomas Sean

Mr. Bradley previously appeared before the Board on April 17, 2001. He has obtained an Associate's Degree in Forestry Management Technology. He has seven years experience with Canal Wood and would like to be reconsidered to sit for the examination.

Mr. Bradley was not present for the meeting and was not reconsidered for the examination.

7. Muckenfuss, George C.

Mr. Muckenfuss has a Bachelor's Degree in Aquaculture, Fisheries & Wildlife Biology from Clemson and has seven years of experience with Meadwestvaco. He is seeking board approval to take the examination.

Mr. Ryan and Ms. Straka recused themselves from participating in the discussion and vote in this matter as they both know the applicant.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson moved the Board approve Mr. Muckenfuss to sit for the examination. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

8. McLain, James M. Jr.

Mr. McLain has a Bachelor's Degree Forest Resource Management from Clemson. He has one year and 11 months of experience with The Brigman Company and four years with Waccamaw Marine. He graduated from Clemson in 2000. He has successfully passed the examination.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved the Board approve Mr. McLain for registration upon completion of the two years of experience. The motion was seconded by Dr. Nelson and unanimously carried.

9. Copeland, Benjamin (Bart)

Mr. Copeland has a Bachelor's Degree in Forestry from Clemson and four years, nine months of experience. He passed the examination in the State of Georgia. He is applying for registration by reciprocity.

MOTION

Ms. Straka moved the Board approve Mr. Copeland for registration by reciprocity. Ms.

Singleton seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chris Gordy

Mr. Gordy has a four-year degree in Forest Resources from Georgia and five years of experience. He has successfully passed the examination.

Mr. Wall recused himself from participating in the discussion and vote in this matter as Mr. Gordy is employed with his company.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the Board approve Mr. Gordie's application. The motion was seconded by Ms. Straka and unanimously carried.

Discussion Items

The board discussed the board's approval of applicants without bringing the applicants before the board.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved the board conduct a final review of the applications before registration. Ms. Straka seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Ryan stated Mr. Gering had not taken the exam at the time he was registered in North Carolina, as there was no exam being given. He indicated he believes North Carolina began examining applicants in 1999. He further stated the question that had arisen was did Mr. Gering have to take the exam to register under reciprocity. He continued by saying the initial answer was yes, because there was an exam in South Carolina.

MOTION

Ms. Straka moved the board when judging the requirements that are commensurate with the requirements of this State the board will compare the requirements that were in effect in this State at that time of initial licensing with the requirements under which the initial license out of state was granted. Ms. Singleton seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Hayes stated several boards require that any out-of-state license being considered for endorsement must have been obtained by the applicant when he or she was a resident of that state.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the board require that an individual applying for registration by endorsement be licensed in the state of residency. The motion was seconded by Ms. Straka.

Following a discussion regarding forum shopping Mr. Boozer's motion died due to a call for vote.

The board determined it should research this matter further and asked staff to bring options

to the board in this matter.

Foresters Exam

Mr. Hayes stated he has been searching for a bank of questions for the exam, however, he has not found the questions in Ms. Pyatt's former office. Dr. Nelson stated he has found the bank of questions.

Mr. Ryan asked if different exams could be drawn from that bank of questions. Dr. Nelson answered affirmatively. Mr. Ryan then asked the board if they would like to have the exam administered by an outside company. Mr. Hayes briefly explained how the exam process would operate by an outside testing service. A discussion regarding the exam ensued.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson moved the board form a committee to explore a transition to move toward the computer generated testing mode. The motion was seconded by Ms. Singleton and carried unanimously.

Ms. Straka, Ms. Singleton and Dr. Nelson will serve on the committee. Ms. Straka will serve as chairman of the committee.

ASBORF Meeting

The ASBORF annual meeting will be held May 20-21, 2002 in Mississippi.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved, provided expenses are approved, that Mr. Ryan and Ms. Straka represent the board at the ASBORF meeting in Mississippi. Ms. Singleton seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the April 16, 2002 meeting.

Executive Session

Mr. Boozer moved the board enter executive session to discuss the LAC report and the ramifications thereof. The motion was seconded by Ms. Singleton and unanimously carried.

Return to Public Session to Report on Executive Session

Mr. Ryan noted for the record that no actions were taken during the time the board was in executive session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the board at this time, Ms. Straka moved the meeting be adjourned. Dr. Nelson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

The next meeting of the S.C. Board of Registration for Foresters is scheduled for July 11, 2002.