

## MINUTES

South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters  
Board Meeting  
10:00 A.M., July 10, 2003  
Synergy Business Park  
110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Room 108  
Columbia, South Carolina

Hugh Ryan, Chairman, of Wedgefield, 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, of Hemingway; Fred Gantt, Secretary, of Columbia; Raymond Boozer, of Gilbert; Allen Dunn, PhD, of Central; Patricia Straka, of Westminster; and Virgil Wall, Jr., of Greenwood.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator; Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; and Barry Moreland, Administrative Assistant.

Members of the public included: Jeffery Burleson, Rickey Chapman, Wade O'Kelley, and Curtis Swanson.

### Meeting Called to Order

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, Room 108 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. He noted that a quorum was present.

### Invocation

Mr. Ryan delivered the invocation.

### Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Approval of the April 24, 2003 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Straka noted a change on page four, under Discussion Items, in the second paragraph Association of Consulting Foresters.

Mr. Ryan noted a change to page four, fourth paragraph - change 'year' to 'legislative session'. He also noted that in the same sentence add the word 'be'. He went on to say that on page five, in the second paragraph pertaining to continuing education, change the word 'the' to 'a' in the last sentence. He asked that a sentence be added at the end of the paragraph stating 'Dr. Dunn would explore this for this for the Board.'

## MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved the Board approve the April 24, 2003 meeting minutes as amended. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### Chairman's Remarks - Hugh Ryan

Mr. Ryan deferred his remarks at this time.

#### Administrator's Remarks - Lenora Miles

Ms. Miles presented the members with copies of the latest budget report. She noted that this report is as of May 31, 2003. She noted that the deficit in April 2003 was \$114,143 and that in May 2003 the deficit had gone down to \$7,674. She indicated that staff has not yet received the June 2003 figures.

Ms. Miles stated that as of July 9, 2003 staff has processed 754 of the 852 license renewals, which had been mailed. She indicated that leaves 98 renewals outstanding and that if all of these individuals renew it would bring in an additional \$11,270. She noted that the late renewal fee is now \$115.

#### Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office

There was no legislative update given during the July 10, 2003 meeting.

#### Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel

There were no advisory opinions given during the July 10, 2003 meeting.

#### Unfinished Business

Mr. Ryan stated the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Forestry and the S.C. Forestry Commission has been amended and signed. He indicated he would distribute copies to the members during the meeting.

#### New Business

##### 1. Applicants for Reinstatement

###### a. Curtis Mark Swanson

Mr. Swanson is requesting reinstatement of his license that expired June 30, 2001. He is currently employed with International Paper Company. He has been practicing without a license for almost two years. He has completed the appropriate continuing education, however, according to the current guidelines he has submitted the incorrect fees.

Mr. Ryan stated Mr. Swanson contacted him and explained that the first renewal notice had been filed with other bills to be mailed and that he had not seen the notice.

Mr. Swanson appeared before the Board at this time. He stated that registration is not a company requirement, however, it has been his personal goal. He further stated he has been leased out to Blue Sky Timber Properties. He went on to say he is selling land that he had been managing in Aiken County, Barnwell County and Richland County. He indicated he is working toward obtaining a real estate license.

#### MOTION

Mr. Wall moved the Board grant Mr. Swanson a reinstatement license. The motion was

seconded by Mr. Boozer and unanimously carried.

b. Henry Daniel Welch

Mr. Welch is seeking reinstatement of his license that expired June 30, 2001. He has continued to be employed by Piedmont Pulp, Inc. in wood procurement. He was originally grandfathered in licensing during his first licensure and was not required to take the exam. He has furnished a new application, has obtained his continuing education and has submitted the fees. His initial license number was 1037.

Mr. Moreland asked the Board if Mr. Welch could be reinstated or if he will be required to take the exam.

Mr. Wall stated he has spoken with Mr. Welch and that he was going by information that had been sent to him.

Mr. Moreland indicated that Mr. Welch must have received the documentation Mr. Wall has referred prior to his employment with the Board, as he has not disseminated the forms. He further stated the information contained on that form was dated 1990

Discussion ensued regarding the regulation mandating continuing education for reinstatement of licensure. During the discussion Ms. Dantzler indicated that to get the 1990 regulation changed to the policy the Board accepted in January 2003 it must go through the regulatory process. She also indicated that the fees could be changed without a regulation change. She noted that the policy adopted in January 2003 must be published and can be published in a FAQ section on the website.

Mr. Boozer stated he has not at the last meeting, however, he read in the minutes that the Board has determined that it would not publish a roster. He further stated he disagrees with this decision.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wall and unanimously carried, the Board approve Mr. Welch's request for reinstatement.

2. CFE Waiver Request

a. Mitchell Scott

Mr. Scott is requesting a waiver of the requirements for category 1-CFE credits for June 2002 and June 2003. He is short five hours of credit for Category One. He had been involved with a rebuilding and moderation project at Collum's Lumber Products during this time frame and he was unable to leave the project during this time to obtain the required continuing education credits.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved the Board notify Mr. Scott he must obtain the five hours of CFE in Category 1 by September 30, 2003. The motion was seconded by Ms. Straka and

unanimously carried.

### 3. Licensure by Examination

#### a. Hazen M. Eddy

Mr. Hazen is requesting his license via examination. He passed the examination, however, the Board had questions regarding his experience. The January 2003 minutes reflect that Mr. Eddy was not in compliance with the six years of work experience and that the Board needs clarification on the time between Auburn and Research Tech. A new employment verification has been provided to staff as well as an additional six months experience since the January 2003 Board meeting.

#### MOTION

Mr. Boozer made a motion, seconded by Dr. Dunn and unanimously carried, the Board approve Mr. Eddy's request for licensure.

#### b. James M. Summers

Mr. Summers is requesting his license via examination. He passed the examination on June 13, 2002. The Board denied his licensure during the October 2002 meeting because he was seven months short of the required five years of work experience.

#### MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the Board approve Mr. Summers' application. Mr. Wall and Ms. Straka seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

### 4. Licensure by Reciprocity

#### a. Christopher P. Manus

Mr. Manus is requesting his license via reciprocity from North Carolina. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry Management from North Carolina State University. His application indicates he was licensed in Georgia by examination. His file is complete.

#### MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the Board approve Mr. Manus for registration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wall and unanimously carried.

#### b. Jason B. Watson

Mr. Watson is requesting his license via reciprocity from Mississippi. Staff has verified that he holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry Resources from Mississippi State University. His file is missing the criminal history check from Mississippi, which is a closed state. Staff has mailed a fingerprint that has been properly completed along with a letter explaining that the Board is requesting a statewide criminal history check so that he may become a registered forester in South Carolina.

#### MOTION

Ms. Straka made a motion, seconded by Mr. Wall and unanimously carried, the Board approve Mr. Watson for registration pending receipt of the criminal records check.

c. Jeffery N. Burleson

Mr. Burleson is requesting his license via reciprocity with North Carolina. Staff has verified that he holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences from North Carolina State University. His request for licensure was discussed during the April 2003 meeting; however, the Board had questions regarding Mr. Burleson's work experience. His file is complete.

Mr. Burleson appeared before the Board at this time. He stated that a North Carolina registered forester supervised his work in North Carolina and South Carolina from August 1997 to June 1999.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved the Board grant Mr. Burleson's registration by reciprocity. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

A discussion ensued in regard to producing a policy indicating the Board's acceptance of supervision by a registered forester outside of South Carolina. The Board determined it would produce such a policy.

d. Scott S. Brothers

Mr. Brothers is requesting his license via reciprocity with Alabama. Staff has verified that he holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Resources, with a concentration in Biology, from the University of South Swannee Tennessee. Alabama and North Carolina have not yet verified his license and Mr. Brothers has not furnished a criminal history check from the State of Alabama. Staff can verify that Mr. Brothers has only two years and eight months of work experience.

The Board determined it would table this matter pending receipt of license verification from North Carolina and Alabama and receipt of the criminal records check from Alabama.

5. Permission to Take Forestry Examination

a. Rickey Oscar Chapman

Mr. Chapman is requesting his license via examination. He does not hold a bachelor degree or an associate's degree in Forestry or a related field. Mr. Chapman is not currently employed in the forestry field; however, his resume indicates he completed forestry work from 1973 through 1980, that he was an assistant forester from 1971 through 1973, and a forester technician from 1969 through 1971. Staff has recently received personal references documents and an employment verification document from John R. Frazier, Inc. that indicates Mr. Chapman was employed with this company from March 3, 1973 to August 3, 1980.

Mr. Wall stated he knows Mr. Chapman and is aware that he received six years of experience under a registered forester approximately twenty years ago.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved to table this matter until such time that he appears before the Board. Mr. Boozer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### 6. June 2, 2003 Examination Candidates Discussion Regarding New Foresters Exam

##### a. Heath Corley

Mr. Corley was unable to attend today's meeting.

##### b. J. Thomas McElveen

Mr. McElveen was unable to attend today's meeting.

##### c. Wade P. O'Kelley

Mr. O'Kelley gave the Board a brief professional background since his graduation from Clemson University in 2000.

Mr. O'Kelley stated the examination is basically economic and evaluation and not on the practice of forestry. He further stated all of the applicants had questions regarding the exam and indicated that all seven of the applicants failed the exam. He noted that five of the individuals taking the exam were Clemson graduates and hold degrees in Forestry. He said that three of the individuals, including him, graduated in 2000 and the other two individuals graduated in 2001 or 2002. He indicated some of the questions were not covered in the courses taught at Clemson.

Dr. Dunn stated the Board should look at the examination since all seven of the examinees failed. He indicated the examination should show that the individual knows the basics of Forestry.

Mr. Moreland noted that out of the 90 questions on the exam nine questions were missed by all of the individuals, 14 questions were missed by six of the seven individuals, and 11 questions were missed by five of the individuals. He also noted that all of the applicants got six questions correct.

##### Roger Ware

Mr. Ryan stated he received a call from Mr. Ware indicating he sent a renewal in without a stamp, which was returned because of no postage. The renewal was returned to Mr. Ware's place of employment, Weyhaeuser, after which it was mailed with the appropriate postage. Mr. Moreland returned the renewal to Mr. Ware because none of the postmarks were dated June 30, 2003. Mr. Moreland stated the renewal went back to Weyhaeuser on July 3, 2003. He further stated it was mailed with postage and was postmarked on July 7, 2003 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Board determined Mr. Ware should pay the late fee.

#### 7. CFE Exemption Policy

Ms. Miles stated staff has received several calls regarding a CFE exemption policy that indicates a forester who had 30 years of experience or were at least 60 years of age prior

to July 1, 1991 were exempt. She further stated it now seems that when individuals turn 60 years old or have 30 years of experience are attempting to receive the exemption.

Mr. Ryan stated there had been a law passed that stated anyone practicing forestry before July 1, 1961 does not have to take continuing education.

Ms. Dantzler noted a statute, 1991 Act #76, pertaining to this exemption that states:

The requirements for continuing education or other assessment of continued competence developed by the State Board of Registration for Foresters through regulation do not apply to registered foresters who on July 1, 1991 have at least thirty years of experience or are at least 60 years of age on July 1, 1991.

Ms. Dantzler stated the individual had to be a licensed forester in South Carolina.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the emeritus status.

#### MOTION

Mr. Wall moved the Board explore and move toward the emeritus status. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### Continuing Education Discussion

The Board continued its discussion regarding the examination. Ms. Straka asked that Mr. Moreland disseminate the examination statistics to her to see if where the failure rate indicators are pointing.

#### Rickey Oscar Chapman

Mr. Chapman appeared before the Board at this time. He briefed the Board on his forestry background. He stated he began working with Champion (for two years) and that his duties included surveying, marking timber, cruising timber and working with reforestation. He then went to work with H. M. Hinson (for eighteen months) was buying timber from the government, private individuals, and paper companies. He then went to work with John R. Frazier for approximately eight years. He then sold insurance for approximately twenty-two years. He is no longer selling insurance and is attempting to enter into the forestry business. He has been cruising and marking timber and working with a consultant in Newberry.

#### MOTION

Dr. Dunn moved the Board allow Mr. Chapman take the examination. Mr. Boozer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### Discussion Items

##### ASBORF

Mr. Ryan stated ASBORF's annual meeting would be held at Auburn August 21-22, 2003. Dr. Dunn and Ms. Straka would like to attend the meeting. Mr. Gantt will also attend the meeting.

### Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the July 10, 2003 meeting.

### Executive Session

The Board did not enter executive session during the July 10, 2003 meeting.

### Adjournment

The July 10, 2003 meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.