

MINUTES

South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters
Board Meeting
10:00 A.M., July 7, 2005
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 108
Columbia, South Carolina

Hugh Ryan, Chairman, of Wedgefield, called the regular meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Foresters to order at 10:03 a.m. Other board members in attendance included: Virgil Wall, of Greenwood; Fred Gantt, Secretary, of Columbia; Patricia Straka, of Westminster; Raymond Boozer, of Gilbert; and B. Allen Dunn, Ph. D., of Central.

Marietta Singleton, of Hemingway was not in attendance at the meeting.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator; Barry Moreland, Administrative Assistant; Connie Huffstetler, Administrative Assistant and Sharon Dantzler, Deputy General Counsel - Office of General Counsel.

There were no members of the public in attendance at the July 7, 2005 meeting.

Meeting Called to Order - 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.

Invocation

Mr. Wall delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of the April 14, 2005 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2005. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried.

Chairman's Remarks - Hugh Ryan

Mr. Ryan noted he had received several phone calls relating to the exam and there were some issues to be discussed later in the meeting.

Mr. Ryan presented the other Board members with a copy of H.3978, which was introduced by Rep. Billy Witherspoon. The members briefly discussed the bill. Mr. Ryan remarked that the members would need to seek support for the bill when the legislative session begins in January.

Administrator's Remarks - Lenora Miles

Ms. Miles advised the board that 717 licensees had renewed their licenses and there were 97 outstanding licenses, as of July 6, 2005.

Ms. Miles presented the members with the exam results from June 16, 2005. There were 17 candidates who took the test. 10 individuals took exam 1, with 4 passing. 7 individuals, who were taking the exam for the second time, took exam 2 and none passed.

Ms. Miles advised the board that LLR is moving to online renewals for 2006.

Mr. Ryan asked Ms. Miles what would be done regarding the 97 licensees who have not yet renewed. She explained that a warning letter would be mailed to remind the licensees that they had until September 30 to renew and would be subject to a late fee. After that time, they must apply for reinstatement.

Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office

There were no legislative updates given during the July 7, 2005 meeting.

Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel

There were no advisory opinions given during the July 7, 2005 meeting.

Unfinished Business

Blair Baldwin

Mr. Ryan asked for an update on Blair Baldwin. The Board had previously decided that Mr. Baldwin could renew his license by submitting 5 additional CE hours before June 30, 2005. Mr. Moreland advised that Mr. Baldwin had not provided the required CE.

Robert G. Miller

Mr. Ryan asked if Mr. Miller had taken the exam. Mr. Moreland stated that he had not.

New Business

Approval of Licensure by Reciprocity

James Manning Bruett Bates

Mr. Bates is seeking reciprocity from the state of Georgia. He holds a BS degree from Auburn University. His file is complete.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved to approve Mr. Bates application. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried.

Todd Lewis Woody

Mr. Woody is requesting reciprocity from the state of Georgia. He holds a BS degree from Clemson University. His file is missing his employment verification and verification of his Georgia license.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved to approve Mr. Woody's application, pending receipt of the required employment verification and verification of his Georgia license. Mr. Boozer seconded the motion and it carried.

Approval of Licensure by Reinstatement

Peter Colton Madden

Mr. Madden's license lapsed on June 30, 2004. He is claiming 24 hours CE for the course "Negotiating to Win", through The American Management Association.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn moved to approve Mr. Madden's request for reinstatement, pending approval of the submitted CE hours, which will be reviewed by Ms. Straka. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which carried.

David K. Houk

Mr. Houk's license lapsed on June 30, 2003. He submitted CE, consisting of video tapes he viewed which were obtained from a County Extension Agent.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved to accept the CE submitted by Mr. Houk and approve his request for reinstatement. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried.

Approval of Licensure by Examination

Francis C. Beckham

Mr. Beckham holds a BS in Biology from Coker College and an MS in Forestry Management from Clemson University. He has 1 year and 8 months actual work experience and is asking credit for work experience as a graduate research assistant while completing his Masters degree.

The members discussed the matter of Mr. Beckham's work experience and all agreed that he needed to complete the required 2 years of actual work experience.

MOTION

Ms. Straka moved to approve Mr. Beckham's application pending verification of the completion of his work experience.

Requests for CE Waivers

Paul E. Klaphthor

Mr. Klaphthor stated in a letter that he had been unable to complete his CE due to serious health problems. He is asking the Board to grant a waiver of the CE for this year.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved to grant Mr. Klaphthor's request for a waiver of CE requirements. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion and it carried.

Jerry Sargent

A letter was received from Mr. Sargent's daughter stating that due to serious health problems, he had been unable to complete the required CE. He is asking that the Board grant a waiver.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn moved to grant a waiver of CE as requested by Mr. Sargent. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which carried.

H.3781 - Amendment to the Engine Bill

Ms. Dantzler gave a brief overview of the bill. She explained that the language in the bill has been reorganized to make it easier to read and understand. Ms. Dantzler noted that the changes would have very little direct impact on the Board. The members were asked to review the bill and be prepared to take a position on it at their next meeting.

Discussion Items

Mr. Ryan asked the status of the Review Course offered by Clemson University. Dr. Dunn explained that the position is vacant and in the process of being filled. Nothing can be done until someone has been selected and Dr. Dunn will keep the board apprised.

The members discussed the status of having a policy manual written. Ms. Straka advised that she has drafted a letter to the person being considered to write it, but is waiting on the NC realtors manual, which will be used as an example.

Ms. Straka gave a brief report on the ASBORF meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas on May 9-10, 2005. She advised that many of the Boards have concerns about exams. A representative of SAF updated the attendees on the national forestry exam and provided copies for their review. SC is currently the only state that accepts the national exam. Ms. Straka noted that SAF is considering changes to the CFE categories.

The members discussed issues relating to the exam. Ms. Dantzler explained that she considers two liability issues regarding exams, the first being validation and the second being security. She noted that most of the other Boards within LLR use a national exam. Ms. Dantzler recommended that the board consider moving in that direction. The members agreed to ask a representative of SAF to attend the next meeting to make a presentation on the exam.

Public Comments

There were no public comments during the July 7, 2005 meeting.

Executive Session

MOTION

Dr. Dunn moved the Board enter Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Ms. Straka and carried.

Return to Public Session to Report on Executive Session

MOTION

Dr. Dunn moved the Board return to Public Session. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which carried.

Ms. Straka advised the Board that the 2006 ASBORF meeting would be held in Columbia on April 20-21, at Harbison Forest.

Mr. Boozer noted that his term has expired and he did not wish to be reappointed for another term. Mr. Ryan explained that it could be some time until a replacement is appointed and asked Mr. Boozer to plan on attending the October meeting.

Adjournment

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Straka seconded the motion, which carried.