MINUTES

South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters
Board Meeting
10:00 A.M., January 10, 2008
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 111
Columbia. South Carolina

Meeting Called to Order

Virgil Wall, Vice Chairman of Greenwood, called the regular meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Foresters to order at 10:05 a.m. Other Board members in attendance included: Patricia Straka, Secretary, of Pendleton; George Chastain, of Georgetown; Fred Gantt, of Columbia; and Amy L. McFadden, of Georgetown.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Sharon Dantzler, Deputy General Counsel, Office of General Counsel; Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator; and Linda Owens, Administrative Assistant.

A member of the public attending the meeting was Sam Manning.

Mr. Wall 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.

Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Mr. Gantt delivered the invocation.

Approval of Excused Absences

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved the Board approve absences for Hugh Ryan, Chairman, of Wedgefield and Raymond Boozer, of Gilbert.

Approval of the October 11, 2007 Meeting Minutes *MOTION*

Mr. Gantt made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Straka and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the minutes as presented.

Chairman's Remarks

Mr. Wall deferred his remarks until later in the meeting.

Administrator's Remarks – Lenora Miles

Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel There was no legislative update or advisory opinions given during this meeting.

Mrs. Addison-Miles made no remarks at this time.

Unfinished Business

The Board tentatively scheduled its April 10, 2008 meeting to be held at Horry-Georgetown Technical College, located in Georgetown, SC. The time of the meeting will be determined at a later date.

The Board discussed newsletter articles for Mrs. McFadden to produce for the SAF newsletter.

New Business

1. Approval of Licensure via Examination

a. Anneta Burdette

On November 29, 2007 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Anneta Burdette. Ms. Burdette obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resources from Auburn University in 1993. She passed the certified foresters exam in November 2007. Staff received an additional employment verification form after the members received the information. Her file is now complete. It was noted during discussion that she lacks two years of work experience.

MOTION

Mrs. Straka moved to approve Ms. Burdette's application pending receipt of the additional work experience. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Jennie Haskell

On September 26, 2007 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Jennie Haskell. Ms. Haskell obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in 1998. She passed the certified forester exam in August 2007. Her file is complete.

MOTION

Mrs. McFadden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Chastain and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Ms. Haskell's application.

c. Edward Spearman

On July 13, 2007 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Edward Spearman. Mr. Spearman obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from the University of Georgia in 2002. He passed the certified forester exam in July 2007. His file is complete.

<u>MOTION</u>

Mr. Gantt moved the Board approve Mr. Spearman's application. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. <u>Approval of Licensure via Reinstatement</u>

a. Gary Allred

Gary Allred's license expired on June 30, 2007. On December 28, 2007 the Board received an updated application from Mr. Allred. Mr. Allred has paid the required fees and provided proof of more than ten hours of continuing forester education units.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Straka and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Mr. Allred's reinstatement.

b. Joel Cox

Joel Cox's license expired June 30, 2007. On January 3, 2008 the Board received an updated application from Mr. Cox. Mr. Cox has submitted an updated application, provided employment verification, and paid the required fees. However, he has submitted proof of obtaining only eight continuing education hours. His renewal form indicates he has completed all ten continuing education units. As he did not attempt to renew until after the deadline he was required to submit an updated application.

MOTION

Mrs. Straka moved the Board send a letter to Cox indicating his license has been approved, however, that he does not qualify for probationary status as his license is now lapsed and that his license will be reinstated upon the Board's receipt of the two additional continuing education hours. Mr. Chastain seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Executive Session

MOTION

Mrs. Straka made a motion, seconded by Mr. Chastain and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session to seek legal advice on an advisory opinion.

Return to Public Session

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved the Board return to public session. Mrs. Straka seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Wall noted for the record that no motions were offered or made during executive session.

Continuing Forester Education (CFE) Audit

Staff conducted a random audit on October 3, 2007. Seventy-six registered foresters were chosen for the audit process, of which six registered foresters were exempt. Three individuals were sent follow up letters and staff is awaiting further information from these individuals.

The Board reviewed and discussed documentation submitted by four registered foresters. The Board determined additional documentation received from these four individuals will be sent to a Board member for approval.

Election of Officers

MOTION

Mr. Gantt proposed and moved that Mrs. McFadden serve as secretary, Mrs. Straka serve as vice chairman, and Mr. Wall as chairman. Mrs. Straka amended the motion to nominate Mrs.

McFadden to serve as vice chairman and Mr. Chastain as secretary. Mr. Gantt seconded the amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

No public comments were made during the January 10, 2008 meeting.

Adjournment

The January 10, 2008 meeting of the SC Board of Registration of Foresters adjourned at 11:20 a.m.