

MINUTES
South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters
Board Meeting
10:00 A.M., April 10, 2008
Horry-Georgetown Technical College
Building 100 (Main Bldg.), Room 114
4003 South Fraser Street
Georgetown, South Carolina

Meeting Called to Order

Virgil Wall, chairman, of Greenwood, called the regular meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Foresters to order at 10:02 a.m. Other Board members in attendance included: Amy L. McFadden, vice chairman, of Georgetown; George Chastain, Secretary, of Georgetown; Raymond Boozer, of Gilbert; Fred Gantt, of Columbia; Hugh Ryan of Wedgefield; and Patricia Straka, of Pendleton.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; Lenora Miles, Administrator; and Linda Owens, Administrative Assistant.

Members of the public attending the meeting included: Brian Clark, DeAnna Eddy, Julius Moore, Jr., and sixteen students of the Horry-Georgetown Technical College.

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, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, 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. Gantt delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Excused Absences

All Board members were present.

Approval of the January 10, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gantt noted one correction to the minutes. He asked that the word 'to' be added at the top of page four. The sentence will read "Mrs. Straka amended the motion to nominate Mrs. McFadden to serve as vice chairman and Mr. Chastain as secretary."

MOTION

Mr. Chastain moved the Board approve the minutes of the January 10, 2008 meeting as amended. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks – Virgil Wall

Mr. Wall welcomed the students from Horry-Georgetown Tech to the meeting. He reserved his remarks for 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 given during this meeting. No advisory opinions were given during this meeting.

Mrs. Miles reminded the members that the Statement of Economic Interest forms are due to the State Ethics Commission no later than April 15, 2008.

The Board members have filed the forms electronically and asked that Mrs. Miles check with the State Ethics Commission to ensure the forms were filed properly.

Mr. Wall briefly explained the Board's composition to the students attending the meeting.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business for discussion during the April 10, 2008 meeting.

New Business

1. Examination Request
 - a. *Julius Graham Moore*

On February 7, 2008 the Board received an application for registration as a forester by examination from Julius Graham Moore. Mr. Moore received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Poultry Science from North Carolina State University in December 1995. He is seeking the Board's approval to take the forester's exam.

Julius Graham Moore appeared before the Board at this time and offered the following testimony.

Mr. Moore stated he was in the poultry industry for one year and has worked with his father's forestry consultant business for the past 11 years. His father is ready to retire from the forestry consultant business. He wishes to become licensed to further assist in the business. He has taken several continuing forester education classes over the past few years.

Mrs. Straka questioned Mr. Moore on his experience and knowledge of the forest industry.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Straka and unanimously carried, that the Board discuss this matter in executive session.

2. Approval of Licensure via Examination
 - a. *Heath M. Corley*

On March 12, 2008 the Board received an application for registration as a forester by examination from Heath M. Corley. Mr. Corley received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in May 2002. He passed the certified forester exam in February 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

Mrs. McFadden made a motion, seconded by Mr. Boozer and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Mr. Corley for registration.

b. Woodrow W. Cox, III

On March 17, 2008 the Board received an application for registration as a forester by examination from Woodrow W. Cox, III. Mr. Cox received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in December 2003. He passed the certified forester exam in March 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the Board approve Mr. Cox for registration. Mr. Gantt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

c. Charles C. Crittenden

On March 31, 2008 the Board received an application for registration as a forester by examination from Charles C. Crittenden. Mr. Crittenden received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in May 2006. He passed the certified forester exam in December 2006. His file is now complete as staff received an additional reference after the agenda packages were mailed to the Board members.

MOTION

Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Chastain and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Mr. Crittenden for registration effective May 15, 2008, which would allow him to complete his two years of work experience.

d. Jeffery H. Johnson

On February 13, 2008 the Board received an application for registration as a forester by examination from Jeffrey H. Johnson. Mr. Johnson received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in December 1995. He passed the certified forester exam in February 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved the Board approve Mr. Johnson for registration. Mrs. Straka seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

e. Jeffrey D. Riggan

On March 17, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure by examination from Jeffrey D. Riggan. Mr. Riggan obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in May 2005. He passed the certified forester exam in June 2007. His file is complete.

MOTION

Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Boozer and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Mr. Riggins for registration.

3. **Approval of Licensure via Reciprocity**

a. *Joseph B. Goulding*

On December 3, 2007 the Board received an application for registration via reciprocity from Joseph B. Goulding. Mr. Goulding received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Management from North Carolina State University in 2005. He became licensed in North Carolina in 2007 where he obtained licensure by the North Carolina written exam. His file is now complete as staff received an additional reference after the agenda packages were mailed to the members.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the Board approve Mr. Goulding for registration by reciprocity. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. *Thomas D. Merriman*

On May 3, 2007 the Board received an application for registration by reciprocity from Thomas D. Merriman. Mr. Merriman received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry from the University of Tennessee in 1981. He was initially registered in West Virginia by education and experience in 2000. He has not taken an examination. His verification of licensure from West Virginia reflects that his license lapsed on June 30, 2007. On March 14, 2008 the Board received a letter from Mr. Merriman in which he states that he was made aware that the Board had not received his verification of licensure from West Virginia and he had made a second request to that effect. The letter further states that his license in West Virginia lapsed as a result of the delay in completing the paperwork for licensure in South Carolina. He has been employed by and is working as a forester for Georgia Pacific LLC since August 1981. He transferred from West Virginia to the Prosperity, South Carolina plant in January 2007.

Discussion on this matter ensued and it was determined that South Carolina does not accept reciprocity from West Virginia since that state does not have registration by examination.

MOTION

Mrs. McFadden made a motion seconded by Mr. Ryan and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Mr. Merriman for registration following successful passage of the certified forester exam.

4. **Approval of Licensure via Reinstatement**

a. *Jeff A. Powers*

In April 2008 the Board received a reinstatement application from Jeff A. Powers. Mr. Powers' license lapsed on June 30, 1999. He has submitted the required fees and proof of continuing education. Staff returned Mr. Powers' original application to him on April 8, 2008 because the application was not notarized. Mr. Powers is aware staff has returned the application.

MOTION

Mrs. Straka moved the Board approve Mr. Powers for reinstatement pending receipt of the notarized application. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Paul H. Rogers

On March 7, 2008 the Board received a reinstatement application from Paul H. Rogers. Mr. Rogers' license lapsed on June 30, 2006. He has submitted proof of continuing education and has paid all required fees.

Mr. Gantt noted the application does not list time frames of employment; however it was noted that the professional references Mr. Rogers provided does note employment time frames.

MOTION

Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mr. Boozer and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Mr. Rogers' for reinstatement.

5. Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) Audit

a. Dennis Matherly

Mrs. Miles stated the Board is reviewing Mr. Matherly's documentation for the first time at this meeting. Mr. Matherly did not respond to the original audit in October 2007 and submitted his documentation late. It appears he has the hours; however, some of his hours are Category 1 carry over from the previous year which must be approved by the Board.

The Board determined only two hours of the 14 hours submitted are category one.

MOTION

Mrs. McFadden moved the Board accept Mr. Matherly's continuing education as submitted. Mr. Boozer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Gary Nye

The Board reviewed Mr. Nye's continuing education hours in January 10, 2008 and was unable to determine if he had the correct hours. The Board asked that staff contact Mr. Nye and suggest that he contact SAF for a printout of his continuing education hours from 2005 to 2007 so the Board could determine his CFE hours and any hours he had that were eligible for carry over. Staff notified Mr. Nye by letter dated January 11, 2008 and by certified mail dated February 19, 2008; however, he has not responded to staff's letters. Mr. Nye was forced into early retirement and his documentation was destroyed when he retired.

The Board tabled this matter to the July 10, 2008 meeting.

c. Philip C. Rand

Mr. Rand's continuing education courses were reviewed during the January 10, 2008 meeting. At that time the Board asked that additional documentation (course title, agenda and location) regarding one class, OCFLA, be requested since that class was taken after he renewed his license. At the time Mr. Rand renewed his license he indicated he had completed all of his continuing education classes. He also indicated he had submitted all of the information he had on that class.

Mrs. Miles stated Mrs. Dantzer has provided basic guidelines in regard to continuing education audits. She further stated there are other Boards within the agency that have had similar situations. She went on to say the guidelines state that the Board authorizes staff to send the individual a pre-approved consent agreement for submitting a false statement on the renewal application. She said the consent agreement would contain a fine for an amount set by the Board, such as \$500.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved the Board empower Mr. Wall as the Board member to determine if the classes are okay for Mr. Nye and Mr. Rand and, if not, the issue will be discussed during the July 10, 2008 meeting. Discussion on this matter ensued. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Mr. Wall stated he would gather facts on the classes taken by Mr. Nye and Mr. Rand and would bring those facts before the Board during the July 10, 2008 meeting.

Mr. Brian Clark questioned the Board in regard to the technical failure on a continuing education course. He went on to say four individuals appeared for a SAF approved category 1 course, to be presented by way of video conference; however, there was a technical failure in Columbia and the individuals were unable to participate in the continuing education course. He stated the individuals were in the room for one and one-half hours before they were sent home. He went on to say attendance was taken for this continuing education course and that the college has a DVD of the entire program for viewing. He noted Horry-Georgetown Technical College will be offering the individuals a free program.

MOTION

Mr. Ryan moved the Board allow the college to distribute the DVD to those four individuals, that those individuals certify they have viewed the DVD, that the Board would qualify the four individuals for that continuing education course. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comments

The Board entered a public discussion with the Horry-Georgetown Technical College students in regard to the licensure and examination process.

Mrs. McFadden noted the ASBORF meeting will be held in June 2008 in Asheville, North Carolina. She went on to say that the main topic of this year's meeting would be testing and noted South Carolina is the only state utilizing the SAF certified forester exam.

6. Society of American Foresters CFE Standards and Guidelines

The Board reviewed the Society of American Foresters (SAF) CFE Standards and Guidelines.

Mrs. Straka asked if some of the information contained in the guidelines could be placed on the Board's webpage. Mrs. Miles stated the Board could attach a link on the Board's webpage to SAF's webpage. She went on to say individuals could search the SAF website for this information.

Discussion on the guidelines ensued and the Board determined it would ask SAF for additional information.

Executive Session

MOTION

Mr. Chastain made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Straka and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session.

Return to Public Session

MOTION

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

Mr. Wall noted for the record that no motions were offered or made nor were any votes taken during executive session.

Examination Request

a. *Julius Graham Moore*

MOTION

Mrs. Straka moved the Board notify Mr. Moore in writing he may take the exam; however, successful passage does not guarantee registration as a forester, and that he must further provide, to the satisfaction of the Board, a portfolio of work experience as well as a complete application. Mr. Boozer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

7. Approval of 2009 Board Meeting Dates

The following proposed meeting dates were presented to the Board members for their review.

January 15, 2009

April 9, 2009

July 16, 2009

October 15, 2009

MOTION

Mr. Ryan moved the Board approve the proposed dates as submitted. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Adjournment

MOTION

There being no further business for discussion by the Board Mr. Ryan moved the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Boozer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The April 10, 2008 meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Foresters adjourned at 12:15 p.m.