

MINUTES
South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters
Board Meeting
10:00 A.M., July 10, 2008
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 111
Columbia, 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 10:00 a.m. Other Board members in attendance included: Amy L. McFadden, vice chairman, of Georgetown; George Chastain, Secretary, of Georgetown; Raymond Boozer, of Gilbert; Allen Dunn, PhD., of Central; Fred Gantt, of Columbia; and Patricia Straka, of Pendleton.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Lenora Miles, Administrator, Linda Owens, Administrative Assistant; and Sheridan Spoon, Associate General Counsel.

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.

Invocation

Mr. Chastain delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Excused Absences

All members were present.

Mr. Wall welcomed Dr. Dunn as a member to the Board.

Approval of the April 10, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gantt stated he feels the meeting at Georgetown Technical College was beneficial and believes the Board should meet at other locations.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McFadden and unanimously carried, that the minutes of the April 10, 2008 meeting be approved.

Chairman's Remarks – Virgil Wall

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. Miles stated staff would also like to welcome Dr. Dunn to the Board. She went on to say staff looks forward to again working with Dr. Dunn.

Mrs. Miles stated staff wished to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to Mr. Ryan for his many years of dedicated service to the Board as well as to the forestry profession.

Mrs. Miles stated effective July 1, 2008 the mileage reimbursement rate increased from 44.5¢ to 50.5¢ per mile. She noted the new rate has been reflected in the members' travel documents.

Mrs. Miles stated she received an e-mail from Terry Clark of the Society of American Foresters in regard to the new SAF forest technology accreditation program. She went on to say she forwarded the e-mail to the Board members with e-mail addresses. She noted she has the e-mail should the Board wish to discuss it during the meeting.

New Business

Application Hearing

Annetta S. Burdette

This proceeding was recorded by a court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript if requested in accordance with the law.

Executive Session

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion the Board enter executive session to discuss this matter. Mrs. Straka seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

Mr. Wall noted for the record that no official action was taken during executive session.

MOTION

Mrs. Straka made a motion, seconded by Dr. Dunn and unanimously carried, that the Board require Ms. Burdette to work an additional year and at the end of the additional year that she furnish a new application with updated work experience references.

Approval of Licensure via Examination

James R. Douglas, III

On June 2, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure by examination from James Douglas, III. Mr. Douglas received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in May 2006. He passed the SAF certified forester exam in October 2007. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion the Board approve Mr. Douglas' application for registration. Mr. Boozer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Corey E. Flowers

On April 14, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Corey Flowers. Mr. Flowers received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of South Carolina in 1999. The Board approved his application to take the exam in October 2005. He passed the SAF certified forester exam in April 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

Mrs. Straka made a motion, seconded by Mr. Chastain and unanimously carried, that the Board ask Mr. Flowers to provide a work portfolio of his years of experience.

Scott A. Lance

On March 13, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Scott Lance. Mr. Lance received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from the University of Tennessee in May 2005. He passed the SAF certified forester exam in February 2008. His file is missing a criminal history report. Staff notified Mr. Lance of the deficiency on June 25, 2008.

Mrs. Straka noted Mr. Lance's work place is located in North Carolina; however, he resides in Virginia.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion the Board approve Mr. Lance for registration pending receipt of a criminal history report from his resident state and pending completion of two years of work experience in September 2008. Mr. Chastain seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Lawton Parker, III

On June 25, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure by examination from Lawton Parker, III. Mr. Parker received a Bachelor Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in August 2004. He passed the SAF certified forester exam in February 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

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

Terrell A. Smith

On July 1, 2008 the Board received an updated application for licensure via examination from Terrell A. Smith. Mr. Smith received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in May 2006. He passed the SAF certified forester exam in October 2006.

Mr. Wall questioned Mrs. Miles why Mr. Smith did not answer the question in regard to whether or not he has read and understands the foresters' law. Mrs. Miles stated Mr. Smith had to submit an updated application. She noted she would send that page of the application to Mr. Smith so he may answer the question.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion the Board approve Mr. Smith for registration pending receipt of the application with the answer to question #13. Mr. Chastain seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) Audit

Gary Nye

Mr. Wall stated he has spoken with Mr. Nye who is unable to provide the requested documentation.

Mrs. Miles stated Mrs. Dantzler has provided her with basic guidelines from other boards regarding continuing education audits. She further stated Mr. Nye's documentation included a

log sheet which reflects 14 hours obtained during 2005/06, and five hours he obtained in 2006/07. She went on to say the question arose as to whether or not he used 10 of the 14 hours for the 2005/06 continuing education prior to carry over or did he have additional hours that would allow him to carry over five hours. She said staff was unable to determine in which year he used those hours. She stated she had sent a letter to Mr. Nye asking him to contact SAF requesting documentation regarding his continuing education.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion the Board accept the documentation Mr. Nye as submitted; however, that he be notified that he would be included in the next continuing education audit. Mrs. Straka seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Philip C. Rand

Mrs. Miles stated the Board had reviewed Mr. Rand's continuing education audit information during the January 2008 meeting. She further stated at that time the Board requested additional information regarding the OCFLA course, to include the course title, agenda and location. She noted this information was requested based on information provided indicating the course was taken after the license was renewed. She went on to say Mr. Rand had stated he had provided the Board with all of the information he had. She said the information regarding the continuing education course in question reflects the course was given in September 2007, which was after he renewed his license and attested to having the required hours.

Mrs. Miles stated Mr. Rand included documentation showing he received eight hours of continuing education for a herbicide course in May 2007, a letter from Mr. Bob Franklin, of Clemson Extension Service, dated November 2007, showing a field trip conducted June 16, 2007 in which he earned at least one hour.

MOTION

Mr. Straka made a motion, seconded by Mr. Boozer and unanimously carried, that the Board notify Mr. Rand that the Board will accept the hour received in September 2007 and that he will be included in the next continuing education audit. However, the hour(s) he received during the September 2007 course will not be accepted in the next continuing education audit.

Regulation 53-20(9) – CFE Requirements for New Registrants

Regulation 53-20(9) states:

An individual registered during a year will be required to meet CFE requirements for renewal following the first renewal after initial registration.

Mrs. Miles stated staff needs guidance on this regulation especially since the Board has now moved to biennial licensure.

Discussion ensued during which it was noted that 20 hours of continuing education is now required for registration renewal.

The Board determined this regulation is exempting new registrants from continuing education requirements for the first renewal; however, continuing education is required when the registrant renews the second time.

ASBORF Annual Meeting Report - Amy McFadden

Mrs. McFadden briefed the Board on the ASBORF meeting held in June 2008 in Ashville, North Carolina. She noted the exam was the primary issue discussed during the meeting, although the new SAF continuing education requirements, distance learning and online courses were also addressed. She further stated Oklahoma has requested membership into ASBORF, which was unanimously approved. She said the charter was amended to state that the vice chair position would be on a rotation basis, based on which state would host the meeting the following year. She noted that most of the states noted that unlicensed foresters acting as licensed foresters is the biggest violation noted in most states.

Mrs. Straka stated she has spoken with SAF regarding the incorporation of South Carolina law related questions to the certified forester exam. The Board asked that Mrs. Miles research the possibility of procuring funds to incorporate the questions and that this matter be placed on the agenda for the October 2008 meeting.

The Board briefly discussed the accreditation of the technical schools which include forester technician programs.

Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the July 10, 2008 meeting.

Adjournment

The July 10, 2008 meeting of the SC Board of Registration of Foresters adjourned at 12:05 p.m.