

MINUTES
South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters
Board Meeting
10:00 A.M., October 9, 2008
Synergy Business Park
Saluda Building
101 Executive Center Drive, Temporary 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; Allen Dunn, PhD., of Central; Fred Gantt, of Columbia; Olin Lominick, of Pomaria; and Patricia Straka, of Pendleton.

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

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

All members were present.

Approval of the July 10, 2008 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

Mr. Chastain made a motion the Board approve the July 10, 2008 meeting minutes. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion. Mrs. Straka asked Mrs. Miles if staff had received the SLED report on Scott Lance and if he had completed his two years of work experience. Mrs. Miles was unsure if the report had been received. Mrs. Straka asked Mrs. Miles if staff had received the updated application with the answer to question #13 from Terrell Smith. Mrs. Miles replied staff had received the updated application. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks – Virgil Wall

Mr. Wall welcomed Mr. Olin Lominick as a new member of the Board. He 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 the October 9, 2008 meeting.

Mrs. Miles welcomed Mr. Lominick as a new member of the Board. She extended sincere thanks to Mr. Raymond Boozer for his time and service to the Board.

Mrs. Miles presented the members with a memo regarding 2009 state official license plates. She stated any Board member who wished to purchase a special license plate should complete the form attached to the memo and return it with a \$15 check no later than November 17, 2008.

Christa Bell, litigating attorney, introduced Suzanne Hawkins to the Board members. She stated Ms. Hawkins would be handling disciplinary actions for the Board of Foresters.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business for discussion during the October 9, 2008 meeting.

New Business

- a. Approval of Licensure via Examination
 - i. *Corey E. Flowers*

On April 14, 2008 the Board received an updated application for registration 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 and he passed the SAF certified forester exam in April 2008. His file contained all information. The Board reviewed Mr. Flowers' application for licensure during the July 10, 2008 meeting during which time a motion was made and carried that Mr. Flowers must provide a portfolio of his work experience since he does not have a degree in forestry. Mr. Flowers was notified by letter dated July 15, 2008 of the Board's decision and documented the information which is to be provided to the Board.

Corey E. Flowers and William Flowers appeared before the Board at this time and expressed their concerns over the Board's request to require Mr. Corey Flowers' submittal of documentation showing his work experience in silviculture, forest management, forest economics, protection, utilization, and mensuration.

Executive Session

MOTION

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

Return to Public Session

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McFadden and unanimously carried, the Board return to public session.

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

Mr. Wall stated the Board would like for Mr. Flowers to submit excerpts from management plans regarding his experience in silviculture, forest management, forest economics, protection, utilization, and mensuration.

The Board determined it would change the wording in the work portfolio form letter to list the six categories in which documentation is required and add that the documentation is in accordance with Statute 48-27-130.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion, seconded by Dr. Dunn and unanimously carried, the Board approve Mr. Flowers' application pending receipt and approval of excerpts from management plans showing he has the required work experience.

ii. James F. Gunter

On September 23, 2008 the Board received an application for registration by examination from James F. Gunter. Mr. Gunter received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in December 2002. He passed the SAF certified forester exam on September 9, 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gantt and unanimously carried, the Board approve Mr. Gunter's application.

iii. Marshall A. Laviner

On May 29, 2008 the Board received an application for registration via examination from Marshall A. Laviner. Mr. Laviner received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Conservation with a minor in Forest Management from North Carolina State University in December 1992. He received a Master of Science Degree in Forestry from North Carolina State University in December 1997. He passed the SAF certified forester exam on August 19, 2008.

Discussion ensued regarding Mr. Laviner's undergraduate courses.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion the Board approve Mr. Laviner's application. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

iv. James L. Nichols

On February 25, 2008 the Board received an application for registration via examination from James L. Nichols. Mr. Nichols received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resource Management from Clemson University in May 2006. He passed the SAF certified forester exam on July 24, 2008.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McFadden and unanimously carried, the Board approve Mr. Nichols' application.

v. Nathan P. Rutherford

On August 20, 2008 the Board received an application for registration via examination from Nathan P. Rutherford. Mr. Rutherford received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry from Virginia Tech in May 2006. He passed the SAF certified forester exam on September 25, 2008.

MOTION

Mr. Chastain made a motion the Board approve Mr. Rutherford's application pending completion of two years of work experience. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the October 9, 2008 meeting.

Executive Session

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion the Board enter executive session to discuss future applicants who do not have a degree in forestry. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Straka and unanimously carried, the Board return to public session.

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

Mrs. McFadden asked the members for suggestions for an article in the next SAF newsletter.

Mrs. Straka asked Mrs. Miles the status of the state specific module in the SAF exam. Mrs. Miles stated she has been in discussions with the agency on that matter. She further stated the agency, in an effort to save money, is in the process of setting up online testing. She went on to say the Board could establish those state specific questions. The Board determined it would develop twenty questions for the state specific module of the SAF exam.

Adjournment

The October 9, 2008 meeting of the S.C. Board of Registration of Foresters adjourned at 11:40 a.m.