

MINUTES
South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters
Conference Call Meeting
10:00 A.M., October 15, 2009
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 204
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 10:08 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; and Charles Sibley*, of Chapin.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator and Sharon Dantzler, Deputy General Counsel.

- A. 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.

B. Pledge of Allegiance
All participating in the meeting recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Invocation
Mr. Wall delivered the invocation.

Approval of Excused Absences

Olin Lominick, of Pomaria, did not participate during this meeting.

Approval of the July 16, 2009 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

Mr. Gantt made a motion the Board approve the minutes from the July 16, 2009 meeting. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion. Mr. Wall noted in the motion to adjourn 'nu' should read 'no' on page four. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks – Virgil Wall

Mr. Wall made no remarks at this time.

Administrator's Remarks – Lenora Miles

- A. *Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office*
B. *Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel*

There were no advisory opinions or legislative update given during this meeting.

Mrs. Miles stated there are currently 725 foresters have renewed their registrations. She noted the registrations will be good through June 30, 2011. She said there are currently 87 individuals with lapsed registrations (did not renew). She also stated the random continuing education audit was conducted on October 8, 2009 on ten percent of the registrants. She said notification of the audit has been sent to the 72 individuals that were randomly selected and that the Board would review the results during the January 2010 meeting.

Mrs. Miles stated she would like to officially welcome Mr. Charles Sibley to the Board and thanked Mrs. Pat Straka for her dedicated service to the Board, the industry and the profession.

Mrs. Miles reminded the members that if they desired a personalized license plate the completed form and funds must be submitted to staff no later than October 17, 2009.

Unfinished Business

There was no old business for discussion during this meeting.

New Business

a. Ratification of Mail Ballot

Tamara Cushing – Registration by Reciprocity

On February 13, 2009 the Board received a reciprocity forester registration application from Tamara Cushing. Ms. Cushing received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resources and Conservation from the University of Florida in May 1996. She was registered by the Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters by examination in October 2009. The registration is current through December 31, 2009.

Mrs. Miles stated this application was not on the agenda for the July 2009 meeting. She noted the Board approved the application by mail ballot, which now must be ratified.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion the Board ratify the mail ballot approving Tamara Cushing for registration by reciprocity. Mr. Chastain seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Approval of Licensure via Examination

Thomas M. Dowtin

On September 22, 2009 the Board received a forester registration by examination application from Thomas M. Dowtin. Mr. Dowtin received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from Clemson University in December 2005 and a Master's Degree in Forest Resources in December 2007. He passed the Society of American Foresters exam in March 2008. The file is complete.

MOTION

Mrs. McFadden made a motion the Board approve Mr. Dowtin's application for registration. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

c. Parameters for Affirmative Responses on Applications/Renewals

Mrs. Dantzler reviewed the parameters for affirmative responses on applications/renewals with the Board. She noted most Boards do not want to make every individual with a 'yes' answer on a renewal application, specifically matters such as misdemeanors, i.e., traffic violations, appear before the Board. She went on to say most boards have set parameters for those individuals who would need to make an appearance. She noted the parameters would include individuals who have been disciplined by another board. She recommended the Board would need to determine the misdemeanors which would require an appearance by a registrant. She noted most boards require individuals who have been charged with fraud to make an appearance. Misdemeanors that do not involve fraud can be approved by the Administrator.

*Mr. Sibley joined the meeting at this time.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion the Board accept Mrs. Dantzler's recommendation for the parameters for affirmative responses on applications/renewals. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

d. Approval of Proposed 2010 Board Meeting Dates

The Board reviewed the following proposed 2010 board meeting dates.

January 14, 2010 April 15, 2010 July 15, 2010 October 14, 2010

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion the Board accept the proposed 2010 meeting dates. Mrs. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Wall asked that two of the meetings be held in Columbia.

Report on ASBORF Meeting

Mrs. McFadden briefed the Board on the ASBORF meeting which was held September 17-18, 2009. During her report she noted that next year's meeting will be held in Georgia.

The Board determined it would draft a resolution for Mrs. Straka.

Mrs. Miles questioned the Board regarding the status of the state specific exam. Dr. Dunn stated Mrs. Straka was the driving force on the exam. Mr. Wall suggested Mrs. Straka attend the January 2010 meeting to discuss this exam. Mrs. Miles stated the exam would be administered online through the Board's web page. She noted the individual would be given a password to take the exam. Mrs. McFadden asked Mrs. Miles how staff would know that the individual who is requesting to take the exam would be the individual who is taking the exam. Mrs. Miles stated staff would not know who is taking the exam. She noted the agency determined the procedure for administering the state specific exam. She went on to say should the individual fail the exam, he/she can retake the exam within 24 hours to 48 hours. She stated if the Board determines it does not want to do this the members would need to let her know. She said the other option was to have SAF administer the exam; however, there was an issue with the fee associated with SAF. She will research to see if the exam is a timed exam. The Board asked that this matter be placed on the agenda for the January 2010 meeting.

Public Comments

No public comments were made during the October 15, 2009 meeting.

Adjournment

The October 15, 2009 meeting of the S.C. Board of Registration of Foresters adjourned at 10:43 a.m.