

**MINUTES**  
**SC Board of Registration for Foresters Board Meeting**  
**Board Meeting**  
**February 7, 2019 at 10 a.m.**  
**Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building**  
**110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 105**  
**Columbia, South Carolina**

**Meeting Called to Order**

Robert Drummond, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Other members participating in the meeting included: Christian Hendricks, of Columbia; Blair Frazier Baldwin., of Lancaster; William Moody, of Lexington; Michael Mills, of Newberry; William D. Sligh, Jr., of Hartsville; and Charles Maley, of Moore.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Emily Farr, Agency Director; Hardwick Stuart, Office of Advice Counsel; Molly Price, Administrator; Sherri Moorner, Program Assistant; Johnnie Rose, Program Coordinator; and Prentiss Shealey, Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

Others present included: Griffith Wilson; Robert Strange; and M. Sean Cary (Creel Court Reporting).

**Statement of Public Notice**

Mr. Drummond stated public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC Board of Registration for Foresters office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building and on the board website 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 attending recited the Pledge of Allegiance

**Invocation**

The invocation was given by Mr. Drummond.

**Approval of Excused Absences**

No absences to approve

**Chairman's Remarks – Robert Drummond**

Mr. Drummond introduced Agency Director Emily Farr to the Board.

**LLR Director's Remarks**

Director Farr introduced herself to the Board. She is glad that board members are utilizing the Board Newsletter. She informed board members that LLR will roll out a new website this summer that will operate on mobile devices and will be easier to navigate. She also stated that the agency

has hired Abhijit Deshpande as the new Finance and Procurement Director. She thanked the Board members for their service.

### **Approval of the November 15, 2018, Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** To approve the July 12, 2018, meeting minutes.  
Hendricks/Baldwin/approved.

### **Staff Reports**

a. Administrative and Financial Report – Molly Price

Mrs. Price stated that the Board currently has 707 licensed foresters. The Board had a cash balance of \$-162,977.65 as of December 31, 2018. Reallocations have reduced the direct expenditures by more than half. She anticipates the Board will bring in \$80,000 - \$90,000 in revenue during upcoming license renewals.

State exam results and a list of applicants approved for licensure since November 16, 2018, were included in the meeting handouts. The state exam has been taken 43 times since being implemented in January 2016, with an average score of 80. As the average score has remained consistent, Ms. Price does not feel that a review and re-vetting of the exam is needed at this time.

A list of the recently approved licensees was presented to the Board: two by examination, and two by reciprocity. All licensees were approved by Molly Price and board member Charles Maley.

Mrs. Price reminded the Board to file their Statement of Economic Interest by noon on March 30. She encouraged the Board members to check the financial statements from the agency to ensure they are correct.

License renewals will open in April. An email will be sent to active licensees in mid-February to request an email validation in preparation for the upcoming renewal season.

Board reappointments are progressing slowly. Mrs. Price has been following up on this regularly, and thanked the Board members serving expired terms for their patience with the reappointment process.

b. Advisory Opinions – There were no Advisory Opinions.

c. Legislative Updates – There was no report.

d. ODC Report – Prentiss Shealey

Mrs. Shealey said there are no cases in the Office of Disciplinary Council.

e. OIE Report – There was no report from the Office of Investigations and Enforcement

f. IRC Report – There was no Investigative Review Committee report.

g. The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2019, in Room 105.

## **Application Hearings**

1. Mr. Griffith Wilson appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. He was sworn in by the court reporter. The hearing was recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

### **Executive Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to enter into executive session to seek legal advice regarding application hearings.  
Sligh/Maley/approved.

### **Return to Public Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to return to public session.  
Maley/Baldwin/approved.

**MOTION:** To accept Mr. Wilson's application based on his testimony and the resume presented.  
Hendricks/Sligh/approved.

2. Mr. Robert Strange appeared before the Board for an Application Hearing. He was not represented by counsel. He was sworn in by the court reporter. The hearing was recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

### **Executive Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to enter into executive session to seek legal advice regarding application hearings.  
Maley/Moody/approved.

### **Return to Public Session**

**MOTION:** For the Board to return to public session.  
Maley/Hendricks/approved.

**MOTION:** To conditionally approve Mr. Strange to become a Registered Forester pending he continue to work under a registered forester through May 20, 2019, and submit an updated employment verification form at the time for licensure.  
Baldwin/Sligh/approved.

### **Election of Officers**

**MOTION:** To nominate Mr. Hendricks as Chairman.  
Baldwin/Maley.

Mr. Baldwin would like to nominate Mr. Hendricks in the spirit of rotation. Mr. Drummond and Mr. Hendricks excused themselves from the meeting so that the other board members could discuss. Mr. Stuart checked the law, and said it does not require that the Chairman must be a registered Forester. The Board invited Mr. Drummond and Mr. Hendricks to return to the meeting.

**VOTE:** The Board unanimously voted to elect Mr. Hendricks as Chairman.

**MOTION:** To nominate Mr. Baldwin as Vice-Chairman.  
Maley/Moody/approved.

**MOTION:** To nominate Mr. Maley as secretary.  
Sligh/Moody/approved.

#### **Executive Session**

No executive session.

#### **Return to Public Session**

No return to public session.

#### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

Mr. Drummond reminded the Board members to file their Statement of Economic Interest Reports.

#### **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** To adjourn.  
Hendricks/Maley/approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.