

MINUTES
SC Board of Registration for Foresters Board Meeting
July 13, 2023 at 10 a.m.
WebEx Webinar/Teleconference

Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Charles Maley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Other members participating in the meeting included Vice-Chairman Christian Hendricks, of Columbia; Michael Mills, of Newberry; William D. Sligh, Jr., of Hartsville; and Brannon Babb, of Honea Path.

Staff members participating during the meeting included Mary League, Office of Advice Counsel; Johnnie Rose, Administrator; Cleve Langdale, Program Coordinator; Robby Dean, Investigator; Byron Ray, Investigator; and Sherri Moorer, Administrative Coordinator.

Others present in person included Nadine Garrett (Creel Court Reporting).

Statement of Public Notice

Mr. Maley 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. Members of the public who wish to attend may do so by telephone or the Internet. For login information, please call (803)896-4800, or email Contact.Foresters@llr.sc.gov.

Invocation

Mr. Hendricks gave the invocation.

Adoption of Agenda

MOTION: To adopt the July 13, 2023, agenda.
Hendricks/Mills/approved.

Approval of the February 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes

MOTION: To approve the February 9, 2023, meeting minutes.
Sligh/Hendricks/approved.

Chairman's Remarks – Charles Maley

There were no Chairman remarks.

Staff Reports

- a. Administrative and Financial Report – Johnnie Rose
 - i. Mr. Rose introduced Cleve Langdale as the new Program Coordinator, and Robbie Dean as the new lead investigator. Robbie Dean is also one of the four investigators assigned to the Board.
 - ii. There are 666 registered foresters.
 - iii. Six licenses were issued since the last meeting: five by examination, and one by

- reciprocity.
- iv. License and pocket cards are updating to an 8.5" x 11" card and certificate.
 - v. The Board is now in late renewals, which are open through September 30, 2023, with a \$50 late fee.
 - vi. Mr. Rose has contacted the Association about the three expired Board member terms. Mr. Sligh has been reappointed.
 - vii. The Board had a cash balance of \$51,127.13 as of May 31, 2023.
 - viii. The next Board will be November 16, 2023. It will be an in-person meeting held at the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation at 10 a.m.
- b. Advisory Opinions – There were no Advisory Opinions.
 - c. ODC Report – Mr. Rose reported no cases in the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.
 - d. OIE Report – Mr. Dean reported no cases in the Office of Investigations and Enforcement
 - e. IRC Report – Mr. Dean said there was no Investigative Review Committee report.

New Business

- a. **Update for Proposed Changes of Chapter 53, Notice of Drafting – Mary League**
Mrs. League stated the Regulatory Review decision to revise 53-4 regarding quorums was published in the State Register on March 31, 2023. The current language states that four members constitute a quorum, but the Board voted to change this to “a majority of the members serving constitutes a quorum.”

MOTION: To approve this change.
Mills/Hendricks/approved

- b. **H.3605 Review and Vote – Mary League**
Mrs. League stated that H.3605 passed the legislature in the 2023 session. This legislation has three parts:

- First, licensure will be granted upon completion of an apprenticeship program, unless the statute requires a baccalaureate degree or higher for licensure. The Board will not be affected since there is a degree requirement for licensure.
- Second, criminal convictions cannot be the basis of denial or restriction of licensure unless the offence directly relates to the practice of the profession or occupation. The Board must articulate a reason if they do deny or restrict a license on this basis. Another part of this is that vague language referring to “moral turpitude” or “good character” is confusing to potential licensees and must be removed.
- Third, the name of a complainant must be released to the respondent unless the complainant provides good cause to withhold their name. These petitions will be reviewed and approved by a Board member.

MOTION: To designate Mr. Maley to review “good cause” complaint cases.
Mills/Hendricks/approved

MOTION: To approve the proposed changes to the applications to remove prohibited language.
Hendricks/Mills/approved

c. Continuing Forestry Education Audit – Johnnie Rose

Mr. Rose stated continuing education audits will be conducted in October. The Board voted to utilize CE Broker for tracking and processing of audits. He provided the continuing education audit notice to the Board for review, and asked one Board member to volunteer to assist with the Audit Module of CE Broker for 2023 audits.

MOTION: To utilize the proposed verbiage for CFE Audit Notices.
Mills/Sligh/approved

Mr. Maley volunteered to work with the CE Broker Continuing Education module.

d. ASBORF Board Travel – Johnnie Rose

The 2023 ASBORF Meeting will be held in Montgomery, Alabama, on August 23-25, 2023. Mr. Rose has been asked to attend.

MOTION: To approve Mr. Rose's travel to the 2023 ASBORF Meeting.
Mills/Hendricks/approved

e. 2024 Board Meetings – Johnnie Rose

Mr. Rose presented the Board with two options for 2024 meeting dates. Option A includes three meetings, and Option B includes two meetings, as required by statute.

MOTION: To accept the Option B meeting dates.
Hendricks/Mills/approved

Board meetings will be held at the SC Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation at 10 a.m. on March 14, 2024, and October 24, 2024.

Executive Session

No executive session.

Return to Public Session

No return to public session.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Excused Absences

MOTION: To excuse Robert Drummond from the meeting.
Hendricks/Sligh/approved

Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn.
Mills/Hendricks/approved.

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.