

MINUTES
South Carolina Board of Registration for Geologists
Board Meeting
10:00 A.M., May 29, 2008
Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Room 111
Columbia, South Carolina

Meeting Called to Order

Jason Terry, Chairman, of Charleston, called the regular meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Geologists to order at 10:02 a.m. Other members present for the meeting included: Vernon T. Ichimura, PhD., Vice-Chairman, of Aiken; and Richard D. Warner, PhD., of Clemson.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator Sandra Dickert, Administrative Assistant; and Linda Owens, Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Terry announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Registration for Geologists 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.

Approval of Excused Absences

Dr. Warner moved the Board grant R. Craig Kennedy, of Columbia, an excused absence. Dr. Ichimura seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval of February 7, 2008 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the February 7, 2008 meeting minutes.

Chairman's Remarks – Jason Terry

Mr. Terry made no remarks at this time.

Administrator's Remarks –Lenora Addison-Miles

Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Sharon Dantzler, Office of General Counsel
Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office

Mrs. Addison-Miles made no remarks at this time.

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

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business for discussion.

Executive Session

ASBOG Examination Results

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura moved the Board enter executive session to review the ASBOG examination results. Dr. Warner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board return to public session.

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

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura moved the Board accept the ASBOG examination results. Dr. Warner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board direct the Board's Administrator to release the ASBOG fundamental and practice examination results upon receipt without prior Board approval.

New Business

Licensure via Examination

a. Jeffrey Frazier

On February 20, 2007 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Jeffrey Frazier. Mr. Frazier received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Resources from the University of the South in 1998. He received a Master of Science Degree in Geology from West Virginia University in 2002. He passed both ASBOG examinations in March 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura moved the Board accept Mr. Frazier's application. Dr. Warner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Patrick Lowery

On January 2, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Patrick Lowery. Mr. Lowery received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from the University of Alabama in 2002. He became registered as a Geologist in Training (GIT) in 2006. Upon passage of the practice exam in March 2008 he has now passed both exams. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board accept Mr. Lowery's application.

c. Seth Ramaley

On August 7, 2007 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Seth Ramaley. Mr. Ramaley received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Earth and Environmental Sciences from Furman University in 1998 and a Master's Degree in Geology from the University of Georgia in 2001. He passed both exams in March 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura moved the Board accept Mr. Ramaley's application. Dr. Warner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

d. Melissa Roberts

On January 8, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via examination from Melissa Roberts. Ms. Roberts obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from Furman University in 2000 and a Master's Degree in Geology from Texas A & M University in 2005. She passed both ASBOG exams in March 2008. Her file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura made a motion, seconded by Dr. Warner and unanimously carried, that the Board accept Ms. Roberts' application.

Geologists-in-Training via Examination

a. John Foster, III

On January 14, 2008 the Board received an application for registration via examination from John Foster, III. Mr. Foster obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geology from Clemson University in 2002. He passed the Fundamentals exam in March 2008.

MOTION

Dr. Warner moved the Board approve the application. Dr. Ichimura seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. James Richard Wessinger

On September 14, 2007 the Board received an application for registration via examination from James Richard Wessinger. Mr. Wessinger obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from the University of South Carolina in 1984. He passed the Fundamentals exam in March 2008. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board accept the application.

Licensure via Reciprocity and/or Endorsement

a. Kevin Ray Arnold

On May 27, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via reciprocity or endorsement from Kevin Ray Arnold. Mr. Arnold was licensed in Georgia by ASBOG examination in 2007. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Earth Science from Auburn University in 1996. Verified employment reflects four years and five months of work experience. Mr. Arnold's file is missing one employment verification from a business that is now closed; however, he remains in contact with his supervisor who has agreed to submit an employment verification.

MOTION

Dr. Warner moved the Board accept the application pending receipt of the employment verification from his supervisor at SMC Environmental. Dr. Ichimura seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. David H. Felter

On February 4, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via reciprocity or endorsement from David H. Felter. Mr. Felter became licensed in Florida by ASBOG examination in 2006. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from Rensselaer in 1983. His file is missing one reference.

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Mr. Felter's application pending receipt of the third reference.

c. *Albert Frommel*

On February 11, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via reciprocity or endorsement from Albert Frommel. Mr. Frommel became licensed in North Carolina by the ASBOG examinations in 2007. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from the University of South Carolina in 1995. Staff obtained an additional employment verification after the agenda packages were mailed to the Board members.

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board accept Mr. Frommel's application.

d. *Jefferson Laughlin*

On January 22, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via reciprocity or endorsement from Jefferson Laughlin. Mr. Laughlin obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Chemistry from Southern Methodist University in 1981 and a Master's Degree in Geology from the University of Oklahoma in 1985. He obtained licensure in Texas in 2003 by the grandfather clause; however, he passed both of the ASBOG exams in 2007. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Warner moved the Board accept Mr. Laughlin's application. Dr. Ichimura seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

e. *Justin D. Mahan*

On January 28, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via reciprocity or endorsement from Justin D. Mahan. Mr. Mahan obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History from Auburn University in 1996 and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from Auburn University in 2002. He obtained licensure in Georgia via the ASBOG exam in 2004. Staff received an additional employment verification after the agenda packages had been mailed to the members.

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura made a motion, seconded by Dr. Warner and unanimously carried, that the Board accept Mr. Mahan's application.

f. *Alan D. Martin*

On March 28, 2008 the Board received an application for licensure via reciprocity or endorsement from Alan D. Martin. Mr. Martin obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Earth Sciences from the University of North Carolina (UNC) – Charlotte in 1991. He obtained licensure in North Carolina via the ASBOG exam in 2002. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura moved the Board accept Mr. Martin's application. Dr. Warner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

g. *Jill D. Tribley*

On August 13, 2007 the Board received an application for licensure via reciprocity or endorsement from Jill D. Tribley. Ms. Tribley obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Geology from Allegheny College in 1998. She obtained licensure in Pennsylvania by ASBOG examination in 2004. Her file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board accept Ms. Tribley's application.

Licensure via Reinstatement

a. *James Rudder, Jr.*

On May 8, 2008 the Board received a reinstatement application from James Rudder, Jr. Mr. Rudder's license lapsed on June 30, 1999. Mr. Rudder has submitted all fees, an affidavit attesting to the fact that he has not practiced geology in South Carolina during the time his license has been lapsed, and has provided proof of continuing education. He submitted a letter dated April 17, 2008 with his application stating he is having trouble obtaining documentation regarding GSA Southeastern Section 57th annual meeting. The Board believes a receipt of payment to attend the meeting would be acceptable.

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura moved the Board accept Mr. Rudder's reinstatement application pending receipt of additional proof, such as a receipt, of his attendance at the GSA meeting. Dr. Warner seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. *Mark Daniel Mitchell*

On April 25, 2008 the Board received a reinstatement application from Mark Daniel Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell's license lapsed on June 30, 2006. Mr. Mitchell has submitted all fees, an affidavit attesting to the fact that he has not practiced geology in South Carolina during the time his license has been lapsed. He also provided documentation for the Board's review regarding continuing education he obtained.

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura made a motion, seconded by Dr. Warner and unanimously carried, that the Board accept Mr. Mitchell's reinstatement application pending receipt of proof of attendance, such as a receipt or attendance records, of continuing education attendance.

Examination Request

a. *Thomas Jordan*

On January 8, 2008 the Board received an application for examination from Thomas E. Jordan. Mr. Jordan received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geology from Alfred University in 1984, a Master's Degree in Geology from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Fredonia in 1986, and a PhD in Geology from the University at Buffalo in 2003. He has been licensed in several states. Mrs. Addison-Miles has received an e-mail from Mr. Jordan stating he obtained licensure in the other states by grandfather clause and he does not feel he qualifies for licensure in South Carolina by reciprocity as South Carolina does not have reciprocity with Wisconsin or New York.

MOTION

Dr. Warner moved the Board accept Mr. Jordan's application and allow him to sit for the exam. Dr. Ichimura seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. *Heyward Key*

On January 11, 2008 the Board received an application for examination and registration as a professional geologist from Heyward Key. Mr. Key has applied to take the fundamental and practice exams. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology from Presbyterian College in May 1998. He obtained a Master's Degree in Geology from the University of North Carolina Wilmington in May 2003. Mr. Kennedy reviewed Mr. Key's application and referred the application to the full Board for lack of the required 30 semester hours in geology. Following a brief discussion regarding this application, the Board voted to deny Mr. Key's request to take the exam due to lack of the required fundamental geology course credit hours.

On May 14, 2008 the Board received a letter from Dr. Patricia H. Kelley, Professor of Geology at the University of North Carolina (UNC) – Wilmington which states Mr. Key has completed 32 hours of graduate-level geology credits at UNC – Wilmington.

Mrs. Addison-Miles stated Mr. Kennedy reviewed the additional information and was satisfied with this information; however, he asked that the full Board review the additional information.

MOTION

Dr. Warner made a motion, seconded by Dr. Ichimura and unanimously carried, that the Board accept Mr. Key's application for examination.

Continuing Education Review

The Board reviewed continuing education courses submitted by five licensees who renewed late and needed to submit their continuing education information.

MOTION

Dr. Ichimura made a motion, seconded by Dr. Warner and unanimously carried, that the Board give Robert Brown to the August 21, 2008 Board meeting to produce sufficient new evidence of obtaining sixteen hours of continuing education for the 2005-2007 biennium.

Approval of Proposed 2009 Meeting Dates

The following proposed meeting dates were presented to the members for their review.

January 29, 2009 May 21, 2009 August 13, 2009 December 8, 2009

After reviewing the proposed meeting dates the members asked that the dates be changed to one week prior to the proposed dates or one week after the proposed dates. The Board asked that approval of the proposed 2009 meeting dates be discussed at the next meeting.

Dr. Warner stated he would not be able to attend the December 9, 2008 meeting and asked if that meeting could be changed to another date that week.

Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the May 29, 2008 meeting.

Adjournment

The May 29, 2008 meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Geologists adjourned at 11:47 a.m.