

# MINUTES

## South Carolina Board of Registration for Geologists

10:00 a.m., September 1, 2011  
Synergy Business Park  
110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building Room 204  
Columbia, South Carolina

### **Meeting Called to Order**

Vernon Ichimura, PhD., vice chairman, of Aiken, 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: Charles Gorman, III, of Columbia; Richard D. Warner, PhD., of Clemson, and Mark Taylor, of Greer.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator; Theresa Garner, Program Assistant, and Dean Grigg, Assistant General Counsel.

Former Board member, Craig Kennedy was also in attendance.

Mr. Ichimura announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC 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**

There were no absences to be excused.

### **Approval of May 26, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Dr. Warner noted a correction to page four under the "Motion" regarding the reinstatement application of Mr. LaPoint, Dr. Warren should be Dr. Warner. Dr. Ichimura noted a correction to page five under "Election of Officers", Dr. Warren should be Dr. Warner.

### **MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to approve the Minutes as amended. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

### **Vice Chairman's Remarks – Vernon Ichimura, PhD.**

Dr. Ichimura extended his thanks to former chairman, Jason Terry for his dedicated service to the Board. Mr. Terry was originally appointed to the Board in May 2001 and served as chairman from January 2004 until June 2011. Dr. Ichimura welcomed new member, Mark Taylor, and advice counsel Dean Grigg.

### **Administrator's Remarks – Lenora Addison-Miles**

Mrs. Miles stated the agency has initiated the use of court reporters for all board meetings, in order to provide a verbatim transcript of the meetings. A court reporter will be in attendance at the December 8, 2011 meeting. She stated there are 575 geologists registered through June 30, 2013, 73 licenses lapsed on June 30, 2011 due to non-renewal. Registrants have until

December 31, 2011 to apply for late renewal. There are six active GIT registrants. The July 2011 Cash Balance Report shows the Board has a balance of \$113,100.19.

The next ASBOG examination administration is September 30, 2011.

### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business for discussion during this meeting.

### **New Business**

#### Selection of Investigative Review Committee (IRC) Member

Former board member, Craig Kennedy, provided the names of former members that may be interested in serving on the IRC. The IRC is a tool the agency uses as a method to assist the board in resolving complaints. The IRC is comprised of the board administrator, investigator, litigating attorney, and a board appointed IRC professional member. The IRC professional member will work with LLR staff to review complaint findings and make a recommendation to the board for final disposition. The Board has final authority regarding disposition of complaint cases. Advice counsel noted the IRC representative could not be a current board member.

Discussion of possible IRC members and the IRC process ensued.

#### **MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to designate James Furr as the IRC representative, if he is willing to serve, and Craig Kennedy as the alternate member. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

#### Licensure via Reciprocity/Endorsement

##### *Clifford Leonard, Jr. (Ratification of email ballot)*

Mr. Leonard was registered in Georgia on April 25, 2008 by ASBOG examinations. He obtained a Master of Science degree in Geosciences from the University of Louisiana at Monroe on May 13, 1988. Mr. Leonard is self-employed. His application was originally emailed to board members for review on June 1, 2011, because his application should have been included on the May 26, 2011 meeting agenda. The Board voted via email to approve Mr. Leonard for registration. Email approvals were received from Dr. Ichimura on June 4, Dr. Warner on June 6, Mr. Gorman on June 7, and Mr. Terry on June 7. The email vote must be ratified for the minutes.

#### **MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to ratify the Board's email vote approving Mr. Leonard for registration. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

##### *Evan Perry*

Mr. Perry was registered in Georgia on May 14, 2004 by ASBOG examinations. He obtained a B.S. degree in Earth Environmental Science from Furman University on May 31, 1997, and a Master of Science degree in Geology from the University of Georgia on January 4, 2001. Mr. Perry's file is complete.

#### **MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to approve Mr. Perry's application for licensure through reciprocity with Georgia. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

##### *Trever Z. Slack*

Mr. Slack was registered in North Carolina on July 1, 2011, by ASBOG examinations. He obtained a B.S. degree in Geology from Georgia Southern University on July 21, 2006, and a Master of Science degree in Hydrogeology from Clemson University on August 7, 2010. Mr. Slack's file is complete.

**MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to approve Mr. Slack for licensure through reciprocity with North Carolina. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Licensure via Reinstatement**

*David William Brown*

Mr. Brown's license lapsed June 30, 2001. He has submitted a complete reinstatement packet, including an updated application, notarized statement that he has not practiced since the license lapsed, proof of continuing education, and paid all required fees.

**MOTION**

Mr. Gorman made a motion to approve Mr. Brown for reinstatement upon receipt of documentation of participation in the Geoprobe Systems Field Day and USACE Regulatory Program lecture to include additional information regarding interaction with other professionals. Dr. Warner seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Examination Requests**

*Jonathan M. Bennett (PG)*

Mr. Bennett applied to take both ASBOG examinations for registration as a geologist. He obtained a B.S. degree in Geology from the College of Charleston on December 16, 2001. In order to meet the ASBOG examination order deadline, the application was reviewed and approved by Dr. Ichimura on August 11, 2011.

**MOTION**

Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept the application and allow Mr. Bennett to take both exams. Dr. Warner seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

*John H. Foster (PG)*

Mr. Foster applied to take the Practice of Geology exam. He passed the Fundamentals exam on March 7, 2008. Mr. Foster obtained a B.A. degree in Geology from Clemson University on December 19, 2002. In order to meet the ASBOG examination order deadline, the application was reviewed and approved by Mr. Terry on August 10, 2011, pending receipt of references prior to being licensed. The required references are included in the meeting packets.

**MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to allow Mr. Foster to take the Practice of Geology examination for registration. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

*Larry G. Harrelson (PG)*

Mr. Harrelson applied to take both ASBOG examinations. He obtained a B.S. degree in Geology from the University of SC on May 11, 1991, and a Master of Science degree in Geology from UNC Wilmington on May 15, 1999. In order to meet the ASBOG examination order deadline, the application was reviewed and approved by Mr. Terry on August 10, 2011.

**MOTION**

Mr. Gorman made a motion to accept the application and allow Mr. Harrelson to take both exams for registration. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

*Lynn J. Hendrix (PG)*

Ms. Hendrix applied to take both ASBOG examinations. She obtained a B.S. degree in Geology from Clemson University on August 7, 1999. She previously took the Fundamentals exam in 2001. In order to meet the ASBOG examination order deadline, the application was reviewed and approved by Dr. Ichimura on August 11, 2011.

**MOTION**

Mr. Taylor made a motion to approve the application and allow Ms. Hendrix to take both examinations for registration. Dr. Warner seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

*Adair Stevenson (PG)*

Ms. Stevenson applied to take both ASBOG examinations. She obtained a B.A. degree in Geology from The Colorado College on May 20, 2002. She previously took the Fundamentals examination and is reapplying. In order to meet the ASBOG examination order deadline, the application was reviewed and approved by Dr. Ichimura on August 16, 2011.

**MOTION**

Mr. Gorman made a motion to approve the application and allow Ms. Stevenson to take both examinations for registration. Dr. Warner seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

*Stephen Thomas (GIT)*

Mr. Thomas applied to take the Fundamentals of Geology examination for registration as a GIT. He obtained a B.S. in Geology from the University of South Alabama on December 9, 2008. In order to meet the ASBOG examination order deadline, the application was reviewed and approved by Mr. Terry on August 10, 2011.

**MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to approve the application and allow Mr. Thomas to take the Fundamentals examination for registration as a GIT. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Continuing Education Extension Request**

*William D. Wood, Jr. (Ratification of email vote)*

Mr. William D. Wood Jr. submitted an email request, dated June 6, 2011, for an extension to complete the CE requirements due to extenuating circumstances. His request was emailed to the Board on June 10, 2011, because Mr. Wood did not want to allow his license to lapse because he needed to continue to practice. The Board voted to grant Mr. Wood an extension to obtain the 32 hours and allow him to renew his license; however he must obtain the hours by December 31, 2011. Email confirmations were received from Dr. Ichimura on June 15, Dr. Warner on June 24, and Mr. Gorman on June 23. The email decision must be ratified for the minutes.

**MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to ratify the Board's email vote and grant Mr. Wood an extension, until December 31, 2011, to obtain his continuing education. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Continuing Education Exemption Request**

*David Devoe*

Mr. Devoe submitted a written request, along with his renewal form, for a continuation of his CE exemption previously granted by the board due to disability. He was approved for an exemption in 2007 and 2009. Mr. Devoe is on disability and does not practice geology, but he wishes to maintain his license.

**MOTION**

Mr. Gorman made a motion to approve Mr. Devoe's request for continuation of his CE exemption. Dr. Warner seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

*John Cox*

Mr. Cox submitted a written request, dated July 7, 2011, for exemption to the CE requirement due to extenuating circumstances of unemployment and financial hardship.

**MOTION**

Mr. Gorman made a motion to allow Mr. Cox to apply for renewal of his registration and grant him an extension, until December 31, 2011, to obtain the required continuing education. Dr. Warner seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**National Groundwater Association (NGWA) CE Credit Request**

The NGWA will be reviewing and revising at least five different publications which address topics such as groundwater sampling, environmental remediation, and well rehabilitation. The geologist volunteers that assist in the project will revise or rewrite sections of the publications and receive attribution in the publications. NGWA wants to know if participation in this endeavor would be acceptable for CE credit for the geologist volunteers and would there be a limit to the number of hours they could earn.

**MOTION**

Mr. Gorman made a motion to allow CE credit for participation in this endeavor based on documentation of interaction with other professionals through workshops, conference calls, webinars or other meetings for this specific activity. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Executive Session**

The Board did not enter into Executive Session.

**Election of Officers**

*Chairman*

**MOTION**

Mr. Gorman made a motion to elect Dr. Ichimura as chairman. Dr. Warner seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

*Vice Chairman*

**MOTION**

Dr. Warner made a motion to elect Mr. Gorman as vice chairman. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Dr. Ichimura stated the Board had worked on revisions to the CE Guidelines and the matter would be discussed further at the December 8, 2011 meeting.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

The next meeting of the S. C. Board of Registration for Geologists is scheduled for December 8, 2011, Room 204.