

**South Carolina Board of Registration for Geologists**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**December 17, 2020 at 10 a.m. by Virtual Video/Teleconference**

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Chairman Daniel Brantley, PG; called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Other Board members present included: Nina Marshtein, PG; Donald Siron, PG; and Vernon Ichimura, PG.

Staff members present included: Hardwick Stuart, Esq.; Advice Counsel; Johnnie Rose, Program Coordinator; and Sherri Moorer, Program Assistant.

Others present included: Melanie Farnham (Creel Court Reporting)

**2. Statement of Public Notice**

Dr. Brantley said 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. In accordance with the Governor's directives regarding social distancing, the meeting is being held via video and teleconference. Members of the public who wish to attend may do so by telephone or the Internet.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION:** To adopt the December 17, 2020 agenda.  
Ichimura/Siron/approved.

**4. Introduction of Board Members and Others**

Board members and staff participating in the meeting introduced themselves.

**5. Excused Absences**

There were no absences.

**6. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the September 10, 2020 meeting.  
Marshtein/Ichimura /approved.

**7. Board Chairman Remarks**

Dr. Brantley said he appreciates the efforts by the Board members and staff to continue normal operations during COVID-19. His term on the Board has expired, and he has notified the Governor's office that he does not wish to be reappointed.

**8. Administrator's Remarks – Johnnie Rose, Program Coordinator; on Behalf of Pam Dunkin, Administrator**

- Mr. Rose thanked the Board members for their patience in holding meetings by teleconference. He reminded everybody to mute themselves when not speaking to reduce background noise, and to state their name when making motions.
- The Board staff are still working remotely. Operations are continuing as usual.
- The Board currently has 36 certified Geologists-In-Training and 600 licensed Professional Geologists.
- Mr. Rose reminded the Board members to direct licensees and other individuals with questions to Board staff.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2021. At this time, the plan is to continue holding virtual meetings.
- The Board had a cash balance of \$145,770.33 as of November 30, 2020. The cash balance report is included in the meeting handouts.
- Mr. Stuart did not have any advisory opinions for the Board
- There are no cases in the Office of Investigations and Enforcement or the Office of Disciplinary Counsel.
- There is no Investigative Review Report for this meeting.

**9. New Business**

**A. GIT Applications**

**1. Rachel Capps**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the application to take the FG. Nina Marshtein seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**2. Benjamin Kelly**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the application to take the FG. Donald Siron seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**B. GEO Applications**

**1. Michael Danielsen**

Donald Siron made a motion to approve the application to take PG exam, pending receipt of the final professional reference. Nina Marshtein seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**2. Jonathan Downy**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the application to take the PG exam. Donald Siron seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**3. Dalton Dray**

Nina Marshtein made a motion to approve the application to take the PG exam. Vernon Ichimura seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**4. Jeremy Eddy**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the application to take the PG exam,

and approve for licensure upon providing an updated Employment Verification upon meeting the experience requirement. Donald Siron seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. **Anthony Herman**

Nina Marshtein made a motion to approve the application to take the PG exam. Vernon Ichimura seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**C. Reciprocity Applications**

1. **Bethany Morgan Donovan**

Nina Marshtein made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Donald Siron seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

2. **Gilbert Dunn**

Nina Marshtein made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Vernon Ichimura seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

3. **Jesse Drummond**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to move this application to Endorsement. Nina Marshtein seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. **William Madison Flinchum**

Nina Marshtein made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Vernon Ichimura seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

5. **Jared Thomas Hamela**

Nina Marshtein recused herself from this application. Donald Siron made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Vernon Ichimura seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

6. **Steven Vandyke Hudson**

Nina Marshtein made a motion to approve the reciprocity application, pending receipt of a copy of Mr. Hudson's social security card. Vernon Ichimura seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

7. **Ralph Waldo McGee III**

Donald Siron made a motion to approve the reciprocity application pending correction of an incorrect reference response. Nina Marshtein seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

8. **Samuel McKay III**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Nina Marshtein seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

9. **Brett James Merkley**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Donald Siron seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**10. Casey Portela**

Nina Marshtein made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Vernon Ichimura seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**11. Marian Montgomery Spillane**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Donald Siron seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**12. Thomas Boyd Wiley**

Donald Siron made a motion to approve the reciprocity application. Nina Marshtein seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**D. Endorsement Applications**

**1. Travis Foy**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the Endorsement Application upon receiving Employment Verification of four years of experience. Nina Marshtein seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

**2. Jesse Drummond**

Vernon Ichimura made a motion to approve the Endorsement Application. Donald Siron seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**E. Reinstatement Application**

**1. Michael Iwashchenko**

**MOTION:** To enter executive session with staff remaining for legal advice.  
Ichimura/Siron/approved

**MOTION:** To exit executive session.  
Ichimura/Siron/approved

**MOTION:** For Mr. Iwashchenko to considering applying for licensure by reciprocity, or continue this reinstatement application which requires submitting documentation of 32 hours of continuing education earned during the last biennium (since July 1, 2018).  
Ichimura/Marshtein/approved

**10. Executive Session**

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

**11. Code of Ethics**

Mr. Stuart said the Engine Act gives the Board authority to discipline licensees if there is a violation of the Code of Ethics. Section 40-70-60 allows the Board to establish a Code of Ethics in regulation. He asked if the Board is interested in doing this. After discussion, the Board agreed that they would like to develop a Code of Ethics, and requested that this remain on the agenda

for further discussion at the next meeting. Mr. Stuart and Mr. Rose will work on developing verbiage for a Code of Ethics.

#### **12. Legislative Contacts**

Mr. Rose asked the Board member to establish a legislative contact for 2021. This contact will attend subcommittee and committee meetings in the State House to serve as the voice for the Board on any potential legislative matters. Mr. Siron volunteered to be the 2021 legislative contact. Mrs. Marshtein volunteered to be the 2022 legislative contact.

#### **13. 2021 Board Meeting Dates**

**MOTION:** To adopt the 2021 Board meeting dates as follows. Meetings will be by Videoconference/Teleconference until further notice. All meetings will begin at 10 a.m.  
Marshtein/Siron/approved:

- March 18, 2021
- May 20, 2021
- July 8, 2021
- December 16, 2021

#### **14. 2021 Election of Officers**

**MOTION:** To elect Nina Marshtein as Board Chair.

Ichimura/Siron/approved

**MOTION:** To elect Donald Siron as Vice-Chairman.

Marshtein/Ichimura/approved

#### **15. Public Comments**

There were no public comments

#### **16. Adjournment**

There being no further business:

**MOTION:** To adjourn.  
Ichimura/Marshtein/approved.

The meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.