

MINUTES

SC Board of Registration for Geologists

Board Meeting

10:00 a.m., June 11, 2014

Synergy Business Park

110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building, Room 204

Columbia, South Carolina

Meeting Called to Order

Vernon Ichimura, PhD., chairman, of Aiken, called the regular scheduled meeting of the S. C. Board of Registration for Geologists to order at 10:00 a.m. Other members participating in the meeting included: Charles Gorman, III, vice-chairman, of Columbia; Dr. Douglas Nelson, of Conway, and Mark Taylor, of Greer.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Molly Price, Administrator; Theresa Garner, Program Assistant; Georgia Lewis, Advice Counsel; Sharon Wolfe, OIE Investigations, and Zubin Billimoria, Office of Disciplinary Counsel.

Dr. Ichimura 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

All members were present.

Approval of the February 3, 2014 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept the February 3, 2014 meeting minutes, as presented. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks-Vernon Ichimura

Dr. Ichimura welcomed everyone, and thanked Mr. Taylor for attending the ASBOG Conference in Buffalo, New York on April 3rd. The next scheduled meeting will be held in Indianapolis on November the 11th.

Administrator's Remarks-Molly Price

Ms. Price reported the board currently has 12 Geologist-in-training (GIT), and 633 Professional Geologists.

The cash balance report for April 2014 was \$113,749.87.

The next scheduled ASBOG exam will be given on October 10, 2014

OGC Report-Office of General Counsel

Zubin Billimoria, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, introduced himself to the board members and distributed, and presented his Case Load Statistics Report. He stated they currently have one open case, pending board action.

OIE Report-Office of Investigative Enforcement

Sharon Wolfe presented the OIE Report. She stated there was one case pending board action. Currently there are no active cases and no cases for 2014.

New Business

Investigative Review Committee Report (IRC)

MOTION

Mark Taylor made a motion to accept the IRC Report as presented. Chuck Gorman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ASBOG EXAMINATION REQUESTS

Clyde Easter

The Board received an application from Mr. Easter on June 13, 2014, to take the Fundamentals of Geology examination for certification as a Geologist-in-Training. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geophysics from the University of South Carolina on May 5, 2012. His file was complete.

MOTION

Mr. Gorman made a motion to accept Mr. Easter's request to take the Fundamentals of Geology Exam. Dr. Nelson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Brian Spillane

The Board received an application from Mr. Spillane on February 3, 2014 to take the Fundamentals of Geology examination for certification as a Geologist-in-Training. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from the University of South Carolina on August 10, 2013. His file was complete.

MOTION

Mr. Gorman made a motion to accept Mr. Spillane's request to take the Fundamentals of Geology Exam. Dr. Nelson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Licensure via Reciprocity/Endorsement

John Bradshaw

The Board received an application from Mr. Bradshaw on November 18, 2013. Mr. Bradshaw was previously licensed in South Carolina and his license lapsed on June 30, 2006. Mr. Bradshaw reapplied under reciprocity since he has not had a license in this state since 2006. However, at Ms. Price's request, he also supplied the board with a notarized letter stating that he has not practiced geology in this state since his license lapsed. He was licensed by the Florida Board on February 16, 1996, by ASBOG exams, and his license will expire on July 31, 2014. He also currently holds a license in North Carolina. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from Florida State University on April 30, 1983. His file was complete.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept Mr. Bradshaw's request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity North Carolina. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Thomas Dunham

The Board received an application from Mr. Dunham on February 18, 2014. He was licensed by the North Carolina Board on December 8, 2003, by ASBOG exams, and the license will expire on June 30, 2014. Mr. Dunham also currently holds licenses in the states of Alabama, Kentucky, and Delaware. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from the State University of New York (SUNY) Cortland on May 17, 1986 and a Master of Science degree from the University of Rhode Island on August 14, 2008. His file was complete.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept Mr. Dunham's request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity North Carolina. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Michael Flanik

The Board received an application from Mr. Flanik on May 5, 2014. He was licensed by the North Carolina Board on July 1, 2011, by ASBOG exams, and the license will expire on June 30, 2014. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from Allegheny College on May 15, 2005. His file was complete.

MOTION

Mr. Gorman made a motion to accept Mr. Flanik's request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity North Carolina. Dr. Nelson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Gregory Grose

The Board received an application from Mr. Grose on February 18, 2014. He was licensed by the Virginia Board on November 13, 1998 by their state exam and the license will expire on August 31, 2015. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geological Sciences from Virginia Tech. on August 18, 1992. His file was complete.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept Mr. Grose's request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity/Virginia. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Margaret Milman-Barris

The Board received an application from Ms. Milman-Barris on May 13, 2014. She was licensed by the California state board on June 2, 2009, by ASBOG exams, and the license expires on December 31, 2015. She also holds a license in Kentucky. She obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geological Sciences from Cornell University on May 24, 1998, and a Master of Science degree in Geology and Geophysics from the University of Hawaii at Manoa on May 19, 2002. Ms. Milman-Barris' file was missing one employment verification from MWH Americas, Inc., a previous employer, other than that, her file was complete.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept Ms. Milman-Barris' request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity/California. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Keith D. Pyron

The Board received an application from Mr. Pyron on August 22, 2013. He was licensed by the Florida Board on November 1, 1993 and still holds a current license. He also holds licenses in Alabama, North Carolina, Missouri, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from the University of South Alabama on June 5, 1983. His file was complete.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept Mr. Pyron's request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity North Carolina. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Claude Brian Smith

The Board received an application from Mr. Smith on May 6, 2014. He was licensed by the North Carolina Board on July 1, 2010, by ASBOG exams, and his license expires on June 20, 2014. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from Lake Superior State University on August 2, 1996. His file was complete.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept Mr. Smith's request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity North Carolina. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Scott M. Werley

The Board received an application from Mr. Werley on May 29, 2014. He was licensed by the North Carolina Board on December 10, 2012, by ASBOG exams, and his license expires on June 30, 2014. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in GeoSciences from Indiana University of Pennsylvania on August 12, 2001. His file was complete.

MOTION

Mr. Gorman made a motion to accept Mr. Werley's request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity North Carolina. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Matthew Wissler

The Board received an application from Mr. Wissler on May 5, 2013. He was licensed by the Florida state board on April 26, 2008, by ASBOG exams, and the license will expire on July 31, 2014. He also holds a license in Tennessee. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from Florida State University on August 5, 2000, and a Master of Science degree in Geology from the University of South Florida on May 2, 2003. His file was complete.

MOTION

Mr. Taylor made a motion to accept Mr. Wissler's request for licensure as a geologist via reciprocity Florida. Dr. Nelson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Licensure via Reinstatement

Dean R. Brant

The Board received an application from Mr. Brant on April 10, 2014. Mr. Brant's license lapsed on June 30, 2009. He submitted a notarized statement confirming he has not engaged in the Practice of Geology in South Carolina since his license expired. He submitted proof of continuing education, has paid a reinstatement fee, and all current renewal and late fees. His file was complete.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion the board accepts Mr. Brant's application for reinstatement. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Robert Cecil Foster, III

The Board received an application from Mr. Foster on November 18, 2013. His license lapsed on June 30, 2007. He submitted a notarized statement confirming he has not engaged in the Practice of Geology in South Carolina since his license expired. He submitted proof of continuing education, paid a reinstatement fee, and all current renewal and late fees. His file was complete.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion the board accepts Mr. Foster's application for reinstatement. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Christopher Scott Morie

The Board received an application from Mr. Morie on July 1, 2013; however, due to a staff oversight, the application was not reviewed. Mr. Morie's license lapsed on June 30, 2011. He has submitted a notarized statement confirming he has not engaged in the Practice of Geology in South Carolina since his license expired. He submitted proof of continuing education, paid a reinstatement fee, and all current and late fees. His file was complete.

MOTION

Mr. Taylor made a motion the Board accepts Mr. Morie’s application for reinstatement with the following conditions: 1) The applicant will submit his Continuing Education form that is stamped with his professional geologist seal. 2) Applicant shall submit documentation of attendance and completion of the Continuing Education provided on his Continuing Education form in accordance with the Continuing Education Guidelines as approved by the Board.3) The applicant shall submit the documentation within ninety (90) days of the board meeting, held on June 12, 2014.The motion was seconded by Dr. Nelson, which carried unanimously.

Continuing Education Pre-Approval Request

Geological Hike at Falls Lake, sponsored by AEG, Carolinas Section
Susan M. Buchanan

The Board received a request on March 2, 2014, from Ms. Sue Buchanan requesting pre-approval for continuing education credits being offered on March 15, 2014, titled “A Geological Hike at Falls Lake” in Raleigh, North Carolina.

MOTION

Mr. Gorman made a motion the Board accepts the continuing education request for pre-approval. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Show of the South-Michael Smilley

The Board received a request on February 25, 2014, from Michael Smilley requesting pre-approval for continuing education credits for the “Environmental Show of the South Conference” being offered on April 30th through May 2nd, 2014 in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

MOTION

Mr. Taylor made a motion the Board accepts the continuing education request for pre-approval. Dr. Nelson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Continuing Education Audit

The following Individuals submitted proof of continuing education for the July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013 CE Audit.

Their information was reviewed and approved by the board on June 11, 2014.

Andrew B. Aceves
James Berry
Christopher Doll
Diane L. Gill
Alexander Glover
Robert F. Hodges
Edward Benson Hollifield
Steven Douglas Jarvis
Terrence Killeen
John Spencer Lair
William A McInnis, III
Jonathan Hartley Rihs
Errol D. Sehnke
Christopher James Suttell
Berkley J. Tracy
Paul Marshall Weaver

The following individuals submitted insufficient proof of continuing education for the July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013 Audit.

Their information was reviewed, and found to be lacking the required proof of documentation. They will be sent letters by Certified mail, requesting the additional information to be submitted ninety (90) days from the date of the June 11, 2014 Board meeting.

Brian James Bellis
Anton J. Dumars
Elizabeth Rowan
Stephen G. Werner
James Wessinger

Old Business

Revision of CE Guidelines

On Demand Webinars

The Board discussed changing the wording for continuing education requirements for “Internet Seminars”, and numbering the pages of the continuing education guidelines.

MOTION

Mr. Gorman made a motion to revise the wording, as discussed, regarding “Internet Seminars”, and numbering the pages of the CE Guidelines. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Committee Report-Chuck Gorman

Verifiable Electronic Seals and Signatures

The board reviewed the proposed text for electronic seals and signatures to be incorporated in the geologist regulations.

MOTION

Dr. Nelson made a motion to accept, and initiate the process to incorporate proposed regulations on electronic seals and signatures. Mr. Gorman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comments

No public comments were made during this meeting.

Executive Session

The Board did not enter into executive session.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be brought before the Board at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

The next meeting of the S. C. Board of Registration for Geologists is scheduled for August 14, 2014, in room 204.