

MINUTES

South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters
Board Meeting
10:00 A.M., April 14, 2005
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 108
Columbia, South Carolina

Hugh Ryan, Chairman, of Wedgefield, called the regular meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Foresters to order at 10:05 a.m. Other board members in attendance included: Virgil Wall, of Greenwood; Fred Gantt, Secretary, of Columbia; Patricia Straka, of Westminster; and B. Allen Dunn, Ph. D., of Central.

Raymond Boozer, of Gilbert was granted an excused absence. Marietta Singleton, Vice-Chairman, of Hemingway, was not present.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Lenora Addison-Miles, Administrator; Barry Moreland, Administrative Assistant; and Connie Huffstetler, Administrative Assistant.

Meeting Called to Order - Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Registration for Foresters 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 the January 13, 2005 Meeting Minutes
Ms. Straka noted a correction to be made in the spelling of her first name.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved the minutes, as corrected, be approved. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks - Hugh Ryan

Mr. Ryan advised the members of legislation that Rep. Billy Witherspoon was working on to be introduced in the House during the next session. He noted that Senate Bill S.630, which would eliminate the Board of Registration for Foresters, seemed to be bogged down and was not expected to pass.

Administrator's Remarks - Lenora Miles

Ms. Addison-Miles introduced Connie Huffstetler, who will be taking minutes for the Board

meetings.

Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office

There were no legislative updates given during the April 14, 2005 meeting.

Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel

There were no advisory opinions given during the April 14, 2005 meeting.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Ryan asked if any further information had been received from Blair Baldwin, whose request for reinstatement had been approved pending completion of five additional credits for continuing education. Mr. Moreland advised that nothing had been received yet, but that Mr. Baldwin was given until June 30, 2005 to submit the credits.

The members also asked the staff if anything further had been received from Philip Weatherford. Ms. Miles advised that no additional information had received from Mr. Weatherford.

Mr. Ryan asked the status of reinstatement for Robert Miller. Mr. Moreland advised that he Mr. Miller had decided to take the exam rather than pay the fee required to reinstate his license.

Mr. Ryan asked the staff if Thurston Chavis had provided any additional information as requested by the Board. Mr. Moreland stated that he had not.

The members discussed getting someone to write a policy manual and study guide for the Board. Ms. Straka noted that she knows someone who is very capable and suggested that she be contacted to find out the approximate cost. Ms. Straka will draft a letter for Mr. Ryan to send to the individual regarding writing the manual and study guide.

Dr. Dunn presented a report from the nominating committee. The committee recommends the following slate of officers for 2005-2006:

Chairman - Hugh Ryan

Vice Chairman - Virgil Wall

Secretary - Patricia Straka

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved to accept the slate of officers recommended by the nominating committee. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Dr. Dunn advised the other members that he met with Pat Leyton and Eric Fleming regarding the exam. The following suggestions were made:

1. Move the exam date from May to June.
2. Give the same exam that was given last time.
3. Provide a breakdown of the subject areas covered on the exam.
4. Provide the passage rate for each subject area of the exam.
5. Provide a copy of the exam to the Dean's office at Clemson.

The members agreed to move the date of the exam, but felt that it best to change some of the questions on the exam. They discussed how to accommodate items 3 and 4. The members expressed some concern about providing the test, which could lead to the instructors "teaching the exam". They agreed that they would provide a pool of questions but would not provide the actual test.

Executive Session

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion, seconded by Ms. Straka, that the Board enter into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

MOTION

Dr. Dunn moved the Board return to Public Session. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

New Business

Approval of Licensure via Examination

William Marshall McKenzie

Mr. McKenzie passed the forestry exam on September 4, 2003. He holds a masters degree from NC State University. Mr. McKenzie will complete his 2 years experience on May 14, 2005.

MOTION

Ms. Straka made a motion to approve Mr. McKenzie's application contingent upon the completion of the required 2 years experience. Mr. Wall seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Herbert Nicholson

Mr. Nicholson's application was held over from the last meeting. He has since provided additional employment information to show that he has completed the required 2 years of experience.

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved to approve Mr. Nicholson's application. The motion, seconded by Dr. Dunn, carried unanimously.

Approval of Licensure via Reciprocity

Harvey B. Reed

Mr. Reed is licensed in the State of Georgia and holds a degree from NC State University. His application is now complete after receipt of a transcript.

MOTION

Mr. Wall made a motion, seconded by Ms. Straka, to approve Mr. Reed's application. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Reinstatement

Charles R. Daniels

Mr. Daniels was licensed in April 1978. His license lapsed on June 30, 1998. He worked as a carpenter since that time and was not involved in the practice of forestry. He is now in the practice of forestry in the State of Arkansas and is requesting to be reinstated in SC.

A question was raised as to the length of time the license was lapsed and whether Mr. Daniels would be required to take the exam. Ms. Dantzler clarified for the Board that the exam was not required for reinstatement until the license was lapsed for eleven or more years. The members reviewed the application to verify that the required continuing education was completed.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn moved to approve Mr. Daniels request for reinstatement. Mr. Wall seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Executive Session

MOTION

Mr. Wall moved the Board enter Executive Session to seek legal counsel. The motion was seconded by Dr. Dunn and carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion, seconded by Ms. Straka, to return to Public Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ryan noted for the record that there were no motions made and no votes taken during Executive Session.

Discussion Items

Due to a conflict in scheduling, the date of the next meeting was changed to Thursday, July 7, 2005.

After a brief discussion, the Board asked that the next exam be scheduled for June 16, 2005.

Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the April 14, 2005 meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be discussed by the Board at this time, Mr. Wall moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.