

**South Carolina Board of Registration for Foresters
Board Meeting
MINUTES
10:00 A.M., January 12, 2006
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 111
Columbia, South Carolina**

Hugh Ryan, Chairman, of Wedgefield, called the regular meeting of the SC Board of Registration for Foresters to order at 10:00 a.m. Other board members in attendance included: Patricia Straka, Secretary, of Westminster; Raymond Boozer, of Gilbert; B. Allen Dunn, Ph. D., of Central; Fred Gantt, of Columbia; and Amy L. McFadden, of Georgetown.

Virgil Wall, Vice Chairman of Greenwood, was granted an excused absence.

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

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Ryan announced that 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.

Invocation

Mr. Ryan delivered the invocation.

Approval of the October 13, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Gantt noted two corrections to the minutes. He stated Pat Straka is now the secretary and that he did not attend the October 13, 2005 meeting.

Ms. Straka asked if staff received the criminal record and three references in regard to Eric West. Ms. Miles replied affirmatively. She then noted that in the fifth paragraph on page four, Susan Gwinn's last name is spelled Guynn.

MOTION

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

Mr. Gantt stated he did not receive a Statement of Economic Interest form last year and was fined \$100. He further stated the Board should be alert in returning the form to the State Ethics Commission.

Chairman's Remarks – Hugh Ryan

Mr. Ryan had no remarks at this time.

Administrator's Remarks – Lenora Miles

Ms. Miles stated presented the members with a copy of page 161 of the Governor's 2006-2007 executive budget which calls for elimination of the Board of Registration of Foresters.

Ms. Miles stated the last exam was proctored on November 18, 2005. She further stated there were 17 candidates, of which one passed. She indicated the average score was 57. She went on to say one candidate failed by one point and that the individual has contacted staff by phone requesting that his exam be reviewed to see if he could receive one additional point. The next exam is tentatively scheduled for May 5, 2006.

Legislative Update, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office

Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel

There was no legislative update or advisory opinions given during the January 12, 2006 meeting.

Unfinished Business

New Business

1. Approval of Licensure via Examination

a. Russell Bedenbaugh

Russell Bedenbaugh is requesting licensure via examination, which he passed on November 17, 2005. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Management from Clemson University. His file is complete.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion the Board approve Mr. Bedenbaugh's application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Boozer. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of Licensure via Reinstatement

a. Michelle Rivers

Michelle Rivers is seeking licensure via reinstatement. Ms. Rivers' license lapsed on June 30, 2000. Ms. Rivers has provided an updated application, proof of 20 CFE hours and has paid the required fees.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer made a motion, seconded by Dr. Dunn and unanimously carried, that the Board approve Ms. Rivers' application.

3. Examination Request

a. Kevin Ard

Kevin Ard has submitted an application to take the forester exam. Mr. Ard holds an Associate Degree in Agriculture Technology from Horry-Georgetown Technical College. Mr. Ard has five and one-half (5 ½) years of verified work experience. He should have the required six years of experience when he takes the exam in May. His file is complete.

Mr. Ryan recused himself from participating in the discussion of this matter.

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the Board allow Mr. Ard the opportunity to take the exam. Mr. Gantt seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. **Reinstatement Request**

a. William Lockety, Jr.

William Lockety, Jr. is applying for reinstatement of his license. Mr. Lockety's license lapsed on June 30, 2004. He has provided an updated application, proof of 10 CFE hours and paid the required fees.

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion, seconded by Ms. Straka and unanimously carried, that the Board approve the reinstatement of Mr. Lockety's license.

Discussion Items

Ms. Straka briefed the Board on the upcoming ASBORF annual meeting. The meeting is scheduled for April 20-21, 2006. She indicated she would need a meeting room and asked Mr. Ryan if he could schedule a meeting room at the Forestry Commission for April 21, 2006.

Mr. Ryan stated the next meeting of the Board is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., April 20, 2006.

Mr. Ryan briefed the Board on amendments to H3978, which applies to the Board of Registration of Foresters.

Public Comments

There were no public comments made during the January 12, 2006 meeting.

Executive Session

MOTION

Dr. Dunn made a motion, seconded by Mr. Boozer and unanimously carried, that the Board enter executive session to discuss the forester exam.

Return to Public Session to Report on Executive Session

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved the Board return to public session. Ms. Straka seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Ryan noted for the record that no motions were offered and no votes were taken during executive session.

MOTION

Mr. Gantt moved the Board authorize Clemson University professors to review the exam results of two individuals who took the exam on November 17, 2005 and scored between 65 and 69 and that Mr. Ryan, Dr. Dunn and Ms. Straka make the decision in regard to whether or not the individuals pass the exam. Ms. McFadden seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Boozer asked that the two individuals be notified immediately that the exams are being reviewed and that a decision would be rendered shortly.

MOTION

Ms. Straka made a motion, seconded by Dr. Dunn and unanimously carried, that the Board of Foresters use the SAF Certified Foresters exam for a one year trial period.

Election of Officers

MOTION

Mr. Boozer moved the Board re-elect the current officers for another year. Dr. Dunn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Adjournment

MOTION

There being no further business at this time, Mr. Gantt moved the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Boozer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.