



WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

The WV Board of Registration for Foresters met May 4, 2023 via Zoom. Those in attendance were Chad Westfall, Dave McGill, Denzil Linton, Jr., Todd Lotter, Dan Hackett and clerical support Hope Pulliam.

The meeting was called to order by President Chad Westfall at 10:00 am.

President Chad Westfall asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes from the October 2022 meeting & the special meeting held in March 2023 via zoom. All members had reviewed. Finding no errors, President Westfall asked for a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Todd Lotter made a motion to accept both sets of minutes as presented. Dan Hackett seconded, motion carried.

President Chad Westfall asked if there were any questions regarding the financial report that was presented. The board did not have any questions regarding the report. Dan Hackett made a motion to approve as presented. Todd Lotter seconded, motion carried.

Correspondence

Association of Southern Board of Registration for Foresters (ASBORF) - The board discussed the date & location of the ASBORF summer meeting. It will be held in Alabama, August 23-25 2023. Secretary Dave McGill said he would be interested in attending, but right now has a conflict. Todd Lotter said he'd go and asked Dave to let him know if he could not get the conflict resolved. Todd said the Alabama legislature is going to put a bill out to dissolve their board.

Emails – The board discussed emails received and responses sent regarding reciprocity & out of state work experience question. Secretary Dave McGill replied to both emails. He also said he replied to an email from Ian Wilburn. Mr. Wilburn was asking if Oregon State University's Forestry program would fulfill the education requirements for this board. Dave replied it would be recognized as equal to the board's education requirements. There was a request from Cutting Edge Forestry, Inc. asking for a list of licensed/registered Foresters to include Names, phone numbers & email addresses. A reply back was sent asking what they'd be using this for and no response was received. The board discussed this is not something they would be willing to provide, as the list is available on the website.

Secretary Dave McGill did mention that the SAF review of course work for non-forestry majors may need put into rules. The board has required an applicant to do this,

they have contacted a few people at WVU on how to get around this so they can get a RPF #.

Complaints – None

Safety Review - Secretary Dave McGill discussed the importance of ladder safety and inspection. He said most people & places do not have the safest ladders in use. Users of ladders should inspect them prior to use, making sure they latch for safety and dispose of and replace if not up to safety standards. When setting one up, set it up so you do not need someone to “hold” it.

Old Business – Secretary Dave McGill did not get a conference set up last fall, and would like help on getting one on the books for this fall. President Chad Westfall asked if he had a specific topic in mind – Dave McGill is thinking “Adaptive Silviculture”. Chad said one topic he’d like to see covered is “Managed Forests vs Unmanaged Forests”. Todd Lotter added “How Do You Define Management” or “Carbon Sequestration”. Todd said he would work with Dave on topics & speakers.

New Business –

March 2023 exam – 1 participant and he failed. He has been registered, but has let it lapse over the 5 year requirement. He has been contacted regarding his score.

Auditors Training – Dan Hackett attended and said he believed that he understood that every board member must attend every year. Clerical support Hope Pulliam will contact the Association of Licensing Boards to see what their interpretation is and report back to the board via email.

Renewal letter & form – Dan Hackett thought the letters looked good. Hope did see a typo and will make the change and send for printing.

Secretary Dave McGill thought maybe to send a copy of the current roster to the ones who are less than 5 years not renewed in hopes of getting those back in good standing. Todd Lotter brought up the fee schedule and the reinstatement fee. 30-19-12 was read. Discussion on how it is interpreted. Instead of charging \$10 for every year registrant is not current, could the board not charge \$35, since that is the cost of the renewal. The board decided to contact the Attorney General about this interpretation. Dan Hackett suggested emailing Mark Weiler so we would have a response in writing. Todd Lotter said he would draft an email and send to Dave for review.

Other Business – None

Emeritus Status - None

Upgrades – The board received one request from Grant Tennant to be upgraded from a Forester-In-Training to RPF. All Grant needed was to fulfill the work experience requirement and he sent in a synopsis of his work since graduation. The board reviewed

and found that he has completed all requirements to become fully registered. Dan Hackett moved to upgrade Grant Tennant for full RPF status. Todd Lotter seconded. Motion carried.

Grant Tennant – RPF #815

Forester Application review – The board received one application. Martin Duffany is a CF with SAF, has all references and meets the education & work experience requirements. Having found Mr. Duffany meeting all requirements, Dan Hackett made a motion to grant him RPF status. Todd Lotter seconded. Motion carried.

Martin Duffany – RPF#816

Forester Technician review – The board received 2 applications for Forestry Technicians. Logan Todd Hosaflook and Mitchell Gruver. The board found that Mitchell Gruver has met the reference, work & education requirements and can be awarded FT status. Dan Hackett made the motion to approve Mitchell Gruver as a registered Forestry Technician. Denzil Linton Jr., seconded. Motion carried.

Mitchell Gruver – FT-134

The board found that Logan Todd Hosaflook has met the education & reference requirement but is short in work experience. Mr. Hosaflook needs 4 years work experience and currently only has 2 years' experience. Todd Lotter made a motion to grant Mr. Hosaflook Forestry Technician-In-Training status while he completes this requirement.

Audit – The board will audit the books for 2022 at the October 2023 meeting since we are meeting via Zoom.

The board scheduled the next meeting for October 12, 2023 at the WVDOF headquarters in Charleston, WV.

Adjourned – 11:49 am