



## WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

The WV Board of Registration for Foresters met October 12, 2023 at The WV Division of Forestry Headquarters, 7 Players Club Dr., Charleston, WV. Those in attendance were President Chad Westfall, Secretary/Treasurer 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 May 2023 meeting. All members had reviewed. Denzil Linton asked for a pronoun to be changed to "the applicant". Todd Lotter made a motion to accept the minutes with the change. Dan Hackett seconded, motion carried.

President Chad Westfall asked if there were any questions regarding the financial report. 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**

Emails – The board discussed an email that was sent regarding reciprocity with OH. After some discussion, it was decided that President Chad Westfall would respond to this inquiry.

Grady Bowyer with the Association of Licensing Boards had sent an email about the domain name being "lost" and the website would be down for a few days. Hope Pulliam reported that the website was live again.

### **Complaints** – None

**Safety Review** - Denzil Linton discussed the importance of take breaks when driving long distances.

**Old Business** – Secretary/Treasurer Dave McGill asked if the board members were satisfied with the work Greg Cook has been doing, serving as a conduit between the legislature and the board. The board discussed the importance of having him do this, as they all are busy and not able to keep up with the day to day activities of the legislature. Dan Hackett made the motion to ask Greg Cook if he would be interested in doing this again during the 2024 Legislature. Todd Lotter seconded. Motion carried. President Chad

Westfall will reach out to Greg.

**New Business** – ASBORF Summer Meeting – Secretary/Treasurer Dave McGill was able to attend. He reported that he felt the meeting was very informative. He learned a lot on how each state handles the renewals, late renewals, differences in each state’s regulations, how they each handle complaints. Todd Lotter asked if he feels being a member is important, and he said yes.

Senate Bill 740 – This bill passed in the 2023 Legislative session. Basically, it increases per diem pay to a maximum of \$200 a day. However, this increase is not mandatory. Clerical Support Hope Pulliam reported that the board’s pay has been the same for 40+ years. The board discussed the ethics of increasing the pay, the budget and implications for future board members. After much discussion, Secretary Dave McGill made the motion to increase the per diem pay to \$200 per meeting. Denzil Linton seconded. Motion carried.

September 2023 exam – 1 participant and he passed. He has been sent an email letting him know this information.

Renewal letter & form – Clerical support Hope Pulliam reported that there have been many issues this year with renewals being paid for via the website, but no credentials ever sent. One forester paid for 3 years and never sent in paperwork, until this year when he was asked for reinstatement fees. He provided missing paperwork and receipts. He was not the only one. Hope Pulliam will add a sheet with “reminders” on how to renew using the website.

#### **Other Business** –

**Emeritus Status** – Glen Juergens sent in a request. Dan Hackett made the motion to approve his request. Todd Lotter seconded. Motion carried.

#### **Upgrades** – None

**Forester Application review** – The board received one application, Kenneth Beezley. The board found that his is missing 1 reference, meets the education & work experience requirements & he passed the exam. Todd Lotter made the motion to accept him as a RPF, once the reference is received. Denzil Linton seconded. Motion carried.

Kenneth Beezely– RPF#817

**Forester Technician review** – The board received one application, Chad Russell Hammond. The board found that he met all requirements. Denzil Linton made the motion to award him Forestry Technician status. Todd Lotter seconded. Motion carried.

Chad Russell Hammond – FT-135

**Audit** – The board audited the 2022 books and found no discrepancies.

The board scheduled the next meeting for April 11, 2024 at the WVDOF headquarters in Charleston, WV.

Adjourned – 12:55 pm