



WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

MINUTES JUNE 26, 2008

A special meeting of the West Virginia Board of Registration for Foresters (WVBORF) was held at West Virginia Division of Forestry's office at the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's Guthrie Complex near Charleston, WV. The meeting was called to order by WVBORF Board President Ray Hicks. Others present included Board members Cinda Francis, David Hill, and Gary Miller, and special guests, Charles Roskovensky, Counsel for the WV House of Delegates Committee on Government Organization, Randy Dye and Greg Cook, WV Division of Forestry.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Legislation Review - Mr. Roskovensky led the discussion on the review of the proposed rewrite of the WVBORF legislation that failed during the 2008 Legislative Session. This legislation was proposed to allow the WVBORF to administer an exam of future registrants and to promulgate rules as to how this would be accomplished. After much discussion Gary Miller moved and Dave Hill seconded a motion to accept the legislation as revised at the meeting and present for outside review. Motion passed. It was requested that discussion on the requirements for Foresters-in-Training and Forestry Technicians-in-Training be placed on the agenda for the October meeting.

WV Division of Forestry Request – Randy addressed the issue described in his letter (attached) to the WVBORF dated May 30, 2008, requesting approval of a WVDORF Forester classification specification that would now read: "Must have a current license as a registered professional forester or a registered forestry technician or be able to and in the process of obtaining professional licensure upon employment with the Division of Forestry." Gary Miller moved that President Hicks write a letter in support of this specification. Dave Hill seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Personnel Change – The geographical distance between the residence of current WVBORF Secretary, Cinda Francis, who resides in Jackson County and clerical assistant Candice Clemins, who resides in McDowell County, has resulted in difficulties in accomplishing the WVBORF responsibilities. Cinda Francis moved and Gary Miller seconded a motion to shift clerical responsibilities to Shonda Hope Goff, at a rate of \$12 per hour. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Emeritus Requests – Cinda Francis requested guidance the handling of Emeritus status individuals. Those registrants that have requested Emeritus status should be informed that they are not to be practicing forestry and review of the awarding of Emeritus status will be discussed at the next meeting.

Reciprocity with Alabama – Secretary Francis informed the Board that a registrant that resides on Alabama and is registered in Alabama submitted a renewal form with no CFE documentation and only a copy of his Alabama license. The Board was in agreement that any reciprocity which may or may not exist does not apply to annual renewals. Such individuals must still comply with the WVBORF renewal procedures and requirements. Any such reciprocity would only apply to initial licensing.

Mike Erickson Renewal – Secretary Francis informed the Board of discussions she had with RPF #315 Michael Erickson regarding the Board's policy of holding renewal fees (checks) until the renewal form is complete. The Board agreed that checks should not be processed until the renewal form is complete. However, correspondence with such registrants regarding incomplete forms should be done so in a timely manner. Secretary Francis stated that steps were being taken to ensure that checks be either returned or processed in a more timely manner. No further action will be taken on this issue.

Upgrade – Jon Wilson had sent a letter to the Board stating he has now met the work experience requirements to be upgraded to Forestry Technician. Gary Miller moved and Dave Hill seconded a motion to grant the request. Motion passed. Jon Wilson will be FT-98.

Due to scheduling conflicts the next meeting of the Board will be October 17, 2008, at WVDOF Office in Charleston, WV. Meeting was adjourned.