



WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

The WV Board of Registration for Foresters met April 14, 2022 at the WV Division of Forestry Headquarters in Charleston, WV. Those in attendance were Dave McGill, Denzil Linton, Jr., Todd Lotter attended via zoom, and clerical support Hope Pulliam. Chad Westfall and Daniel Hackett was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Secretary/Treasurer Dave McGill at 10:03 am.

The minutes from the Special December 15, 2021 were distributed & read. Denzil Linton suggested “special” to be moved to the 1st paragraph and to spell out BCC in the 5th paragraph. Denzil noted that the spelling of his last name needs corrected. Todd Lotter accepts the edits – Denzil seconded. Motion carried.

The financial report was distributed & reviewed. Todd Lotter moved to accept, Denzil Linton seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence –

Legislative Request regarding website.

Complaints – None.

Safety Review – The board reviewed “Distracted Driving”. Please be aware of the things that distract you while you are driving.

Old Business

ASBORF 2023 Meeting – Todd Lotter reported that there has not been a lot of email traffic regarding the upcoming meeting. He did mention that the annual dues will need to be paid in a couple months. He asked if the Board was still interested in keeping our membership and is the Board still interested in hosting the annual meeting in the very near future. Dave McGill said that he was interested in hosting an annual meeting. He asked what time of year would it be. Todd Lotter said the annual meeting are usually held late May or early June. Dave suggested Charleston as a possible location and to possibly include Legislature, WVDOF, WVFA. Hope Pulliam suggested getting a copy of a previous agenda as a guideline in the planning process. The board would discuss this at greater length at the October meeting. Denzil Linton made a motion to pay the \$100 dues when they are received. Todd Lotter seconded. Motion carried.

Todd Lotter said another subject connected is reciprocity with other ASBORF members and he would like to have a Memorandum of Understanding rather than a legal

agreement. Todd Lotter will draft a letter for review, and it will be presented to ASBORF meeting 2023. He did mention that other ASBORF states have reciprocity with each other. Dave McGill asked where the next ASBORF meeting is being held. Todd is not sure, he will call and check on date and location.

New Business –

Bills to Terminate the Board – Dave McGill reported that the bills died in House Government Organization. The board had good support from different organizations and Cinda Francis and Todd Lotter gave a convincing presentation at the January FMRC meeting. Dave also stated that it was great to have Greg Cook keeping us informed on the bills and the legislative process. Denzil Linton & Todd Lotter concurred. Denzil suggested the board consider keeping Greg Cook on contract.

Annual Auditors Conference – Daniel Hackett attended. He did not submit a report.

Exam – We had 5 attendees for the exam in March 2022. Four passed, one failed. Hope is waiting on a synopsis from Jamie to provide to the one that did not pass.

Other Business

Expired applicants – Hope Pulliam said that a previous applicant reached out to ask if she could take the exam and become fully registered. This applicant FIT status has expired. The board suggested that after FIT or FTIT status expires and no request for upgrade or requirements not met, if the applicant wants to continue the process he or she would need to reapply. Hope Pulliam would send a letter to the person and advise them what steps need to be taken. It was suggested to make some improvements to our spreadsheet to try to limit this from happening. By making the updates, it may help us keep a better eye on the expiration dates, and make contact.

Education Seminar – The question was brought up before the board about having another educational conference. SAF will be having a 100 year conference in Baltimore. Denzil Linton asked what time of year do we want to look at, after July 1 or before Thanksgiving, late winter, or early spring. What topics would the board like to see covered. Possible legal issues or maybe “New Silviculture for a changing Climate”. Todd Lotter made the motion to table further discussion until the October meeting. Denzil Linton seconded. Motion carried.

Future of the Board – Todd Lotter feels that we should be proactive in developing and improving the Board. He suggested maybe trying to involve a large landowner who would have a vested interest in the forestry profession. Maybe have them as a member of the board. This would have to be a legislative change. Dave McGill says it could be or questions if that person’s interest would be actual to the profession. Todd says it could be an actual landowner. Todd asked if we already have the perspective of a landowner on the board – NIPF (Non-industrial Private Forest Landowner). Denzil Linton thinks that should be left on WVFA. Todd is unsure – not sure if it would be helpful. Todd want the board to ask “what can we do better?” at each meeting.

Review of Applicants

Emeritus Status – two requests were received. Dave Harper & Rudean Reynolds.

Todd Lotter moved to grant the two requests. Denzil Linton seconded. Motion carried.

Carryovers – none

Upgrades – Dylan Kesner sent in a request to be upgraded. Todd Lotter made the motion to grant, pending clarification of work dates. Denzil Linton seconded. Motion carried. Shannon Farrell submitted a request to be upgraded. Denzil Linton made motion to grant RPF status. Todd Lotter seconded. Motion carried.

Shannon Patrick Farrell – RPF #811

Dylan Kesner – RPF #812

New Applicants -

Joey Harless – has applied to the board as a Forestry Technician. After review, the board found that he has met all requirements. Todd Lotter made the motion to grant him Forestry Technician status. Denzil Linton seconded; Motion carried.

Joey Harless – FT #132

Eric Carlson – has applied to become a Registered Professional Forester. After review, the board determined that he has met all the requirements. Todd Lotter moved to award him RPF status. Denzil Linton seconded; Motion carried.

Eric Carlson – RPF #810

Helen Marie Donnelly – has applied to become a Registered Professional Forester. After review, the board determined that she has met all requirements. Denzil Linton made the motion to grant her RPF status. Todd Lotter seconded; Motion carried.

Helen Donnelly – RPF #813

Cora Hedrick – has applied to become a Registered Professional Forester. After review, the board determined that she needs 1 reference, she has taken and passed the exam but she does need 4 years work experience. Todd Lotter moved to award her Forester-in-Training status. Denzil Linton seconded; Motion carried.

Jeffrey Morgan Lee – has applied to become a Registered Professional Forester. After Review, the board found that he needs 2 years work experience and to take and pass the required exam. The applicant has a master's degree and discussed his course work. After much discussion, the board tabled his application upon further evaluation of the course work in masters programs and the qualifications.

The board will put “How to Look at master's degree” on the October meeting agenda. The board may seek some guidance from ASBORF on this subject.

Audit Review – Denzil Linton & Todd Lotter reviewed and approved the books for 2021.

The next meeting will be held October 12, 2022 at the WV DOF headquarters, 10 am.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:43 pm