



WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

The WV Board of Registration for Foresters met October 16, 2019 at the WV Division of Forestry Headquarters in Charleston, WV. Those in attendance were Greg Cook, Dave McGill, Daniel Hackett, Todd Lotter, and clerical support Hope Goff. Chad Westfall was absent.

The meeting was called to order by Greg Cook at 10:12 am.

The minutes from the April 18, 2019 meeting were distributed and reviewed. Dan Hackett made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Todd Lotter seconded; motion carried. The financial report was distributed. Dave McGill moved to accept the financial report as distributed. Todd Lotter seconded; motion carried.

Correspondence – None

Complaints – None.

Safety Review – The board reviewed “Operator Crushed in Processor Head”

Old Business

Reciprocity/ASBORF – Todd Lotter emailed a flyer to the board members. He talked to the five members of ASBORF and they are interested in limited reciprocity agreement. Meaning if an applicant is registered in one of the member states, and then applies to our board, then they would not have to supply the educational requirements, work experience, or references but would have to take the required test. And if we have anyone registered with us, and they applied to a member state of ASBORF, they would have to supply the same to them. He also found there were no written agreements, just on as-needed basis. Greg Cook and Todd both agree that getting written agreements through each states legislature might be near impossible and suggested an “as-needed” agreement.

Electronic Registration – Hope Goff reported that about 30 used the portal to renew for 2019-2020. And felt that the extra instruction in with the renewal helped navigate the process. In this renewal mailing the last year the forester was current was printed on the label. She mentioned doing that again for the upcoming renewal, but suggested that be mentioned in the body of the letter. She thought it might cut down on emails/phone calls if someone had let their registration lapse. The attending members all thought that was a good idea.

Continuing Ed Classes - The board's first co-sponsored course will be held October 17 at the Days Inn, Flatwoods, WV. Right now registration is over 100 attendees. The board discussed possibly having more, but decided to wait to see what this one cost and make a decision on holding another one late spring 2020.

New Business –

Email – An email was received inquiring whether the course offered at Penn Fosters Wildlife and Forestry Conservation would meet the requirements for taking the exam. All courses must be SAF accredited. Greg Cook looked up the program on the SAF webpage, and it is not accredited. Classes therefore are not eligible

Annual Auditors Training – Dave McGill is registered to go to this meeting later in October.

September Exam Results – We had four people sit for the exam offered on September 21, 2019 at Glenville State College. 3 passed and 1 failed. Jamie Schuler is going to send Hope a synopsis of the failed exam to send to those who fail the exam to help with their review.

Other Business

Board Appointments – Todd Lotter will send a letter to SAF asking for names to send to the Governor for board replacements. Greg Cooks says that they need to supply 5 names. However, at this point he and Dan are willing to serve another term and a letter is not needed until a year before the next term expires.

Letter promoting Registration - The letter still needs to be drafted and mailed. Greg Cook said he would have Linda Carnell write the letter and he would email it out for review.

Registration Question – Kyle Aldridge reached out to Dave McGill asking if it would be worthwhile to pursue a Forestry Technician registration. Dave reported to the board that he suggested he apply.

Review of Applicants

Emeritus Status – Doug Toothman and Robert C. Smith have requested emeritus status due to retirement. Dan Hackett moved to approve both requests. Dave McGill seconded. Motion carried.

Carryovers – none

Upgrades – There were 5 requests for upgrades. Johnny King, Andrew, Bailes, Jesse King and Mary Murdock have fulfilled their needed requirements. Todd Lotter moved to grant Johnny King, Jesse King, and Mary Murdock applicants full RPF status and Andrew Bailes Registered Forestry Technician status. Dave seconded. Motion carried

Andrew Bales – FT-125

Jesse King – RPF #799

Johnny King – RPF #800

Mary Murdock – RPF #801

Joshua Kaplan requested an upgrade. However, he is lacking references. Hope will contact him letting him know the status.

Mat Baily requested an upgrade to full Forestry Technician status. His time allotted to acquire his work experience expired in October of 2019. Todd Lotter says he needs to reapply to the board, supply references and he should be able to obtain this status at the April 2020 meeting.

New Applicants – Five applicants were received and reviewed. Russell Leonard, John Michael Kane and Chris Evans have met all education, work and exam requirements. Dan Hackett made a motion to grant Chris Evans and Russell Leonard Registered Professional Forester status and John Michael Kane Forestry Technician status. Dave McGill seconded. Motion carried.

Chis Evans – RPF #802
John Michael Kane – FT-126
Russell Leonard – RPF #803

Hunter Coy Hannah and Cameron Hutchinson are lacking references and work experience. Dave McGill made a motion to grant them Forestry Technician-in-Training status. Todd Lotter seconded. Motion carried

Todd and Dave completed an audit of the 2018 books.

The April meeting was scheduled for the 9th at 10:00 am at the WVDOF headquarters.

The next exam will be held March 21 at WVU.

Chad Westfall was sent an email regarding the next meeting date and Jamie Schuler was email the next exam date.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:58 pm