



WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

The WV Board of Registration for Foresters met October 16, ~~2019~~ 2024 at the WV Division of Forestry Headquarters in Charleston, WV. Those in attendance were Chad Westfall, Dave McGill, Daniel Hackett, Todd Lotter, [Denzil Linton](#) and clerical support Hope Pulliam.

The meeting was called to order by President Chad Westfall at 10:09 am.

The minutes from the April 11, 2024 meeting were distributed and reviewed. Todd Lotter made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Dan Hackett seconded; motion carried. The financial report was distributed. Todd Lotter stated the charts were a nice addition. Dan Hackett made a motion to accept financial report. Chad Westfall seconded: Motion carried.

Correspondence – The ~~board~~ Board received email notification of the Annual Auditor's Training to be held November 7, 2024. Todd Lotter volunteered to attend. The board will pay the registration by purchase card.

Complaints – None.

Safety Review – Dave McGill discussed to be aware of objects in the road and not to swerve.

Old Business

Reciprocity - President Chad Westfall brought up reciprocity with Ohio. The ~~board~~ Board had received an email questioning this. Since OH has no registration the individual would have to apply & take the exam if applicable.

New Business

ASBORF –Clerical support Hope Pulliam reviewed the synopsis of the annual ASBORF meeting she attended in May 2024 in Macon, GA. It was brought to attention the possibility of SAF administering the exam and the cost. Other boards partner with SAF to administer ~~that particular states~~ those particular states exam. The board discussed looking into what the cost would be to partner with SAF to set up and administer the exam. The SAF was adding a Forest Tech designation to start January 1, 2025 that will require an exam. The question was asked if WV should require an exam for ~~tech-stechs~~ tech-stechs also. The board opted to keep the application process as is for Forestry Technician. The board decided to reach out to SAF to gather more information on the how, when for SAF to administer the exam. Hope also brought up the statement that was other states renewals about any complaints filed. And should this be added to our renewal form and/or applications. Todd Lotter made the motion to incorporate the language that is on the ASBORF synopsis on both the application and renewal. [Denzil Linton](#) seconded; Motion

carried. Next year's ASBORG meeting will be hosted by GA and be virtualy.

PERD Audit – Hope Pulliam reported that she did not know how close they were to submitting their findings. They had stopped sending questions. An email sent by Jill Mooney dated 9/28/2024 stated that PERD could not find where the board promulgated legislative rules to address waiving of initial occupational licensing fees for low-income families and military families (WV CODE 30-1-23) & the ~~board-Board~~ not disqualifying applicants ~~form-from~~ initial licensure because of prior criminal convictions unless the conviction is for a crime that bears a rational nexus to the professions (WV Code 30-1-24c). Jill Mooney asked for the board to provide and answer for why the rules were not promulgating rules and how the board addresses each issue. At the time of the meeting, a response was not provided to PERD. The ~~board-Board~~ discussed how “low income” would be determined. President Chad Westfall thinks that the ~~board-Board~~ should not be the governors for establishing “low income”. Denzil ~~LittenLinton~~ said we could get away with a check box stating “Are you considered a WV low income family” per WV Code 30-1-23. A motion was made by Todd Lotter to add this, it was seconded by Dan Hackett and carried. The ~~board-Board~~ decided to contact the AG's office to see if a check box with explanation can be added to the application to satisfy WV Code 30—24c and to strike the motions made.

Storage Unit Tour- Secretary/Treasurer Dave McGill made a trip to Ripley, WV to tour the storage unit with clerical support. Dave reported that the tour was very informative and gave him a better idea of what the ~~board-Board~~ has and how it is stored in the unit.

September 2024 exam- Two sat for the exam- 1 pass & 1 failed.

Other Business- Todd Lotter asked how to encourage those who are not registered maybe offer a “no cost application” fee. Maybe just one year. And maybe put an ad in the Farm Bureau & WVFA magazines to recognize those registered each year.

Contract for Legislative monitoring – The ~~board-Board~~ agreed to keep Greg Cook on for the legislative session monitoring for 2025 at the same rated as last year.

Review of Applicants

Emeritus Status – ~~the-The~~ ~~board-Board~~ received 3 requests for Emeritus Status. Matt Cornett, Charles T. Cover and Eldon Plaugher. Denzil ~~LittenLinton~~ made a motion to approve these requests. Todd Lotter seconded; Motion carried.

Carryovers – The ~~board-Board~~ reviewed 7 applications that were tabled from the April 2024 meeting. The tabled applications from April 2024 were James Michael Bell, Curtis Beatty, Steven Evans, John Byrd Holden IV, James Barron Johnson, Cole Kalna, Christopher Kesner. The ~~board-Board~~ did not move on the following applications: John Holden, Cole Kalna, James Johnson. James Michael Bell and Steven Earl Evans were found to have met all requirements to be fully registered. The ~~board-Board~~ decided Curtis Beatty and Christopher Kesner were able to be awarded “in-Training” status, Forester & Forester Tech in-training status respectfully.

James Michael Bell – RPF#818
Steven Earl Evans – FT-136

Upgrades – There was one request for an upgrade. Jeffrey Morgan Lee. Todd Lotter made the motion to approve. Denzil [LittenLinton](#) seconded; Motion carried.

Jeffrey Morgan Lee – RPF#819

New Applicants – Three new applications were received and reviewed. The ~~board~~[Board](#) found the following: Thomas Christopher and Timothy Nile Nolan meet all requirements to become fully registered. Kevin Andrew Schaus was missing a reference, but all other requirements had been met. Todd Lotter made a motion to approve Thomas Christopher and to table Kevin Schaus. Denzil [LittenLinton](#) seconded; Motion carried. |

Timothy Nile Nolan – RPF #820
Thomas Christopher – RPF #821

Todd and Dave completed an audit of the ~~2023~~[2024](#) books. |

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

The next exam will be held March 15, location to be determined.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:05 pm