



WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

The WV Board of Registration of Foresters met on October 19, 2017 at the WV Division of Forestry headquarters in Charleston, WV. Those in attendance were Chad Westfall, Greg Cook, Dave McGill, Dan Hackett, Mark Weiler from the AG office and clerical support Hope Goff.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Hope Goff. The first order of business was to elect new officers. Greg Cook nominated Dave McGill for the office of Secretary/Treasurer – Todd Lotter seconded the motion. After a discussion of responsibilities Dave McGill accepted the nomination. Dave McGill nominated Greg Cook for Chairperson. Greg declined to accept due to the fact there may be conflicts. Dave nominated Chad Westfall. Greg seconded. Chad accepted the nomination. Dave McGill asked if there was a problem using his wvu email for correspondence to and from the board & members and the possibility of forwarding calls from the borf line to his phone. Mark Weiler said that would be ok to do. Chad asked Greg for a brief description of his duties as Chairperson. Greg said he would run the meetings, draft letters, etc. Mark Weiler requests that all misconduct letters come to him for review.

The minutes and financial report from the April 2017 meeting were distributed. Todd Lotter moved to accept the minutes, Dan Hackett seconded – motion carried. The financial report was reviewed and questions answered. Again, Todd moved to accept and Dan seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence –The issue with Joey Harless was brought before the board. Discussion between the new board members if they agreed with having an exam. The new members discussed the possibility of doing away with exam and when the exam should be given. Todd moved to accept his application for FT – Dave seconded. Motion carried. Todd Lotter made the motion to contact Dr. John Brooks on setting up the exam for March 2018. Dave McGill seconded. Motion carried.

Complaints – The Board received a complaint from Bernard Yednock. This complaint was distributed and discussed. The Board drafted a letter and it will be mailed to Mr. Yednock by certified mail. A letter needs to be sent to Ron Moore to get his side of the problem.

Safety Review – The Board reviewed and discussed “Flood Mitigation” .

Old Business

- **RECIPROCITY** – The board discussed if we had any agreements and what we need to do to establish those agreements. Chad Westfall made the motion for Todd Lotter to contact Dr. John Brooks to get more information on what work he has done and to

make official contact with other boards to establish an agreement. He will report back his finding at the April 2018 meeting.

New Business

- Greg Cook brought up that he has legislation drafted – agency bill or Governors bill – that current and future employees of the DOF be exempt from registration. He says that the DOF has rules that supersedes the Boards rules and it has hindered his hiring employees because of needing approval of the board before hiring. Also, it would save money by not requiring employees to attend meeting for CFE's at the expense of the DOF. The employees would spend that time serving the public. This legislation has not been approved by Commerce. Todd Lotter expressed his concern on the rules being different for state employees verses others in the industry. He also asked if this legislation will be submitted – Greg said it was approved but he wasn't sure if it will be submitted or not. President Chad Westfall said that the issue he sees that there isn't a level playing field his foresters and the DOF foresters. He couldn't decide whether to support the bill or not. Mark Weiler suggested having another meeting prior to the legislative session to discuss this bill.
- **Ethics Training** – Mark Weiler said that the new board members need to do this. Greg will check with the auditors office to see about how this can get done.
- **On-line payments** – Todd Lotter asked if it would be possible for the board to accept online payments. How do we set this up? The board discussed contacting the State Treasurers office on getting this started.
- **2017 Auditors Training** – Discussion on who was going to attend the meeting this year. Since the board is new, probably more than 1 person needs to go. More information on the date would be forwarded to each member when it becomes available.

Other Business –

- **Audit** – Greg Cook made the motion to have an audit of the books done. Chad Westfall seconded. Motion carried
- **Website** – The board discussed looking at the website and making any and all changes to reflect the new members and any other changes that need to be made.
- **Thank You Letters** – Dave and Todd both suggested sending letters to prior board member thanking them for their time serving on the Board.

Review of Applicants

- **Emeritus Status** – Requests from Ed Grafton, Marvin Hundley, Craig Kidney, Walter Lester were received. Chad moved to accept all requests. Todd seconded. Motion carried.
- **Upgrades** – A request for upgrade to RPF status from Rosalie Santerre. Chad moved to approve this upgrade. Dave McGill seconded. Motion carried.

There were no new applicants. There was one carry-over from the meeting last April.

- Theron Michael Gibbs – The Board found that he has met all requirements and can be approved. Dave McGill made the motion to approve Gibbs as a RPF. Greg Cook seconded. Motion carried.

Theron Michael Gibbs – RPF-793

Schedule of Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the board will be April 19, 2018, at the WVDOF Headquarters in Charleston, WV.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dave McGill", is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Dave McGill, Secretary/Treasurer