

# GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

## Board Meeting: February 9, 2010

The Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters met on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, at the Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia, for the purpose of conducting Board business.

### **The following Board members were present:**

John Britt, Board Chairperson  
Glen Warnock, Board Vice Chairperson (via teleconference)  
James Frederick Allen  
W. Dale Greene (via teleconference)  
John Mixon

### **Others present:**

Tanja Battle, Executive Director  
Brandi Howell, Board Support Specialist  
Janet Jackson, Assistant Attorney General (via teleconference)  
Robert Hernandez, Investigations  
Inez Lockett, Examination Analyst

At 9:31 a.m., Chairperson Britt established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Chairperson Britt called for any changes/revisions to the November 18, 2009 minutes.

A motion was made by Fred Allen, seconded by John Mixon, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.

### **Executive Session**

A motion was made by John Mixon, seconded by Fred Allen, and the Board members present: Allen, Britt, Greene, Mixon, and Warnock, voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session, in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h) for application discussion, investigative matters and to receive the Attorney General's Report.

### **Vote on Discussions from Executive Session**

Open Session was declared by Chairperson Britt.

A motion was made by John Mixon, seconded by Fred Allen, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the recommendations made in Executive Session.

The recommendations made in Executive Session are as follows:

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**OIG/Enforcement**

The Board heard a report on the following cases:

**FOR080005, FOR080006 and FOR100002:** The Board voted unanimously to refer the cases to the Attorney General's office for disciplinary action.

**Complaints**

**FOR100004:** The Board voted unanimously to refer the case back to OIG for a Cease & Desist Order.

**Board Attorney Report**

The Board heard a report on the following cases:

**FOR060040:** The Board voted unanimously to close the case.

**FOR080002:** The Board voted unanimously to close the case.

**Applications**

The Board voted unanimously to renew the following applicant's license on the condition that he submits eleven (11) acceptable continuing forester education credits by June 30, 2010 to be counted towards the December 31, 2009 license renewal:

Applicant #291477

The following applicant was denied for Licensure by Examination:

Robin Lawrence Finlayson

The following applicants were approved to take the Examination:

Applicant #1222418

Applicant #1222425

The following applicants were approved for Licensure by Examination:

RF002870     Early Younts McCall

RF002871     Jeremy E. Hughes

The following applicants were approved for Reinstatement of Licensure:

RF001188     Travis Lang DeLoach

RF002299     Thomas P. Peagler, Jr.

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The following licensees were approved for Renewal:

RF001657	William Louis Consoletti
RF001934	Hedrick E. Frank
RF002271	Randall Frank West, Jr.
RF002545	Thomas M. Kain

## **Written Requests**

**Applicant #291131:** After reviewing correspondence requesting a waiver of the requirements for continuing education based on the circumstances documented in his letter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the applicant's request.

**Applicant #290719:** After reviewing correspondence requesting the Board accept his annual ethics training from the Department of Defense (DOD) as acceptable credit hours towards professional ethics, the Board voted unanimously to approve the applicant's request.

**Applicant #291523:** After reviewing correspondence requesting a waiver of the requirements for continuing education based on the circumstances documented in his letter, the Board voted unanimously to approve the applicant's request.

## **Audits**

The Board reviewed the list of licensees who submitted continuing education audits and were previously approved by the Audit Committee. The Board voted unanimously to ratify the list.

## **Other**

**Applicant #290877:** The Board voted unanimously to waive the requirements for continuing education upon receipt of a written request and renewal application and fee.

## **Applicants Licensed Since Last Review**

The Board reviewed the following list of Registered Foresters licensed since the last Board meeting. A motion was made by Fred Allen, seconded by John Mixon, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the list.

License #	Name	Issue Date	License Method
RF002869	Elliot, James Robertson	11/23/2009	Reciprocity

## **Executive Director's Report**

**Technology Updates:** Ms. Battle reported that the Professional Licensing Boards Division (PLB) is moving towards making the submission of applications available online. This process will allow someone to submit an application electronically and pay for such via credit card.

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Additionally, Ms. Battle stated that the board office is upgrading its database software. This upgrade will allow for better reporting and will hopefully address CE tracking for all licensees. Ms. Battle stated she would continue to keep the Board updated as information regarding such becomes available.

**Assistance from the Georgia Forestry Commission:** Ms. Battle discussed the memo from Assistant Attorney General, Janet Jackson, concerning the Board's interest in obtaining assistance from the Georgia Forestry Commission with Board investigations concerning unlicensed practice of forestry. Ms. Battle stated that she has discussed this with Randall Vaughn, Division Director, Professional Licensing Boards, who shared the request with the Office of the Inspector General. Our division along with the OIG's office is open to such a collaborative effort. Chairperson Britt asked what kind of qualifications the Board should look for. Ms. Jackson interjected that investigations are confidential by law; however, the Board could help train the agents as to what to look for and that this would be extremely helpful on general matters regarding scope of practice. Ms. Battle stated that the Agency's position is that it would support this type of training.

**Committee/Subcommittee Reports**

There were no committee/subcommittee reports to discuss at this time.

With no other business for the Board to discuss, a motion was made by Fred Allen, seconded by Dale Greene, and the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 11:39 a.m.

**Minutes recorded by:**

**Brandi Howell, Board Support Specialist**

**Minutes Edited/Reviewed by:**

**Tanja D. Battle, Executive Director**