

**Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters
Board Meeting
Thursday, August 28, 2014
Professional Licensing Boards Division
237 Coliseum Drive**

The Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters met on Thursday, August 28, 2014 at the Professional Licensing Board Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA 31217.

Board Members Present:

Dale Greene, Chairman
John Britt, Vice Chairman (Via Conference Call)
James Johnson
Leonard L. Kinsley
John Mixon

Board Members Absent:

Anna "Miki" Thomaston

Staff Present:

Deborah Beard, Executive Director
Janet Jackson, Senior Assistant Attorney General
Beth Duffey, Board Support Specialist

Dale Greene, Chairman established a quorum was present at 9:39 a.m. and called the meeting to order.

Open Session

Dale Greene, Chairman called for the first order of business.

Minutes:

The minutes from the May 29, 2014 and June 28, 2014 Board meetings were reviewed. Leonard Kinsley made a motion to approve the May 29, 2014 and June 28, 2014 minutes with corrections. James Johnson seconded the motion and Board voted unanimously in favor.

Licenses Issued Administratively:

The Board reviewed the report of licenses issued administratively. John Mixon made a motion to ratify the licenses issued as presented on the report, John Britt seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Licenses Issued 5-1-14- 7-31-14 Total (5)	
RF002938	Cooper, Roderick D
RF002939	Moorman, Robert Michael
RF002940	Brown, Jonathan Chandler
RF002941	Register, Jeffrey Timothy Jr

Board Discussion Items:

- **Number of Georgia Registered Foresters with two (2) year degrees** - Deborah Beard, Executive Director informed the Board there are about forty-seven (47) registered foresters with an Associate’s Degree based on a report run by the information technology department. The Board was informed the education information was not being maintained until around 2005.
- **ASBORF Meetings and Dues** - The next ASBORF meetings are as follows: 2015- Alabama and 2016- Georgia. The Board discussed Board Members splitting the cost and paying the ASBORF dues for the coming year since there was no money budgeted for the associational dues. The Board also discussed contacting their legislators to request money be budgeted for the Board to be a member of ASBORF.
- **Revising Exam** - Dale Greene, Board Chairman informed the Board of the information he gathered regarding the exam and the estimated cost of revising the exam. The cost would be about \$2,500. The Board discussed creating an Ad Hoc Committee to assist in suggestions for revising the exam. Dale Greene could be the Board Liaison on the Committee and report back to the Board the Committee’s recommendations.

John Britt motioned to adopt a policy for applicants who pass the SAF exam and failed the Georgia portion of the exam, but made a 50 percentage score or greater on the Georgia portion of the exam to be allowed to appeal to the Board. This would include applicants from January 2013 going forward until the Georgia portion of the exam is revised. James Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

- **Replacing Board Members with expired terms** - The Board reviewed the expiration of terms for current Board members. The Board also discussed Board Members contacting the Governor’s office with suggestions of possible replacements in order to keep the Board diversified.
- **HB 790** – The Board discussed HB790 and how it specifically affects the Board.

Leonard Kinsley motioned to refer to the Attorney General’s office for a memorandum of advice on the impact of HB790 including the referral of any complaints made to the Board regarding criminal activity or Forester Board statutes. James Johnson seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor.

- **Miscellaneous Board Item** - John Britt discussed his concerns regarding the difficulty with the renewal process, call center wait times, and issues with corporations. He

advised individuals to send letters to Brian Kemp, Secretary of State informing him of their concerns.

Deborah Beard, Executive Director reminded the Board she is available for licensees to contact, if needed. She informed the Board they could advise licensees to contact her by e-mail or by telephone regarding any issues they may have related to renewing, applying for a license, or any other Board matter. She advised the Board they could give out her e-mail and/or her direct contact number to licensees who may contact them. She informed the Board that the Corporations Division is a separate Division from the Professional Licensing Boards Division.

Executive Session

John Mixon motioned, John Britt seconded and the Board voted unanimously to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 43-1-2 (k) and 43-1-19 (h), to deliberate on applications and complaint matters, and to receive information on applications, complaint reports, pending cases and the Attorney General’s report.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, Chairman, Dale Green, declared the meeting to be **“open”** pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No Board votes were obtained during Executive Session.

Open Session

Chairman Dale Greene, declared the Board to be back in open session.

Applications:

James Johnson made a motion, the motion was seconded by John Britt and the Board voted unanimously to approve the following applicants for reinstatement:

License#	Name
RF001070	Rhodes, Harry G. Jr.
RF000760	Strickland, Hubert A.
RF002150	McAfee, Douglas
RF001971	Ellis, Michael Wayne
RF002309	Wickham, William Charles
RF002769	DeGross, Joseph

James Johnson made a motion, the motion was seconded by John Britt and the Board voted unanimously to approve the following applicants for licensure:

License#	Name
RF002942	Jarrell, Timothy
RF002940	Brown, Jonathan
RF002943	Brabham, David

James Johnson made a motion, the motion was seconded by John Britt and the Board voted unanimously to approve the following applicants to sit for the exam:

Name
Mitchell, Wesley
McCarley, Andrew
Frankhouser, John
McDaniel, Paul
Thrift, John

James Johnson made a motion, the motion was seconded by John Britt and the Board voted unanimously to approve the following applicants for reciprocity:

License#	Name
RF002941	Register, Jeffrey
RF002944	Dorrell, Timothy

Applicant#290393 L.J.E. - John Britt made a motion, Leonard Kinsley seconded and the Board voted unanimously to grant extension until end of September 2014.

Applicant#291707 B.G.S. - John Mixon made a motion, James Johnson seconded and the Board voted unanimously to deny based upon current criminal probation.

Complaints:

Complaint # FOR140004 - John Britt made a motion, John Mixon seconded and the Board voted unanimously to close the complaint.

Complaint#FOR140007 - John Britt made a motion, John Mixon seconded and the Board voted unanimously to refer to the Georgia Real Estate Commission and close the complaint.

Complaint#FOR140006 - John Britt made a motion, John Mixon seconded and the Board voted unanimously to refer to investigations to obtain additional information.

Complaint#FOR140005 - John Britt made a motion, John Mixon seconded and the Board voted unanimously to refer investigative file to the Georgia Forestry Commission and close the complaint.

Approval of Executive Session Minutes:

John Britt made a motion, Leonard Kinsley seconded and the Board voted unanimously to approve the May 29, 2014 and June 28, 2014 Executive Session Minutes as revised.

Board Discussion

Deborah Beard, Executive Director, discussed with the Board how they would like to handle complaints received in the Board office. The Board discussed the following:

- A case in which a Cognizant is currently assigned will remain with that assigned Cognizant until completed.
- New cases go to Board Chair as Cognizant or Board Chair can designate a Cognizant.
- If Cognizant recommends closing a case then the case should be forwarded to the full Board for a vote to close the case. The case should not be closed until voted on by the Board.
- If Cognizant recommends referring a case to investigation then the case should be forward to investigations and then place on a list for the Board to ratify the recommendation.

Election of 2015 Officers - John Mixon made a motion, Leonard Kinsley seconded and the Board voted unanimously to elect James Johnson as the new Chairman and Cognizant Board Member, and John Britt as the Vice Chairman.

The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: Beth Duffey, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed and edited by: Deborah Beard, Executive Director

Dale Greene

Dale Greene, Chairman
Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters

Deborah Beard

Deborah Beard, Executive Director
Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters

These minutes were accepted on: December 11, 2014