Georgia State Board of Landscape Architects
Board Meeting Open Session Minutes
July 23, 2025

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Landscape Architects met on **Wednesday, July 23, 2025 via** WebEx.

Board Members Present:	**Board Staff Present:**
Jon Williams, Chairman Chad Baker, Vice Chairman Betsy Norton Jon Calabria Absent Member: Rebecca Kirk **Attorney General Representative present:** Kareem McCulley, Assistant Attorney General	Laurie Elander, Executive Director Iris Waller, Licensing Supervisor Thishilyn Stubbs, Board Support Specialist **Visitor:** None

Open Session:

At 9:38 a.m., Chairman Jon Williams established that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Jon Calabria made a motion for the Board to accept the agenda as presented. Vice-Chairman Chad Baker seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Jon Williams presented a draft of the May 7, 2025 meeting minutes and asked for any additions or deletions. Jon Calabria made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Betsey Norton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Chad Baker made a motion for the Board to approve the list of licenses issued and licenses reinstated from May 5, 2025, to July 20, 2025. Jon Calabria seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Issued

License Number	Licensee
LA002027	Kathryn McPherson
LA002025	Wesley L Wilkerson
LA002024	Charles Kirkland Hawley
LA002026	Charles Anderson Price
LA002028	Gregory Jay Rowan
LA002023	Jon Qualls
LA002029	Preston Stefan Linck
LA002030	Maria Ghys Drawdy

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Reinstated

License Number	Licensee
LA000997	Ann Elizabeth Knapp English
LA001914	Samuel Theodore Sampson

CLARB Update:

Chairman Jon Williams provided the Board with an update from the CLARB webinar meeting and shared the bylaws to be voted on at the next CLARB meeting. Chairman Jon Williams stated that he feels there is no action to be taken by the Board at this time. Chairman Jon Williams plans to attend the next CLARB meeting to cast a vote from Georgia.

Board Rules Review:

Besty Norton made a motion to refer the following rules to the Attorney General's for review for final edits, Vice-Chairman Chad Baker seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session:

Vice-Chairman Chad Baker moved, Betsy Norton seconded, and the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 12:15 p.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h) to deliberate on applications and to hear the Attorney General's Report.

Chairman, Jon Williams had to leave meeting at 12:35 pm due to an emergency and declared the meeting to be "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq., at 12:38 p.m. No votes were taken during the Executive Session.

Open Session:

Jon Calabria moved, Betsy Norton seconded, and the motion was carried by the Board to accept the following recommendations made during the Executive Session:

Approval of Executive Session Minutes:

Approve the May 7, 2025, Executive Session Board minutes as presented.

Applications:

3196031: Approve

3197751: Approve

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After confirming a quorum was established, Jon Calabri moved, Chad Baker, Vice Chairman seconded, and the Board voted to re-enter Executive Session at 12:42 p.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k and 43-1-19(h) to deliberate on applications and to hear the Attorney General's Report.

At the conclusion of Executive Session, Chad Baker, Vice Chairman declared the meeting to be "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq., at 12:51 p.m. No votes were taken during the Executive Session.

Open Session:

Jon Calabria moved, Chad Baker seconded, and the motion was carried by the Board to accept the following recommendations made during the Executive Session:

Applications:

3197946: Approve

3206565: Approve

Attorney General Report

Assistant Attorney General Kareen McCulley presented the AG Report, the board voted to accept as presented.

Executive Director Report:

The Board reviewed the Executive Director's report, which provided the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications and complaints/compliance matters.

There being no further business, Vice- Chairman, Chad Baker declared the meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be on October 15, 2025.

Minutes recorded by: Thishilyn Stubbs, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed and edited by: Laurie Elander, Executive Director

Chad Baker
Chad Baker, Vice-Chairman
Signed by Laurie Elander with expressed permission of Chad Baker

Laurie Elander
Laurie Elander, Executive Director

These minutes were approved on: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A 50-14-1 et seq., requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specified exemptions relied upon. O.C.G. A. 50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meetings in question.

Comes Chad Baker, the Board Vice Chairman identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia Board of Landscape Architects.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and subject to penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On October 15, 2025, this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of members present voted to close the meeting or a portion hereof of the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for closure of this meeting was: O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k).
5. The subjects discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are as follows:

Applications and other personal information submitted by the applicants, information, Favorable or unfavorable, submitted by a reference source concerning an applicant; and Deliberations of the Board with respect to an application, an examination, a complaint, an Investigation, or a disciplinary proceeding.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Chad Baker
PRESIDING OFFICER
Chad Baker
Signed by Laurie Elander with expressed permission of Chad Baker

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21st
Day of October, ____.
Deborah A. Horton
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: DEC. 17, 2028

DEBORAH A HORTON
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
NOTARY
PUBLIC
DECEMBER 17, 2028
BIBB COUNTY, GEORGIA