

Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters

Board Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2025

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Registration for Foresters met on Tuesday, November 18, 2025 in person at the board office located at 3920 Arkwright Rd Macon GA, 31210.

<p><u>Board Members Present:</u> Grant Harvey, Chairman (Via Webex) Jesse Johnson, Vice-Chairman (In-person) Wade Hall (In-Person) Brian Stone (In-person) John Godbee (Via Webex) Jim Langdale (Via Webex)</p> <p><u>Attorney General Representative present:</u> Samuel Smith, Assistant Attorney General via Webex</p>	<p><u>Board Staff Present:</u> Laurie Elander, Executive Director (In-person) Iris Waller, Licensing Supervisor (In-person) Thishilyn Stubbs, Board Support Specialist (In-person) Brandy Griffin, Licensing Analyst (In-person)</p> <p><u>Visitors:</u> None</p>
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Open Session:

At 9:35 a.m., Vice-Chairman Jesse Johnson established that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

The Board opened the meeting with a word of prayer.

Approval of the Agenda:

Wade Hall made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Brian Stone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Open Session Minutes:

Vice-Chairman Jesse Johnson presented a draft of the August 19, 2025 meeting minutes and asked for any additions or deletions. Brian Stone made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Wade Hall seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Wade Hall made a motion for the Board to approve the list of licenses issued and license reinstated from August 11, 2025 to November 12, 2025 as presented, Brian Stone seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Issued

License Number	Licensee
RF003107	Darcy Isabelle Tripod

Reinstated

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License Number	Licensee
RF001821	William Marc Causey

Election for Chairman and Vice-Chairman:

Brian Stone made a motion for the Board to re-elect the current Chairman, Grant Harvey and Vice-Chairman Jesse Johnson for the 2026 year. Wade Hall seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

2026 Proposed Board Meeting Date:

Brian Stone made a motion for the Board to approve the 2026 Board Meeting Dates, with the amendment to change the November 11,2026 meeting to November 10,2026 Wade Hall seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

2026 Board Meeting Dates

- February 24, 2026
- May 12,2026
- August 11,2026
- November 10,2026

Discussion of CE Hours for retired Foresters:

The board discussed continuing education requirements for retired foresters, considering sunset provisions from neighboring states. Members expressed mixed feelings about maintaining continuing education requirements for those not actively practicing forestry. Members agreed to gather more information and continue the conversation at a future meeting.

Executive Session:

Chairman Grant Harvey moved, Wade Hall seconded, and the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 10:13 a.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h) to deliberate on applications, complaints and to hear the Attorney General’s Report.

At the conclusion of Executive Session, Jesse Johnson, 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 11:15 a.m. No votes were taken during the Executive Session.

Open Session:

John Godbee made the motion to accept recommendations made during executive session, Wade Hall seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The recommendations accepted are as follows:

Approval of Executive Session Minutes:

Approved the August 19, 2025, Executive Session Board minutes as presented.

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Applications:

4286354: Approve, Vice-Chairman Jesse Johnson abstains.

4329729: Table

Reinstatements:

4384183: Table

4414716: Approve

Attorney General Report

Assistant Attorney General Samuel Smith presented the AG Report. The board voted to accept as presented.

Executive Director's 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, Jesse Johnson, Vice Chairman, declared the meeting adjourned 11:26 a.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be on February 24, 2026.

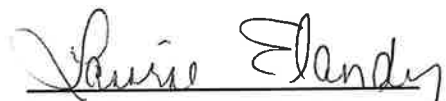
Minutes recorded by:

Thishilyn Stubbs, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Laurie Elander, Executive Director


Grant Harvey, Chairperson


Laurie Elander, Executive Director

These minutes were approved on: Tuesday, February 24, 2026

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 Grant Harvey the Board Chair 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 State Board of Registration for Foresters.
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 February 24, 2026, 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.



PRESIDING OFFICER
Grant Harvey

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th
Day of February, 2026

Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 11/2/2027

Iris Waller
NOTARY PUBLIC
Bibb County, GEORGIA
My Commission Expires 11/02/2027