

Georgia State Board of Landscape Architects

Board Meeting Open Session Minutes

October 15, 2025

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Landscape Architects met on **Wednesday, October 15, 2025** via WebEx.

<p><u>Board Members Present:</u> Chad Baker, Vice Chairman Rebecca Kirk Betsy Norton Jon Calabria</p> <p><u>Absent Member:</u> Jon Williams, Chairman</p> <p><u>Attorney General Representative present:</u> Kareem McCulley, Assistant Attorney General</p>	<p><u>Board Staff Present:</u> Laurie Elander, Executive Director Iris Waller, Licensing Supervisor Thishilyn Stubbs, Board Support Specialist Brandy Griffin, Licensing Analyst</p> <p><u>Visitor:</u> Yvonne</p>
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Open Session:

At 9:37 a.m., Vice-Chairman Chad Baker established that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Rebecca Kirk made a motion for the Board to accept the agenda as presented. Betsey Norton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Chad Baker presented a draft of the July 23, 2025 meeting minutes and asked for any additions or deletions. Jon Calabria made a motion to approve the minutes with amendment to correct the typo on page 3 to correct the spelling of “pf” to “of”, Betsey Norton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Betsey Norton made a motion for the Board to approve the list of licenses issued and licenses reinstated from July 21, 2025, to October 9, 2025. Rebecca Kirk seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Issued

License Number	Licensee
LA002031	Nathan Ellis Rhineheimer
LA-T000095	David F Milligan
LA002032	Russell Walker Harrington
LA002033	Matthew W Mandle
LA002034	Joanne Hiromura
LA002035	Eric Jackson Lanehart
LA002036	Matthew John Quirey
LA002037	Mary Grace Wooten
LA002038	Ryan Young

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Reinstated

License Number	Licensee
LA001156	Sean J Murphy
LA001891	Thomas Walthour Angell
LA001923	Jay M Gehler
LA001861	Micah Steven Rogers
LA001974	Joshua Seth Beckler
LA001886	Daryl Layne McCann
LA001757	Sara Hedstrom Pinnell
LA001102	E Graham Pittman
LA000364	F Truitt Rabun Jr
LA001132	Michael L Clarke
LA001025	Steven Lawrence Rowe

Election for Chairman and Vice-Chairman:

Jon Calabria made a motion for the Board to re-elect the current Chairman, Jon Williams and Vice-Chairman Chad Baker for the 2026 year. Rebecca Kirk seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

2026 Proposed Board Meeting Date:

Rebecca Kirk made a motion for the Board to approve the 2026 Board Meeting Dates, Jon Calabria seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

2026 Board Meeting Dates

- January 7, 2026
- May 6, 2026
- August 26, 2026
- October 14, 2026

Executive Session:

Rebecca Kirk moved, Betsy Norton seconded, and the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 9:47 a.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h) to deliberate on complaints 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 10:38 a.m. No votes were taken during the Executive Session.

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Open Session:

Rebecca Kirk moved, Jon Calabria 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 July 23, 2025, Executive Session Board minutes as presented.

Complaints:

LA260002: Close

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 10:55 a.m.


The next meeting of the Board will be on January 7, 2026.

Minutes recorded by:

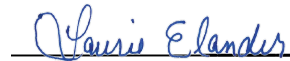
Thishilyn Stubbs, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by:

Laurie Elander, Executive Director


Jon Williams, Chairman

Signed by Laurie Elander with the
expressed permission of Jon Williams


Laurie Elander, Executive Director

These minutes were approved on: Wednesday, January 7, 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 Jon Williams 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 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 January 7, 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

Jon Williams

Signed by Laurie Elander with expressed permission of Jon Williams

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th

Day of January, 2026

Notary Public 

My Commission Expires: 11/02/2027

Iris Waller

NOTARY PUBLIC

Bibb County, GEORGIA

My Commission Expires 11/02/2027