

**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS, WETLAND PROFESSIONALS
and GEOLOGISTS
MEETING MINUTES**

The Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on September 1, 2016, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present:

Robin Bedenbaugh
Bennette Burks
Warren Dean
Larry Giannasi
Keith R. Goodwin
Tom Saxton
David Spears
Angela Whitehead

Board members, J. Meade R. Anderson, Doug DeBerry, Robin Jones, Molly Plautz, R. Drew Thomas were not present at the meeting.

Board staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Kathleen (Kate) R. Nosbisch, Executive Director
Bonnie Davis, Administrative Assistant

Agency staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Jay W. DeBoer, Director

There was no representative from the office of the Attorney General present for the meeting.

Mr. Bedenbaugh, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Mr. Bedenbaugh advised the Board of the emergency evacuation procedures.

**Emergency Evacuation
Procedures**

Ms. Nosbisch welcomed and introduced, Bonnie Davis, new Administrative Assistant for the Board, Matt Benka, Board Liaison for the Board for Professional and Occupational Regulation (BPOR), and Jessica Eldridge, Presiding Officer.

Introductions

Mr. Burks moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Spears seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Goodwin, Saxton, Spears, and Whitehead.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Dean moved to approve the minutes from the following meeting:

Approval of Minutes

- March 8, 2016, Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists; with correction

- March 8, 2016, Wetland Delineator Exam Review Committee; and
- April 27, 2016, Wetland Delineator Exam Review Committee
- July 28, 2016, Wetland Delineator Exam Review Committee

Mr. Burks seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Goodwin, Saxton, Spears, and Whitehead.

There was no public comment.

Public Comment Period

Board members considered the following 2017 meeting dates:

Consideration of 2017 Meeting Dates

March 8, 2017*

*Mr. Spears stated that he is unavailable on this date. Ms. Nosbisch stated that an email will be sent to determine if anyone else has a conflict with that date.

June 21, 2017

September 6, 2017

December 5, 2017

Mr. Giannasi moved to approve the 2017 meeting dates. Mr. Dean seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Goodwin, Saxton, Spears, and Whitehead.

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that according to the rotation policy, the vice-chair assumes the position of chair and then a board member from the next profession is elected vice-chair. Mr. Giannasi, current vice chair, will move up as Chair. As Geology is the next profession in the rotation, Mr. Bedenbaugh moved to nominate Mr. Spears as Vice-Chair. Mr. Saxton seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Goodwin, Saxton, Spears, and Whitehead.

Election of Officers

Mr. Bedenbaugh noted Drew Thomas is interested in attending the Fall ASBOG meeting.

**Fall ASBOG meetings
(Annual Business Meeting
and Fall COE Workshop)**

Mr. Bedenbaugh presented the Publication in Geology. Mr. Saxton noted he brought the book to the meeting for anyone interested in reviewing it.

**Publication of Geology in
Virginia**

Mr. Bedenbaugh stated the guidance document was prepared to explain the difference between a wetland survey and a land survey.

Mr. Goodwin moved to approve the Guidance Document. Mr. Burks seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Goodwin, Saxton, Spears, and Whitehead.

**Wetland Boundary
Surveys Guidance
Document**

Ms. Nosbisch presented the changes to regulatory language in 18VAC145-11-50 of the Public Participation Guidelines (PPG). Ms. Nosbisch noted this change could be handled as a fast-track action. Mr. Spears moved to file the changes to 18VAC145-11-50 as a fast-track regulatory action. Mr. Dean seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Goodwin, Saxton, Spears, and Whitehead.

PPG Regulatory Changes

Mr. Bedenbaugh stated that this item is still in review and will be revisited at the next board meeting. Mr. Bedenbaugh asked if there was similar language in land surveying and engineering. Ms. Nosbisch indicated there was and she will provide the information to the next meeting.

**Request for Regulation
Pertaining to Using the
Work of Another Wetland
Professional**

Ms. Nosbisch reported that the Wetland Delineator Exam Review Committee met three times since the last Board meeting. Mr. Bedenbaugh stated they had sufficient questions for two complete exams. Ms. Nosbisch expressed gratitude for the committee's dedication and hard work. She stated that one applicant took the exam in August and passed.

**Update on Wetland
Delineator Exam Review
Committee**

Board members were provided financial statements for informational purposes.

**Review of Financial
Statements**

Mr. Bedenbaugh informed the Board that the language in 18VAC145-30-50 from 2004, omitted the requirements for delineations from the USACE. The board agreed by consensus to revisit this matter at the next board meeting.

Other Business

Ms. Nosbisch reported that Mark Courtney retired August 1, 2016.

Ms. Nosbisch reported that she had received an email from Luther Smith, regarding the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) national exam for certification for soil technician. The Certified Professional Soil Scientist (CPSS) Board will no longer require the Professional Practice exam beginning January 2017 for CPSS Certification. Ms. Nosbisch confirmed with SSSA that this will not impact Virginia and applicants for Virginia licensure will still have access to the Fundamentals Practice (FP) exam and Professional Practice (PP) exam. The SSSA will be offering a new certification called Certified Soil Technician which is not a recognized certification in Virginia.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Adjournment

Robin Bedenbaugh, Chair

Jay W. DeBoer, Secretary

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