

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

The Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on December 6, 2018, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present:

Citizens

Bennette Burks

Geologists

Michael Lawless

David Spears

Drew Thomas

Soil Scientists

Larry Giannasi

David Hall

Alexis Jones

Wetland Delineators

Robin Bedenbaugh

Justin Brown

Board members, Warren “Ted” Dean, Doug DeBerry, Robin Jones, and Molly Parker, were not present at the meeting.

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Kathleen (Kate) R. Nosbisch, Executive Director

Bonnie Davis, Administrative Assistant

Josh Laws, Assistant Attorney General, was present from the office of the Attorney General.

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

Call to Order

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

**Emergency Evacuation
Procedures**

Ms. Nosbisch stated that Mr. DeBoer, Mr. Dean, Mr. DeBerry, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Parker send their regrets. She introduced David Hall and Alexis Jones, new Soil Scientist Board members, Justin Brown, new Wetland Professional Board Member, Michael Lawless, new Geologist Board member, and other Board members introduced themselves. She introduced members of the audience: Meade Anderson, former Geologist Board Member, Ricky Woody, President of Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals, and Ted Kraska, Apex Companies, LLC.

**Welcome and
Introductions**

Ms. Jones moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Burks seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Brown, Burks, Giannasi, Hall, Jones, Lawless, Spears, and Thomas.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Thomas moved to approve the amended minutes from the September 12, 2018, Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals

Approval of Minutes

and Geologists meeting. Ms. Jones seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Brown, Burks, Giannasi, Hall, Jones, Lawless, Spears, and Thomas.

Mr. Woody stated Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals (VAWP) supports the state's efforts to reduce unnecessary licensing or certification in Virginia, and VAWP believes Virginia Wetland Professional certification is not unnecessary certification. He stated since establishing certification, there has been a consistency in practice, there is a body of knowledge for public access, there is public access to wetland delineators, no work is done by unlicensed wetland delineators, no loss of protection of water, no decrease in water quality. Deregulation will remove standards and jeopardize our resources.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Kraska, Professional Wetland Delineator in private industry, stated he was the fourth certified wetland delineator in Virginia. He stated with certification there has been an increase in the level of delineation across the state. He supports the certification program; there is a value.

Mr. Giannasi read the following resolutions for consideration by the Board:

Resolutions

RESOLUTION TO

JULIAN MEADE RUFFIN ANDERSON

WHEREAS, Julian Meade Ruffin Anderson, did faithfully and diligently serve as a Board member of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists from 2005 to 2018;

WHEREAS, Julian Meade Ruffin Anderson, did devote generously of his time, talent and leadership to the Board;

WHEREAS, Julian Meade Ruffin Anderson, did endeavor at all times to render decisions with fairness and good judgment in the best interest of the citizens of the Commonwealth and these professions; and

WHEREAS, the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists wishes to acknowledge its gratitude for devoted service of a person who is held in high esteem by the members of the Board and the citizens of the Commonwealth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists this 6th day of December 2018, that Julian Meade Ruffin Anderson, be given all honors and respect due him for his outstanding service to the Commonwealth and its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to him and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which he is held by this Board.

RESOLUTION TO
KEITH R. GOODWIN

WHEREAS, Keith R. Goodwin, did faithfully and diligently serve as a Board member of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists from 2015 to 2018;

WHEREAS, Keith R. Goodwin, did devote generously of his time, talent and leadership to the Board;

WHEREAS, Keith R. Goodwin, did endeavor at all times to render decisions with fairness and good judgment in the best interest of the citizens of the Commonwealth and these professions; and

WHEREAS, the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists wishes to acknowledge its gratitude for devoted service of a person who is held in high esteem by the members of the Board and the citizens of the Commonwealth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists this 6th day of December 2018, that Keith R. Goodwin, be given all honors and respect due him, for his outstanding service to the Commonwealth and its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to him and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which he is held by this Board.

RESOLUTION TO
ANGELA C. WHITEHEAD

WHEREAS, Angela C. Whitehead, did faithfully and diligently serve as a Board member of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists from 2008 to 2018;

WHEREAS, Angela C. Whitehead, did devote generously of her time, talent and leadership to the Board;

WHEREAS, Angela C. Whitehead, did endeavor at all times to render decisions with fairness and good judgment in the best interest of the citizens of the Commonwealth and these professions; and

WHEREAS, the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland

Professionals, and Geologists wishes to acknowledge its gratitude for

devoted service of a person who is held in high esteem by the members of

the Board and the citizens of the Commonwealth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists this 6th day of December 2018, that Angela C. Whitehead, be given all honors and respect due her for her outstanding service to the Commonwealth and its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to her and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which she is held by this Board.

The Board members agreed to the resolutions by consensus. Ms. Nosbisch thanked the ongoing Board members and welcomed the new Board members. She reported that Ms. Molly Parker and Mr. Ted Dean had been reappointed.

Ms. Nosbisch reported that the JLARC report included 36 recommendations for DPOR, but they are not mandated. The second recommendation states the Board for Professional Occupational Regulation (BPOR) should review the need for continued regulation of soil scientists, and the third recommends the same review of state certification of wetland delineators.

JLARC Report

Mr. Bedenbaugh voiced his concern of the possible elimination of soil scientist and wetland delineation certification and the 25% reduction of regulations.

Ms. Nosbisch noted these are two distinct issues. HB 883 directs Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) to administer a three-year regulatory reduction pilot program aimed at reducing by 25% the regulations and regulatory requirements, as defined in the bill, of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation and the Department of Criminal Justice Services by July 1, 2021.

Ms. Jones stated she is a board member of Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists (VAPSS) which has a lobbyist who is watching for bills being presented on the decertification of soil scientists.

Ms. Nobsisch stated the next BPOR meeting is March 4, 2019, and the public may attend and speak.

Mr. Giannasi stated eight continuing education (CE) credits each year is a hardship; it would be less burdensome to allow 16 CEs in a two year period. He asked Ms. Jones if she would present this request to VAPSS to submit to the legislature as a soil scientist, not as a board member.

Continuing Education

Mr. Thomas stated he was going to conduct an independent survey of fellow geologists to inquire about their position regarding CE. At the ASBOG meeting, he discovered that Washington had already sent out the same survey. He is waiting on the statistics of that survey at this time.

Mr. Thomas attended the annual meeting; continuing education and the importance of certification was discussed. He stated working as a subject matter expert on the exam was very rewarding work. Ms. Nobsisch stated she participated in the Administrators Workshop via teleconference.

ASBOG Annual Meeting

Ms. Nobsisch recognized World Soil Day was yesterday. She thanked all board members for their time and expertise devoted to their professions and the Board. Ms. Nobsisch noted that staff sent an email to all licensed soil scientists recognizing them on World Soil Day.

World Soil Day

Ms. Nobsisch requested Board members confirm their information on the board roster.

Other Business

Ms. Nobsisch informed board members that they will receive an email later this month from the Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council regarding their yearly statement of economic interests (SEI). Ms. Nobsisch stated that completion of the SEI form is a requirement for board members and that the online form must be completed by all board members between January 1, 2019 and January 14, 2019.

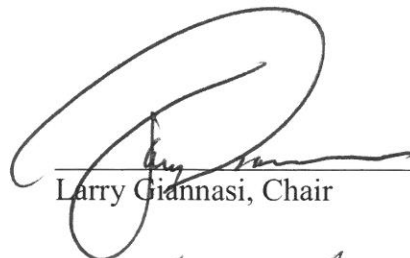
Statement of Economic Interest Form

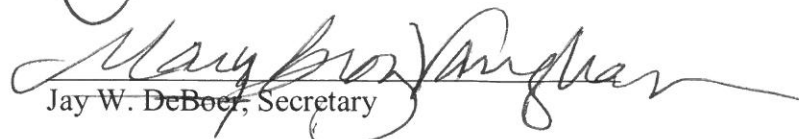
Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all Board members present.

Conflict of Interest Forms / Travel Vouchers

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Adjournment


Larry Giannasi, Chair


Jay W. DeBoer, Secretary

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

- 1. Name: Michael D. Lawless
- 2. Title: Board Member
- 3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
- 4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

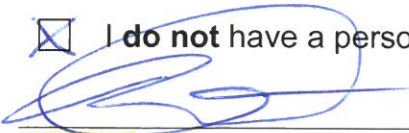
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.


Signature

12/6/18
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name: Justin T. Brown
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

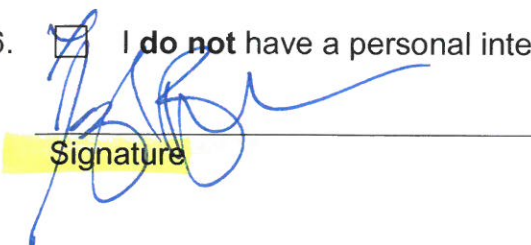
I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Signature



Date

12/6/18

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Alexis E. Jones
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

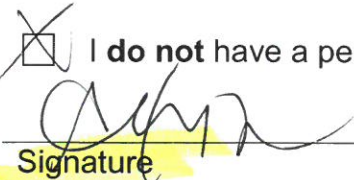
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.



Signature

Dec. 6, 2018

Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

- 1. Name: Bennette Burks
- 2. Title: Board Member
- 3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
- 4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Bennette D. Burks.
Signature

12/6/2018
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: R. Drew Thomas
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

R. Drew Thomas
Signature

12/6/18
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

- 1. Name: David Spears
- 2. Title: Board Member
- 3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
- 4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

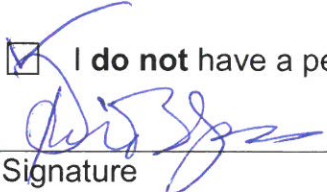
I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

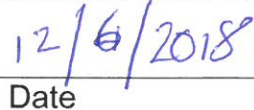
I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Signature



Date



**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Larry Giannasi
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

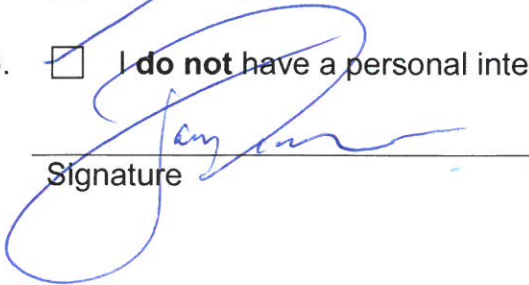
I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Signature



Date

12-6-18

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

- 1. Name: Robin Bedenbaugh
- 2. Title: Board Member
- 3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
- 4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Robin L. Bedenbaugh
Signature

12/6/18
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name: David Hall
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 6, 2018

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

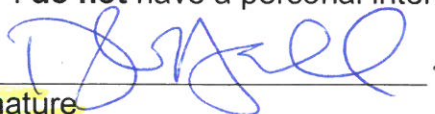
I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Signature



Date

