# BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS, WETLAND PROFESSIONALS and GEOLOGISTS MEETING March 28, 2023

# ics for discussion di discussion discussion discussion discussion discussion 10:00 a.m. – Board Room $1-2^{nd}$ Floor **Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation** 9960 Mayland Drive Richmond, Virginia 23233 (804) 367-8514

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. **Emergency Evacuation Procedures**
- 3. Approval of Agenda
- 4. Approval of Minutes:
  - December 1, 2022, PSSWPG Board Meeting Minutes
  - January 26, 2023, Geology Regulatory Review Meeting Minutes
  - February 9, 2023, Geology Regulatory Review Meeting Minutes
- 5. Public Comment Period\*
- Resolution for David Spears 6.
- 7. 2024 ASBOG Meeting Dates
- 8. General Assembly Update
- 9. Regulatory Review - Geologists - NOIRA
- 10. Soil Scientists
  - ASA, CSSA, SSSA Science Policy Report: Farm Bill Priorities and Midterm Elections – Emailed November 17, 2022
  - ASA, CSSA, SSSA Science Policy Report: Thanksgiving Edition Emailed November 28, 2022
  - ASA, CSSA, SSSA Science Policy Report: Share your feedback on Conservation Funding – Emailed December 7, 2022
  - It's Here: 2022 ASA, CSSA, SSSA Wrapped Emailed December 27, 2022
- Wetland Professionals
  - Changes ahead for WSSI's Richmond office Emailed December 6, 2022
  - Field Notes: Vol. 30, No. 10 November 30, 2022 Emailed December 6, 2022 ii.
  - iii. Field Notes: Vol. 31, No. 1 – January 17, 2023 – Emailed January 17, 2023
  - Field Notes: Vol. 31, No. 2 January 25, 2023 Emailed January 25, 2023 iv.

- 12. Geologists
  - Call for Nominations Committee Members Emailed January 30, 2023 and FOR discussion board bosition February 13, 2023
- 13. Licensed and Certified Population
- 14. **Financial Statements**
- 15. Other Business
- 16. Conflict of Interest / Travel Vouchers
- 17. Adjourn

# **NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR June 27, 2023**

Agenda materials available to the public do not include disciplinary case files or application files

e exception of any open discipling on the code of Virginia.

Le exception of any open discipling ang special accommodations or interpreta prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangement capartment fully complies with the Americans with E. \*Five minute public comment, per person, with the exception of any open disciplinary or application files. Persons desiring to participate in the meeting and requiring special accommodations or interpretative services should contact the Department at (804) 367-8514 at least ten days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made for an appropriate accommodation. The Department fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.



Materials contained in this agenda are proposed topics for discussion And are not to be construed as regulation or official board position

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

The Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on December 1, 2022 at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present for all or part of the meeting:

CitizensGeologistsBennette BurksMichael LawlessRobin JonesDrew ThomasDavid SpearsWarren "Ted" Dean

Soil Scientists
David Hall

Wetland Delineators
Justin Brown

Board members Robin Bedenbaugh, Doug DeBerry, Larry Giannasi, Alexis Jones, and Molly Parker were not present at the meeting.

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Demetrios Melis, Director Kishore Thota, Chief Deputy Director Kathleen (Kate) R. Nosbisch, Executive Director Bonnie Davis, Regulatory Operations Administrator Amy Goobic, Executive Assistant

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

Mr. Thomas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Call to Order

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

**Emergency Evacuation** 

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that Steve Kirschner, former Executive Director for the Board for Barbers & Cosmetology and the Board for Hearing Aid Specialists & Opticians, has been promoted to Deputy Director of Licensing and Regulatory Operations. Ms. Nosbisch further stated that Mr. Kirschner was out of town and sends his regrets. She also said that Mr. Giannassi, Mr. Bedenbaugh and Dr. DeBerry, all send their regrets.

**Announcements** 

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that Breanne Henshaw, former Administrative Coordinator had been promoted to Licensing Operations Administrator, and Bonnie Davis, also a former Administrative Coordinator, is now the Regulatory Operations Administrator.

Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists December 1, 2022 Page 2 of 3

Mr. Thomas informed the Board that as they did not have a quorum present, they could not vote on approval of the agenda or minutes.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

There was no public comment.

<u>Public Comment</u> Period

Ms. Nosbisch introduced audience member Kerri O'Brien, DPOR Communications & Digital Media Manager.

**Introduction** 

Mr. Thomas provided the dates for upcoming ASBOG meetings: spring COE Workshop April 13-15, 2023, in Greenville, SC; fall Administrator's Workshop and Annual Meeting, October 23-25, 2023, in Spokane, WA; fall COE Workshop, October 26-27, 2023, in Spokane, WA.

**2023 ASBOG Meeting Dates** 

Mr. Thomas provided a brief report on the October ASBOG meetings held in Wilmington, NC. He stated that major topics included computer-based testing, which will begin spring 2023, administered by Prometric; and the 2022 Task Analysis Survey.

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that each board is undergoing the regulatory review process in order to adhere to Governor Youngkin's Regulatory Reduction Initiative, reducing regulations by 25%. She then provided an in depth presentation on the regulatory review process. Ms. Nosbisch explained that the Board will be looking to eliminate regulations that are duplicative of statutes, do not pertain to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens, or are overly burdensome to licensees.

Regulatory Review Presentation

Ms. Nosbisch recommended separating the three profession's regulations to begin the review process. She suggested starting with the Geology regulations, with a committee of one or two board members, one citizen member and possibly outside sublect matter experts. Ms. Jones, Mr. Lawless and Mr. Thomas volunteered to the committee. Ms. Nosbisch stated the Committee will meet in January, date to be determined.

Mr. Thomas reviewed the licensee counts as of November 1, 2022: Soil Scientists – 83; Wetland Delineators – 118; Geologists – 920.

Licensed and Certified Population

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that the financial statements were included for informational purposes.

Financial Statements

December 1, 2022 Page 3 of 3 Ms. Nosbisch thanked the Board members that were able to attend the Board **Other Business** Member Training Conference held in Williamsburg, October 13-14. The next conference will be held in 2024. Ms. Nosbisch stated that she had not yet received information on Board appointments. Ms. Nosbisch announced that Mr. Spears is retiring as the State Geologist, and this would be his last Board meeting. Matt Heller, previously with the Virginia State Geological Survey, will be his replacement. Ms. Davis reported that the regulatory package regarding the fee adjustment is at the Governor's office for review. Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all board **Conflict of Interest** Forms/Travel members present. Vouchers There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m. Adjournment R. Drew Thomas, Chair Materials contained in And are not to be Demetrious Melis, Secretary

Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists

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

The Geology Section of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on January 26, 2023 at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present for all or part of the meeting:

## **Geologists**

Michael Lawless
Drew Thomas
Matt Heller

Demetrios Melis, Director, Kishore Thota, Chief Deputy Director, Stephen Kirschner, LRPD Deputy Directory, and Board Member, Warren "Ted" Dean were not present at the meeting.

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Kathleen (Kate) R. Nosbisch, Executive Director Bonnie Davis, Regulatory Operations Administrator

Josh Laws, Assistant Attorney General, was not present from the office of the Attorney General.

Mr. Thomas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Call to Order Mr. Thomas advised the Board of the emergency evacuation procedure **Emergency Evacuation** Ms. Nosbisch introduced the new ex officio Board member State Geologist Matt Welcome and Heller. Staff and the board members introduced themselves. Introductions Mr. Lawless moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Heller seconded the motion, Approval of which was unanimously approved by members: Heller, Lawless, and Thomas. Agenda There was no one present for public comment. **Public Comment** Period Mr. Thomas stated the Section is aware of the deregulation of geologist bill and **Deregulation of** that the Section should recognize that as Board members we support the bill. **Geologists** Ms. Nosbisch discussed the upcoming ASBOG meeting: spring COE Workshop **2023 ASBOG** April 13-15, 2023, in Greenville, SC. Mr. Thomas stated he attended the fall **Meeting Dates** Workshop. Staff will request travel approval for Mr. Lawless to attend the spring Workshop.

Regulations for

the Geology

The Board completed a line-by-line review of the regulations using the

Regulatory Review Matrix Flowchart in order to determine the relevance of each

Page 2 of 2 regulation with Board Counsel. The Board reviewed regulation 18VAC145-40-Certification 10 through 18VAC145-40-60 during the first part of the meeting. **Program** The Board took a recess from 11:22 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Recess The Board continued to complete a line-by-line review of the regulations. Regulatory The Board reviewed regulation 18VAC145-40-70 through 18VAC145-40-Review 85. Regulatory Review will continue at the February 9, 2023 Geology Continued Section meeting. **Other Business** There was no other business. Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all board **Conflict of Interest** members present. Forms/Travel Vouchers There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m Adjournment R. Drew Thomas, Chair Demetrious Melis, Secretary Materials contained in the beco

Geology Section of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists

January 26, 2023

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

The Geology Section of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on February 9, 2023 at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present for all or part of the meeting:

## **Geologists**

Michael Lawless
Drew Thomas
Matt Heller

# Citizen

**Robin Jones** 

Demetrios Melis, Director, Kishore Thota, Chief Deputy Director, Kathleen (Kate) R. Nosbisch, Executive Director and Board Member, Warren "Ted" Dean were not present at the meeting with regrets.

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Stephen Kirschner, LRPD Deputy Directory Bonnie Davis, Regulatory Operations Administrator

Josh Laws, Assistant Attorney General, was not present from the office of the Attorney General.

Mr. Thomas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Call to Order

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

Emergency

Evacuation

Ms. Davis introduced Steve Kirschner as the Deputy Director of the Licensing and Regulatory Programs Division. Staff and the board members introduced Introductions

themselves.

Mr. Lawless moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Heller, Jones, Lawless, and Thomas.

Approval of Agenda

Agenda

There was no one present for public comment.

Public Comment

Period

Geology Section of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists February 9, 2023
Page 2 of 2

Mr. Kirschner stated that Senate Bill (SB1480) Professional and Occupational Regulation, Department of; deregulation of certain professions was passed by indefinitely. He advised the Section of the Board of Professional and Occupational Regulation (BPOR) role in determining the need for registration. to determine if the profession should be deregulated. The BPOR board will be using § 54.1-311. Degrees of regulation to determine if the professions are properly structured as the Code describes. Mr. Thomas stated the bill triggered interest from the professional community.

Deregulation of Geologists

The Section completed a line-by-line review of the regulations using the Regulatory Review Matrix Flowchart in order to determine the relevance of each regulation. The Board reviewed regulation 18VAC145-40-85 through 18VAC145-40-150.

Regulations for the Geology Certification Program

The Section requested staff to provide language for ethical character and criminal history for consideration.

There was no other business.

Materials contained in And are not to be c

**Other Business** 

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 12:30 p.m.

Adjournment

R. Drew Thomas, Chair

Demetrious Melis, Secretary

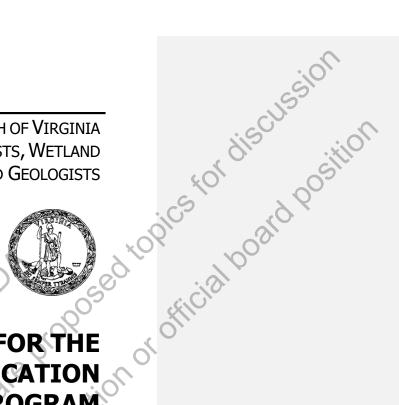
# **Public Comment**



- Javid Spears
  JG Meeting Dates
  JAssembly Update
  Assembly Update

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS, WETLAND PROFESSIONALS, AND GEOLOGISTS



# **REGULATIONS FOR THE GEOLOGY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

Last Updated January 1, 2015



9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 400 Richmond, Virginia 23233 (804) 367-8500 www.dpor.virginia.gov

### NOTICE SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

Topics for discussion of the control Included in this document are relevant excerpts from the Virginia Administrative Code. Please note that the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists is responsible for promulgating regulations in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.), and the Virginia Code Commission is responsible for compiling and codifying all of the administrative regulations of state agencies into the Virginia Administrative Code.

It is your responsibility to stay informed and follow all regulations and statutes governing your profession or occupation. As a regulant of the Board, you should read and become familiar with all regulations applicable to your profession or occupation. You can stay informed of regulatory actions that may result in changes to the regulations at Virginia Regulatory Town Hall (www.townhall.virginia.gov).

effective January 1, 2015.

o adjust fees as necessary in accordance with alt of this adjustment, the fees for initial at have been increased. This document is a complete, edited (unofficial) copy of the Regulations for the Geology Certification

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### PART I.

### **GENERAL**

### 18VAC145-40-10. Definitions.

The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Board" means the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists.

"Geologist" means a person engaged in the public practice of "Ethical Character" may be established if the applicant or regul

Formatter Thas 1. Has not been convicted of a non-marijuana misdemeanor in the ever been convicted of a felony that would render the applicant unfit or unsuited to engage in the occupation or profession applied for in accordance with § 54.1-204 of the Code of Virginia;

2. Has not committed any act involving dishonesty, fraud, misrepresentation, breach of fiduciary duty, negligence, or incompetence reasonably related to:

licensure, certification, or registration; or

b. The area of practice related to licensure, certification, or registration by the poard while under the authority of the board;

3. Has not engaged in fraud or misrepresentation in connection with the application for icensure, certification, or registration, or related

been disciplined by the Commonwealth or by any other jurisdiction, or surrendered or has surrendered a license, certificate, or registration in lieu of disciplinary action; or

5. Has not practiced without the required license, registration, or certification in the Commonwealth or in another jurisdiction within the five years immediately preceding he filing of the application for licensure, certification, or registration by the Commonwealth. 2/22/23 per Kate add.

'Geologist-in-Training (GIT)" means an individual who has completed the academic requirements specified in this chapter and has passed the Fundamentals of Geology examination, but has not met all requirements to qualify as a Virginia certified professional geologist.

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"Geology" means the science dealing with (i) the earth and its history in general; (ii) the investigation, prediction, evaluation, and location of materials and structures which compose the earth; (iii) the natural processes that cause changes in the earth; and (iv) the application of knowledge of the earth, its processes, and its constituent rocks, minerals, liquids, gases and other natural materials.

"Practice of geology" means the performance of any service or work for the generalpublic wherein the principles and methods of geology are applied.

"Qualified geologist" means an uncertified person who possesses all the qualifications specified in § 54.1-2208.2 of the Code of Virginia for certification.

"Related geological science degree" means a degree that shall include 30 semester hours from courses in the geosciences, including 12 or more semester hours from at least four of the following disciplines: , but not be limited to, a degree in economic geology or petroleum geology, stratigraphy, structural geology, hydrogeology, mineralogy, petrology, geomorphology, and field geology.

"Responsible charge" means the direct control and supervision of the practice of geology.

"Supervision" means quality control review of all significant data collection, interpretation and conclusions.

"Virginin certified professional geologist" means a person who possesses all qualifications specified in this chapter for certification and whose competence has been attested by the board through certification.

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### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 1.1, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012; Volume 29, Issue 5, eff. January 1, 2013.

### 18VAC145-40-20. Fees. Fee adjustment is in process

All fees for application, examination, renewal, and reinstatement shall be established by the board pursuant to § 54.1-201 of the Code of Virginia. All fees are nonrefundable and shall not be prorated.

- The application fee for certification shall be \$90. 1.
- 2. The fee for renewal of certification shall be \$70.
- The application fee for the Geologist-in-Training (GIT) designation shall be \$20. 3.
- The fee for examination or reexamination is subject to contracted charges to the 4. department by an outside vendor. These contracts are competitively negotiated and bargained for in compliance with the Virginia Public Procurement Act (§ 2.2-4300 et seq. of the Code of Virginia). Fees may be adjusted and charged to the candidate in accordance with this contract.
- 5. The penalty fee for late renewal shall be \$25 in addition to the renewal fee.
- The reinstatement fee shall be \$90 6.

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 1.3, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 15, Issue 18, eff. July 1, 1999; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 22, Issue 26, eff. November 1, 2006; Volume 27, Issue 12, eff. April 1, 2011; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012; Volume 29, Issue 5, eff. January 1, 2013; Volume 31, Issue 7, eff. January 1, 2015.

# 18VAC145-40-30. Expiration, renewal and fee of certificate holders.

- Certificates issued under this chapter shall expire on August 31 of the oddnumbered year following the date of issuance. Certificate holders shall be notified by mail of the fee and the procedure for certificate renewal at least 45 days before the certificate expires. Each certificate holder desiring to renew his certificate shall submit the renewal notice with the appropriate fee before the certificate expires.
- There shall be a penalty fee for late renewal assessed in addition to the renewal 3

- fee for any certificate holder failing to renew the certificate within 30 days following the date of expiration.
- e Jiopics for discussion ostilon C. Failure to receive written notice from the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation does not relieve the regulant from the requirement to renew his certificate. If the certificate holder fails to receive the renewal notice, a copy of the certificate may be submitted with the required fee.
- D. The date a fee is received by the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, or its agent, will be used to determine whether a penalty fee or the requirement for reinstatement of a certificate is applicable.
- E. Revoked or suspended certificates are not renewable until reinstated by the

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 1.4, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012.

### 18VAC145-40-40. Reinstatements.

If the certificate holder fails to renew the certificate within six months following the expiration date, the certificate holder will be required to apply for reinstatement of the certificate. The board may grant reinstatement of the certificate, or require requalification or reexamination, or both. The application fee for reinstatement of a certificate shall be the amount established in 18VAC145-40-20.

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 1.5, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 22, Issue 26, eff. November 1, 2006; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012.

### 18VAC145-40-50. Status of certification during the period prior to reinstatement.

- Reinstated certifications shall continue to have the same certification number and shall A. expire on August 31 of the odd-numbered year following the date of reinstatement.
- Reinstated certifications shall be regarded as having been continuously licensed without В. interruption. Therefore, the holder of the reinstated certification shall remain under the disciplinary authority of the board during this entire period and may be held accountable for his activities during this period.
- Certifications which are not renewed or reinstated shall be regarded as expired from the

date of the expiration forward.

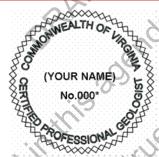
### Historical Notes:

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### 18VAC145-40-60. Use of seal.

A certified professional geologist may apply a rubber stamp or preprinted seal to final and complete cover sheets and to each original sheet of plans or drawings prepared or reviewed and approved by the regulant. The seal may be applied to the cover sheet of technical reports and specifications prepared or reviewed and approved by the regulant.

- All seal imprints on final documents shall be signed. 1.
- 2. Application of the seal and signature shall indicate acceptance of responsibility for work shown thereon.
- 3. The original seal shall be two inches in diameter and conform to the design illustrated



below: The seal shall conform in detail and \*The number on the seal is referred to is the number, usually three or four digits, as shown on the wall certificate and is the license renewal number issued each biennium as indicated on the licensee's pocket eardthe last four digits of your license number. The number will not change

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 1.7, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012.

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### PART II.

### **ENTRY**

### 18VAC145-40-70. Qualifications for certification.

- A. <u>In addition to the requirements in 54.1-2208E.2a, each applicant for certification as a certified-professional geologist in Virginia shall:</u>
  - 1. Make application on forms provided by the board;
  - Be of ethical character; 2/22/23 per Kate put back in and then put the definition at the beginning.
  - 3. Hold a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university with a major in geology, engineering geology, geological engineering or a related geological science. In the absence of one of the aforementioned degrees, each applicant shall provide evidence of the satisfactory completion of 30-semester hours (or the equivalent) of geological science courses including, but not limited to, the following subjects:

a. Stratigraphy;

b. Structural geology

c. Mineralogy;

d. Paleontology;

e. Petrology; f. Geomorphology; and

g. Field geology.

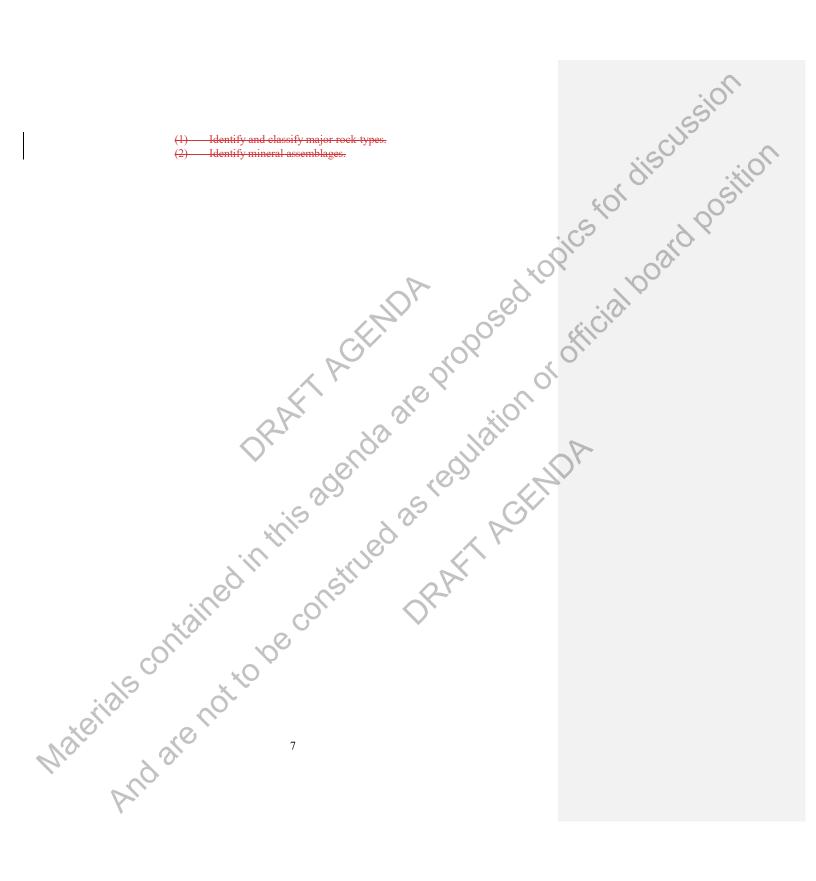
At least 12 semester hours must have been completed in four of the seven subjects listed in this subsection.

- 4. Provide the board with written documentation that demonstrates that the course satisfactorily completed by the applicant are equivalent to these required by this section.
- 5-3. Have at least seven years of geological work that shall include either a minimum of three years of geological work under the supervision of a qualified or certified professional geologist, or a minimum of three years of experience in responsible charge of geological work. The work shall include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following areas:
- a. Mineralogy.

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- Determine probable genesis and sequence of mineral assemblages.
- Identify minerals on the basis of chemical composition.
- Predict subsurface mineral characteristics on the basis of exposures and drillholes.

### b. Petrography/petrology.

- Identify and classify major rock types.
- Determine physical properties of rocks.
- Determine chemical properties of rocks.
- Determine types or degrees of rock alteration
- Determine suites of rock types.

### c. Geochemistry.

- Establish analytical objectives and approaches.
- Evaluate geochemical data.
- Construct models based on res
- Posed to pics to discussion of official board position attorned at Make recommendations based upon results of geochemical analyses.

### d. Hydrogeology.

- et hydrologic testing prog
- Utilize chemical data to evaluate hydrogeologic conditions
- ACEMDA Apply geophysical methods to analyze hydrogeologic conditions.
- Determine physical and chemical properties of aquifers and
- Evaluate groundwater resources.
- Evaluate groundwater quality.
- Design wells and drilling programs.
- Develop groundwater resource management plans.
- Plan and evaluate remedial action programs.

### Engineering geology.

- Provide geological information and interpretations for engineering design.
- Identify and evaluate potential seismic and other geologichazards.
- Provide geologic consultation during and after construction.
- Develop and interpret engineering geology maps and sections.
- Evaluate materials resources.
- Define and establish site selection and evaluation criteria.
- Design and implement field and laboratory programs.

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(8) Describe and sample soils for geologic analysis and materials properties testing.

f.—Mining geology.

Formulate exploration programs.

- (2) Implement field investigations on prospects.
- (3) Perform geologic interpretations for mineral reserves.
- Perform economic analyses/appraisals.
- (5) Provide geologic interpretations for mine development and production activities.
- 6) Provide geologic interpretations for mine abandonments, closures, or restorations.

<del>g.f.</del> h.g. Petroleum geology.

- (1) Formulate exploration programs.
- (2) Implement field investigations on prospects.
- (3) Perform geologic interpretations of physical properties and hydrocarbon reserves.
- (4) Perform petroleum economic analyses/appraisals.
- (5) Provide geologic interpretations for development and production activities.
- (6) Provide geologic interpretations for abandonments, closures, or restorations.
- Applicants holding degrees other than those listed in 54.1-2208.2.B.2 shall provide
  the board with written documentation that demonstrates that the courses satisfactorily
  completed by the applicant are equivalent geological science courses.
- Each year of full time undergraduate study in the geological sciences shall count as one half year of experience up to a maximum of two years, and each year of full—time graduate study shall count as a year of experience up to a maximum of three-years. Credit for undergraduate and graduate study shall in no case exceed a total of four years toward meeting the requirements for at least seven years of geological work. The board may consider in lieu of the above described geological work, the cumulative total of geological work or geological research of persons occupying research or post-graduate positions as well as those teaching geology courses at the college or university level, provided such work or research can be demonstrated to be of a sufficiently responsible nature to be equivalent to the geological work-required above.
- 1.C. A year of full-time employment is a minimum of 1,760 hours or 220 workdays in a 12 month period. 32 hours per week More than 1,760 hours or 220 workdays during a 12 month period shall not be considered as more than one year of full-time experience. Partial credit may be given for actual hours of work or workdays experience if the applicant works as a geologist less than full time.

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C. Each applicant shall successfully pass an appropriate examination approved by the board and designed to demonstrate that the applicant has the necessary knowledge and skill to exercise the responsibilities of the public practice of geology.

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 2.1, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012.

### 18VAC145-40-80. Waiver of examination.

The board may waive the examination requirement for any applicant who makes written application, otherwise meets the requirements of Chapter 22 (§ 54.1 2200 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia and also meets one of the following conditions:

- Provides evidence of at least 12 years of geological work that includes the geological work as specified in 18VAC145 40 70; or
- Provides evidence of an unexpired certificate of registration, certification or license to engage in the practice of geology issued on the basis of comparable requirements by a proper authority of a state, territory or possession of the United States or the District of Columbia.

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 2.2, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012.

# 18VAC145-40-83. Qualifications for the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) examination.

The board may approve applicants to sit for the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) examination without having met the experience requirements of 18VAC145-40-7054.1-2208.2.B.3. The applicant shall submit an application on forms provided by the board, pay the fee established in 18VAC145-40-20, and satisfy one of the following requirements:

- Hold a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university with a major in geology, engineering geology, geological engineering, or a related geological science and provide an official college transcript that demonstrates satisfactory completion of the degree program.
- 2. Hold a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university with a major other than geology, engineering geology, geological engineering, or a related geological science and have satisfactorily 10

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least 30 semester hours (or the equivalent) of geological science courses.including, but not limited to, the following subjects:

- Stratigraphy;
- Structural geology;
- e. Mineralogy;
- d. Paleontology;
- Petrology;
- Geomorphology; and
- g. Field geology.

At least 12 of the 30 semester hours of geologic been completed in four of the seven subjects listed in this subsection. The applicant shall provide an official college transcript and written documentation that demonstrates the eourses satisfactorily completed are courses satisfactorily completed by the applicant are equivalent geological science courses.equivalent to those required by this section.

- 3. Be enrolled in an undergraduate geology, engineering geology, geological engineering, or a related geological science curriculum of at least four years at an accredited college or university and be within 12 months of completing undergraduate degree requirements. The applicant shall provide an official college transcript that demonstrates satisfactory completion of course work.
- 4. Be enrolled in a graduate geology, engineering geology, geological engineering, or a related geological science curriculum at an accredited college or university and be within six months of completing graduate degree requirements. The applicant shall provide an official college transcript that demonstrates satisfactory completion of course work.

### Historical Notes:

Derived from Virginia Register Volume 29, Issue 5, eff. January 1, 2013

# 18VAC145-40-85. Qualifications for Geologist-in-Training (GIT) designation.

To be eligible to obtain the GIT designation, each applicant shall:

- Make application on for 2.1. Be of ethical character; application on forms provided by the board;

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- Hold a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university with a major other than geology, engineering geology, geological engineering, or a related geological science and have satisfactorilycompleted at least 30 semester hours (or the equivalent) of geologicalscience courses including, but not limited to, the following subjects: stratigraphy, structural geology, mineralogy, paleontology, petrology, geomorphology, and field geology. At least 12 of the 30 semester hours of geological science courses must have been completed in four of the sevensubjects listed in this subsection.
- B. Prior to obtaining the designation of GIT, an applicant who qualified to sit for a board-approved Fundamentals of Geology examination under subdivision 3 or 4 of 18VAC145-40-83 and passed the examination must provide an official college transcript that demonstrates satisfactory completion of the degree program.
- C. The designation of GIT will remain valid until the individual meets all requirements for certification as a Virginia certified professional geologist.
- Historical Notes:

  Derived from Virginia Register Volume 29, Issue 5, eff. January 1, 2013. The designation of GIT does not give an individual the authority to practice as a

### PART III.

### STANDARDS OF PRACTICE AND CONDUCT

### 18VAC145-40-90. Disclosure.

A certified professional geologist:

- 1. Shall not submit any false statements or fail to disclose any facts requested concerning his or another's application for certification.
- Shall not falsely or maliciously attempt to injure the reputation or business of another.
- 3-2. Shall not engage in any fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation in advertising, in soliciting or in providing professional services.
- 4-3. Shall not knowingly sign, stamp, or seal any plans, drawings, blueprints, surveys, reports, specifications, or other documents not prepared or reviewed and approved by the certificate holder.
- 5.4. Shall make full disclosure to all parties of:
  - a. Any transaction involving payments made to any person for the purpose of securing a contract, assignment of engagement; or PARKING LOT KATE
  - Any monetary, financial or beneficial interest he may have in any contract or entity providing goods or services, other than his professional services, to a project or engagement.
- 6. Shall express an opinion only when it is founded on adequate knowledge of established facts at issue, on a background of technical competence in the subject matter, and on an honest conviction of the accuracy of the testimony when serving as an expert or technical witness before any court, commission, or other tribunal. 2/23/23 per Kate delete this and the below.
- 7. Shall provide adequate representation of his qualifications and scope of responsibilities for all previous experience claimed when negotiating with prospective clients.

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 3.1, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24,

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### 18VAC145-40-100. Change of address or name.

Each certified professional geologist and geologist in training shall notify the board, in writing, of any change of address or name. This notification shall be sent to the board within 30 days after such change of address or name.

### Historical Notes:

A topics for discussion of the control of the contr Derived from Virginia Register Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; amended, Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August

### 18VAC145-40-110. Compliance with other laws.

A certified professional geologist:

- Shall comply with all federal, state, and local building, fire, safety, real estate, or mining codes, as well as any other laws, codes, ordinances, or regulations pertaining to the practice of geology.
- 2. Shall not violate any state or federal criminal statute, including fraud, misrepresentation, embezzlement, bribery, theft, forgery, or breach of fiduciary duty relating to his professional practice.
- 3. Shall immediately notify the client or employer and the appropriate regulatory agency if his professional judgment is overruled and not adhered to in circumstances of a serious threat to the public health, safety, or welfare. If appropriate remedial action is not taken within a reasonable amount of time after making the report, he shall notify the appropriate governmental authority of the specific nature of the public threat.
- Shall give written notice to the board, and shall cooperate with the board and the 4. department in furnishing any further information or assistance needed, if he knows or believes that another geologist/firm may be violating any of the provisions of Chapter 22 (§ 54.1-2200 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, or this chapter.

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 3.2, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff.

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### 18VAC145-40-120. Conflicts of interest.

A certified professional geologist shall not:

- Accept any work on any project or other professional engagement when a duty to a client or to the public would conflict with his personal interest or the interest of another client, unless immediate disclosure of all material facts of the conflict is made to each client related to the project or engagement.
- Accept compensation for services related to the same project or professional engagement from more than one party without making prior full disclosure to all parties involved.
- The regulant shall not solicit or accept gratuities, directly or indirect contractors, their agents, or other parties dealing with a client or employer in connection with work for which the regulant is responsible. 2/22 this and delete the below.
- Offer, either directly or indirectly, any commission, poli employment agencies PARKING LOT KATE

### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 3.3, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012.

### 18VAC145-40-130. Competence for assignments.

A certified professional geologist:

- Shall exercise reasonable care when rendering professional services and shall apply the technical knowledge and skills ordinarily applied by practicing geologists.
- 2. Shall not accept any professional assignment or engagement that he is not competent to perform by way of education, technical knowledge, or experience. An assignment requiring education or experience outside his field of competence
- b. All other phases of the project are performed by qualified associates, His professional services are restricted to those phases of the project in

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1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff. August 15, 2012.

#### 18VAC145-40-140. Grounds for suspension, revocation, or denial to renew or grantcertification.

ations of discussion discussion of the discussio The board may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the certification of any geologist who, after a formal hearing as provided for in the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia), is found to have committed:

- Fraud or deceit in obtaining or renewing certification (See 54.1-111 of the Code of Virginia);
- Any violation of Part III -- Standards of Practice of the board, or governing statutes of the board;
- An act or acts of gross negligence, incompetence, of geology as a certified professional geologist; or
- Any conviction of a felony that affect the practice of geology

#### Historical Notes:

Derived from VR335-01-2 § 3.5, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 2 August 15, 2012.

## 18VAC145-40-150. Reissuance of certificate after revocation.

An individual whose certificate has been revoked in accordance with 18VAC145-40-140 shall file a new application and obtain approval of the board to regain the certificate.

.6, eff. February 1, 1988 , eff. February 1, 1995; Volun Derived from VR335-01-2 § 3.6, eff. February 1, 1988; amended, Virginia Register Volume 7, Issue 13, eff. April 24, 1991; Volume 11, Issue 6, eff. February 1, 1995; Volume 22, Issue 21, eff. August 1, 2006; Volume 28, Issue 23, eff.

3d to pics for discussion of the original position original position original position original Included in this booklet are relevant excerpts from the Code of Virginia. Please note that the Virginia General Assembly is responsible for creating and amending the Code, not the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists. The version contained herein contains all changes, if any, that have been made by the General Assembly through the 2012 session. Any changes made during the 2012 session became effective July 1, 2012, unless otherwise noted. It is your responsibility to stay informed of revisions to the regulations and the statutes governing your profession or occupation. Please consult the General Assembly or your local library for annual changes.

#### § 54.1-2200. (Effective until July 1, 2013) Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Board" means the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists.

"Department" means the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

"Eligible soil scientist" means a person who possesses the qualifications specified in this chapter to become certified.

"Eligible wetland professional" means a person who possesses the qualifications specified in this chapter to become certified.

"Geologist" means a person engaged in the public practice of geology.

"Geology" means the science dealing with (i) the earth and its history in general; (ii) the investigation, prediction, evaluation, and location of materials and structures which compose the earth; (iii) the natural processes that cause changes in the earth; and (iv) the application of knowledge of the earth, its processes, and its constituent rocks, minerals, liquids, gases, and other natural materials.

"Practice of geology" means the performance of any service or work for the general public wherein the principles and methods of geology are applied.

"Practice of soil evaluation" means the evaluation of soil by accepted principles and methods including, but not limited to, observation, investigation, and consultation on measured, observed and inferred soils and their properties; analysis of the effects of these properties on the use and management of various kinds of soil; and preparation of soil descriptions, maps, reports and interpretive drawings.

"Practice of wetland delineation" means the delineation of wetlands by accepted principles and methods including, but not limited to, observation, investigation, and consultation on soil, vegetation, and hydrologic parameters; and preparation of wetland delineations, descriptions, reports and interpretive drawings.

"Qualified geologist" means an uncertified person who possesses all the qualifications specified in this chapter for certification.

"Soil" means the groups of natural bodies occupying the unconsolidated portion of the earth's surface which are capable of supporting plant life and have properties caused by the combined effects, as modified by topography and time, of climate and living organisms upon parent

"Soil evaluation" means plotting soil boundaries, describing and evaluating the kinds of soil and predicting their suitability for and response to various uses.

"Soil science" means the science dealing with the physical, chemical, mineralogical, and biological properties of soils as natural bodies.

"Soil scientist" means a person having special knowledge of soil science and the methods and principles of soil evaluation as acquired by education and experience in the formation, description and mapping of soils.

"Virginia certified professional geologist" means a person who possesses all qualifications specified in this chapter for certification and whose competence has been attested by the Board through certification.

as nd to discussion of the state of the stat "Virginia certified professional soil scientist" means a person who possesses the qualifications required for certification by the provisions of this chapter and the regulations of the Board and who has been granted certification by the Board.

"Virginia certified professional wetland delineator" means a person who possesses the qualifications required for certification by the provisions of this chapter and the regulations of the Board and who is granted certification by the Board.

"Wetland delineation" means delineating wetland limits in accordance with prevailing state and federal regulatory guidance and describing wetland types.

"Wetland professional" means a person having special knowledge of wetland science and the methods and principles of wetland delineation as acquired by education and experience in the formation, description and mapping of wetlands.

"Wetland science" means the science dealing with the physical, chemical, and biological properties of wetland systems integrated through ecological and morphological relationships "Wetlands" means the same as that term is defined in §§ 28.2-1300 and 62.1-44.3. (1987, c. 626, § 54-969; 1988, c. 765; 1993, c. 499; 2002, c. 784; 2012, cc. 803, 835.)

## § 54.1-2200. (Effective July 1, 2013) Definitions.

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Board" means the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists.

"Department" means the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

"Eligible soil scientist" means a person who possesses the qualifications specified in this chapter to become licensed.

"Eligible wetland professional" means a person who possesses the qualifications specified in this chapter to become certified.

"Geologist" means a person engaged in the public practice of geology.

"Geology" means the science dealing with (i) the earth and its history in general; (ii) the investigation, prediction, evaluation, and location of materials and structures which compose the earth; (iii) the natural processes that cause changes in the earth; and (iv) the application of knowledge of the earth, its processes, and its constituent rocks, minerals, liquids, gases, and other natural materials.

"Practice of geology" means the performance of any service or work for the general public wherein the principles and methods of geology are applied.

"Practice of soil evaluation" means the evaluation of soil by accepted principles and methods including, but not limited to, observation, investigation, and consultation on measured,

observed and inferred soils and their properties; analysis of the effects of these properties on the use and management of various kinds of soil; and preparation of soil descriptions, maps, reports and interpretive drawings.

"Practice of wetland delineation" means the delineation of wetlands by accepted principles and methods including, but not limited to, observation, investigation, and consultation on soil, vegetation, and hydrologic parameters; and preparation of wetland delineations, descriptions, reports and interpretive drawings.

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"Soil" means the groups of natural bodies occupying the unconsolidated portion of the earth's surface which are capable of supporting plant life and have properties caused by the combined effects, as modified by topography and time, of climate and living organisms upon parent materials.

"Soil evaluation" means plotting soil boundaries, describing and evaluating the kinds of soil and predicting their suitability for and response to various uses.

"Soil science" means the science dealing with the physical, chemical, mineralogical, and biological properties of soils as natural bodies.

"Soil scientist" means a person having special knowledge of soil science and the methods and principles of soil evaluation as acquired by education and experience in the formation, description and mapping of soils.

"Virginia certified professional geologist" means a person who possesses all qualifications specified in this chapter for certification and whose competence has been attested by the Board through certification.

"Virginia certified professional wetland delineator" means a person who possesses the qualifications required for certification by the provisions of this chapter and the regulations of the Board and who is granted certification by the Board.

"Virginia licensed professional soil scientist" means a person who possesses the qualifications required for licensure by the provisions of this chapter and the regulations of the Board and who has been granted a license by the Board.

"Wetland delineation" means delineating wetland limits in accordance with prevailing state and federal regulatory guidance and describing wetland types.

"Wetland professional" means a person having special knowledge of wetland science and the methods and principles of wetland delineation as acquired by education and experience in the formation, description and mapping of wetlands.

"Wetland science" means the science dealing with the physical, chemical, and biological properties of wetland systems integrated through ecological and morphological relationships. "Wetlands" means the same as that term is defined in §§ 28.2-1300 and 62.1-44.3. (1987, c. 626, § 54-969; 1988, c. 765; 1993, c. 499; 2002, c. 784; 2011, cc. 777, 859; 2012, cc. 803, 835.)

§ 54.1-2200.1. (Effective until July 1, 2013) Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists; membership; quorum.

- A. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 54.1-200, the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists shall be composed of 13 members as follows: three certified professional soil scientists, three certified professional wetland delineators, three geologists, and three citizen members. The State Geologist shall serve as an ex officio member of the Board. The geologist members shall be of varied backgrounds. The professional soil scientist members shall have experience in at least one of the following areas: (i) soil mapping and classification, (ii) soil suitability and land use, (iii) teaching and research in soil science, and (iv) environmental protection regulations. Of the wetland professional members, one shall have experience in wetland delineation and description, one shall have experience in teaching and research in wetland science, and one shall have experience with natural resource regulations. The terms of the members shall be for four years.
- B. The Board shall annually elect a chairman from its membership. Seven board members, consisting of at least two soil scientists, two professional wetland delineators, two geologists, and one citizen, shall constitute a quorum.
- Atopics for discussion di discussion discussion discussion discussion discussion discuss C. The Governor may select the professional soil scientist members from a list of at least three names for each vacancy submitted by the Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists. The Governor may notify the Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists of any professional vacancy other than by expiration among the professional soil scientist members of the Board and nominations may be made for the filling of the vacancy.
- D. The Governor may select the wetland professionals from a list of at least three names for each vacancy submitted by the Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals. The Governor may notify and request nominations from the Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals of any professional vacancy other than by expiration among the wetland professional members. (2012, cc. 803, 835.)

## § 54.1-2200.2. (Effective July 1, 2013) Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists; membership; quorum.

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 54.1-200, the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists shall be composed of 13 members as follows: three licensed professional soil scientists, three certified professional wetland delineators, three geologists, and three citizen members. The State Geologist shall serve as an ex officio member of the Board. The geologist members shall be of varied backgrounds. The professional soil scientist members shall have experience in at least one of the following areas: (i) soil mapping and classification, (ii) soil suitability and land use, (iii) teaching and research in soil science, and (iv) environmental protection regulations. Of the wetland professional members, one shall have experience in wetland delineation and description, one shall have experience in teaching and research in wetland science, and one shall have experience with natural resource regulations. Terms of the members shall be for four years.

- B. The Board shall annually elect a chairman from its membership. Seven board members, consisting of at least two soil scientists, two professional wetland delineators, two geologists, and one citizen, shall constitute a quorum.
- C. The Governor may select the professional soil scientist members from a list of at least three names for each vacancy submitted by the Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists.

The Governor may notify the Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists of any professional vacancy other than by expiration among the professional soil scientist members of the Board and nominations may be made for the filling of the vacancy.

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#### § 54.1-2201. (Effective until July 1, 2013) Exceptions.

A. The certification programs set forth in this chapter are voluntary and shall not be construed to prohibit:

- 1. The practice of soil evaluation or wetland delineation by individuals who are not certified soil scientists or certified professional wetland delineators as defined in this chapter;
- 2. The work of an employee or a subordinate of a certified soil scientist or of an individual who is practicing soil evaluation without being certified;
- 3. The work of an employee or a subordinate of a certified professional wetland delineator or of an individual who is practicing wetland delineation without being certified;
- 4. The work of any professional engineer, landscape architect, or land surveyor as defined by § 54.1-400 in rendering any of the services that constitute the practice of wetland delineation or the practice of soil evaluation; or
- 5. The practice of any profession or occupation which is regulated by another regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.
- B. Nothing in this chapter shall authorize an individual to engage in the practice of engineering, the practice of land surveying or the practice of landscape architecture, unless such individual is licensed or certified pursuant to Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of this title. (1987, c. 626, § 54-970; 1988, c. 765; 1993, c. 499; 2002, c. 784; 2009, c. 309.)

#### § 54.1-2201. (Effective July 1, 2013) Exceptions.

A. The certification program for wetland delineation set forth in this chapter shall be voluntary and shall not be construed to prohibit:

- 1. The practice of wetland delineation by individuals who are not certified professional wetland delineators as defined in this chapter;
- 2. The work of an employee or a subordinate of a certified professional wetland delineator or of an individual who is practicing wetland delineation without being certified;
- 3. The work of any professional engineer, landscape architect, or land surveyor as defined by § 54.1-400 in rendering any of the services that constitute the practice of wetland delineation or the practice of soil evaluation; or
- 4. The practice of any profession or occupation that is regulated by another regulatory board within the Department.
- B. The licensing program for professional soil scientists shall not be construed to prohibit:
- 1. The work of an employee or a subordinate of a licensed soil scientist;

- 2. The work of any professional engineer, landscape architect, or land surveyor as defined in § 54.1-400 in rendering any services that constitute the practice of soil evaluation; or
- 3. The practice of any profession or occupation that is regulated by another regulatory board within the Department.
- C. Nothing in this chapter shall authorize an individual to engage in the practice of engineering, the practice of land surveying or the practice of landscape architecture, unless such individual is licensed or certified pursuant to Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.). (1987, c. 626, § 54-970; 1988, c. 765; 1993, c. 499; 2002, c. 784; 2009, c. 309; 2011, cc. 777, 859.)

#### § 54.1-2202.

Repealed by Acts 2012, cc. 803 and 835, cl. 39.

#### § 54.1-2203. (Effective until July 1, 2013) Eligibility for certification.

3 to pics for discussion of the state of the A. Any person practicing or offering to practice as a soil scientist in the Commonwealth may submit to the Board evidence of qualification to be certified as provided in this chapter. The Board may certify any applicant who has satisfactorily met the requirements of this chapter and its regulations and shall specify on the certificate the appropriate endorsement.

- B. Any person practicing or offering to practice as a wetland professional in the Commonwealth may submit to the Board evidence of qualification to be a certified professional wetland delineator as provided in this chapter. The Board may certify any applicant who has satisfactorily met the requirements of this chapter and its regulations and shall specify on the certificate the appropriate endorsement.
- C. Any individual who allows his certification to lapse by failing to renew the certificate or failing to meet professional activity requirements stipulated in the regulations may be reinstated by the Board upon submission of satisfactory evidence that he is practicing in a competent manner and upon payment of the prescribed fee.

(1987, c. 626, § 54-973; 1988, c. 765; 2002, c. 784.)

## § 54.1-2203. (Effective July 1, 2013) Certification as wetland delineator.

A. Any person practicing or offering to practice as a wetland professional in the Commonwealth may submit to the Board evidence of qualification to be a certified professional wetland delineator as provided in this chapter. The Board may certify any applicant who has satisfactorily met the requirements of this chapter and its regulations and shall specify on the certificate the appropriate endorsement.

B. Any individual who allows his certification to lapse by failing to renew the certificate or failing to meet professional activity requirements stipulated in the regulations may be reinstated by the Board upon submission of satisfactory evidence that he is practicing in a competent manner and upon payment of the prescribed fee.

(1987, c. 626, § 54-973; 1988, c. 765; 2002, c. 784; 2011, cc. 777, 859.)

## § 54.1-2204. (Repealed effective July 1, 2013) Requirements for application for certification.

The Board may certify any applicant as a Virginia certified professional soil scientist who has submitted satisfactory evidence verified by affidavits that the applicant:

- 1. Is eighteen years of age or more;
- 2. Is of good moral character; and
- 3. Has successfully completed such educational and experiential requirements as are required by this chapter and the regulations of the Board.

\*Objection of the state of the

(1987, c. 626, § 54-974; 1988, c. 765.)

#### § 54.1-2205. (Effective until July 1, 2013) Requirements for certification.

A. In order to be certified as a professional soil scientist, an applicant shall achieve a score acceptable to the Board on an examination in the principles and practice of soil evaluation and satisfy one of the following criteria:

- 1. Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education in a soils curriculum which has been approved by the Board and have at least four years of experience in soil evaluation, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a professional soil scientist; or
- 2. Hold a bachelor's degree in one of the natural sciences and have at least five years of experience in soil evaluation, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a professional soil scientist; or
- 3. Have a record of at least eight years of experience in soil evaluation, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a professional soil scientist; or
- 4. Have at least four years of experience in soil science research or as a teacher of soils curriculum in an accredited institution of higher education which offers an approved four-year program in soils and at least two years of soil evaluation experience, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a professional soil scientist.
- B. Notwithstanding the requirements in subsection A, any person appointed to serve on the Board as a professional soil scientist member prior to July 1, 1991, shall be deemed certified for the purposes of this chapter.

(1987, c. 626, § 54-975; 1988, c. 765; 1991, c. 181.)

## § 54.1-2205. (Effective July 1, 2013) License required, application; requirements for licensure; continuing education.

A. No person shall engage in, or offer to engage in, the practice of soil evaluation in the Commonwealth unless he has been licensed under the provisions of this chapter.

B. In order to be licensed as a professional soil scientist, an applicant shall:

- 1. Submit satisfactory evidence verified by affidavits that the applicant:
- a. Is 18 years of age or older;
- b. Is of good moral character; and
- c. Has successfully completed such educational and experiential requirements as are required by this chapter and the regulations of the Board.

- 2. Achieve a score acceptable to the Board on an examination in the principles and practice of soil evaluation and satisfy one of the following criteria:
- ad to pics for discussion of the original position original position original position original a. Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education in a soils curriculum which has been approved by the Board and have at least four years of experience in soil evaluation, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a professional soil scientist; or
- b. Hold a bachelor's degree in one of the natural sciences and have at least five years of experience in soil evaluation, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a professional soil scientist; or
- c. Have a record of at least eight years of experience in soil evaluation, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a professional soil scientist; or
- d. Have at least four years of experience in soil science research or as a teacher of soils curriculum in an accredited institution of higher education which offers an approved four-year program in soils and at least two years of soil evaluation experience, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a professional soil scientist.
- C. The Board shall establish by regulation requirements for continuing education as a prerequisite to the maintenance and renewal of a license issued under this chapter, not to exceed eight contact hours per year.
- D. Individuals applying for a license as a professional soil scientist between July 1, 2013, and July 1, 2015, who (i) have been certified as professional soil scientists by the Board or (ii) have achieved a score set by the Board on the examination required by this section shall be licensed by the Board if all other requirements of this chapter or Board regulations have been met, unless an applicant is found by the Board to have engaged in any act that would constitute grounds for disciplinary action.

(1987, c. 626, § 54-975; 1988, c. 765; 1991, c. 181; 2011, cc. 777, 859.)

## § 54.1-2206. (Effective until July 1, 2013) Waiver of examination.

A. The Board may waive the requirement for examination pursuant to § 54.1-2205 upon written application from an individual who holds an unexpired certificate or its equivalent issued by a regulatory body of another state, territory or possession of the United States and is not the subject of any disciplinary proceeding before such regulatory body which could result in the suspension or revocation of his certificate, if such other state, territory or possession recognizes the certificates issued by the Board.

B. The Board shall waive the requirement for examination pursuant to § 54.1-2206.2 upon the

written application from an individual who holds an unexpired certificate or its equivalent issued by a regulatory body of another state, territory or possession of the United States or has been provisionally certified under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineator Certification Program of 1993 and is not the subject of any disciplinary proceeding before such regulatory body, which could result in the suspension or revocation of his certificate. (1987, c. 626, § 54-976; 1988, c. 765; 1991, c. 181; 2002, c. 784; 2003, c. 447; 2010, c. 91.)

### § 54.1-2206. (Effective July 1, 2013) Waiver of examination.

A. The Board may waive the requirement for examination pursuant to § 54.1-2205 upon written application from an individual who holds an unexpired certificate or license, or its equivalent, issued by a regulatory body of another state, territory or possession of the United States and is not the subject of any disciplinary proceeding before such regulatory body which could result in the suspension or revocation of his certificate or license, if such other state, territory or possession recognizes the license issued by the Board.

Atopics for discussion di discussion discussion discussion discussion discussion discuss B. The Board shall waive the requirement for examination pursuant to § 54.1-2206.2 upon the written application from an individual who holds an unexpired certificate or its equivalent issued by a regulatory body of another state, territory or possession of the United States or has been provisionally certified under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineator Certification Program of 1993 and is not the subject of any disciplinary proceeding before such regulatory body, which could result in the suspension or revocation of his certificate. (1987, c. 626, § 54-976; 1988, c. 765; 1991, c. 181; 2002, c. 784; 2003, c. 447; 2010, 2011, cc. 777, 859.)

### § 54.1-2206.1. Requirements for application for professional wetland delineator certification.

The Board may certify any applicant as a Virginia certified professional wetland delineator who has submitted satisfactory evidence verified by affidavits that the applicant:

- 1. Is eighteen years of age or older;
- 2. Is of good moral character; and
- 3. Has successfully completed such educational and experiential requirements as are required by this chapter and the regulations of the Board. (2002, c. 784.)

## § 54.1-2206.2. Requirements for professional wetland delineator certification.

A. In order to be certified as a professional wetland delineator, an applicant shall achieve a score acceptable to the Board on an examination, which may include a field practicum, in the principles and practice of wetland delineation, provide three written references from wetland professionals with at least one from a certified professional wetland delineator, and satisfy one of the following criteria:

- 1. Hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education in a wetland science, biology, biological engineering, civil and environmental engineering, ecology, soil science, geology, hydrology or any similar biological, physical, natural science or environmental engineering curriculum that has been approved by the Board; have successfully completed a course of instruction, in state and federal wetland delineation methods, that has been approved by the Board; and have at least four years of experience in wetland delineation under the supervision of a certified professional wetland delineator, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a certified professional wetland delineator;
- 2. Have a record of at least six years of experience in wetland delineation under the supervision of a certified professional wetland delineator, the quality of which demonstrates to

the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a certified professional wetland

- 3. Have a record of at least four years of experience in wetland science research or as a teacher of wetlands curriculum in an accredited institution of higher education, the quality of which demonstrates to the Board that the applicant is competent to practice as a certified professional wetland delineator.
- 3. to pics for discussion of the position of t B. Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection A, the requirement for a reference from and supervision by a certified professional wetland delineator shall be waived for the first six years of the program.

(2002, c. 784; 2007, c. 334.)

## § 54.1-2207. (Effective until July 1, 2013) Unprofessional conduct.

Any professional soil scientist or wetland delineator who is certified as provided in this chapter shall be considered guilty of unprofessional conduct and subject to disciplinary action by the Board, if he:

- 1. Obtains his certification through fraud or deceit;
- 2. Violates or cooperates with others in violating any provision of this chapter, the Code of Professional Ethics and Conduct or any regulation of the Board;
- 3. Performs any act likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public;
- 4. Demonstrates gross negligence, incompetence or misconduct in the practice of soil evaluation or wetland delineation; or
- 5. Is convicted of a felony.

(1987, c. 626; 1988, c. 765; 2002, c. 784.)

## § 54.1-2207. (Effective July 1, 2013) Unprofessional conduct.

Any professional soil scientist who is licensed or any wetland delineator who is certified, as provided in this chapter, shall be considered guilty of unprofessional conduct and subject to disciplinary action by the Board, if he:

- 1. Obtains his certification or license through fraud or deceit;
- 2. Violates or cooperates with others in violating any provision of this chapter, the Code of Professional Ethics and Conduct or any regulation of the Board;
- 3. Performs any act likely to deceive, defraud or harm the public;
- 4. Demonstrates gross negligence, incompetence or misconduct in the practice of soil evaluation or wetland delineation; or
- 5. Is convicted of a felony.

(1987, c. 626; 1988, c. 765; 2002, c. 784; 2011, cc. 777, 859.)

## § 54.1-2208. (Effective until July 1, 2013) Unlawful representation as a certified professional soil scientist or wetland delineator.

A. No person shall represent himself as a certified professional soil scientist unless he has been so certified by the Board. Any person practicing or offering to practice soil evaluation within the meaning of this chapter who, through verbal claim, sign, advertisement, or letterhead,

represents himself as a certified professional soil scientist without holding such a certificate from the Board shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

Jeopics for discussion di discussion discussion discussion discussion discussion discuss B. No person shall represent himself as a certified professional wetland delineator unless he has been so certified by the Board. Any person practicing or offering to practice wetland delineation within the meaning of this chapter who, through verbal claim, sign, advertisement, or letterhead, represents himself as a certified professional wetland delineator without holding such a certificate from the Board shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. (1987, c. 626, § 54-971; 1988, c. 765; 2002, c. 784.)

## § 54.1-2208. (Effective July 1, 2013) Unlawful representation as a licensed professional soil scientist or certified wetland delineator.

A. No person shall represent himself as a licensed professional soil scientist unless he has been so licensed by the Board. Any person practicing or offering to practice soil evaluation within the meaning of this chapter who, through verbal claim, sign, advertisement, or letterhead, represents himself as a licensed professional soil scientist without holding a license from the Board shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

B. No person shall represent himself as a certified professional wetland delineator unless he has been so certified by the Board. Any person practicing or offering to practice wetland delineation within the meaning of this chapter who, through verbal claim, sign, advertisement, or letterhead, represents himself as a certified professional wetland delineator without holding such a certificate from the Board shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. (1987, c. 626, § 54-971; 1988, c. 765; 2002, c. 784; 2011, cc. 777, 859.)

## § 54.1-2208.1. Exemptions.

A. The certification program set forth in this article is voluntary and shall not be construed to prevent or affect the practice of geology by uncertified geologists; however, no person may represent himself as a Virginia certified professional geologist unless he has been so certified by the Board.

B. This article shall not prevent or affect the practice of any profession or trade for which licensing, certification, or registration is required under any other Virginia law, including the practice of licensed professional engineers lawfully practicing engineering in its various specialized branches.

(1981, c. 132, § 54-968; 1988, c. 765, § 54.1-1401; 2012, cc. 803, 835.)

## § 54.1-2208.2. Certification; minimum qualifications.

A. Any person practicing or offering to practice as a geologist or in a geological specialty in this Commonwealth may submit reasonable evidence to the Board that he is qualified to practice and to be certified as provided in this article. The Board shall approve the application for certification of any person who, in the opinion of the Board, has satisfactorily met the requirements of this article and who has paid any applicable fees fixed by the Board. Certifications shall expire at intervals as designated by the Board. A certification may be renewed by the Board upon receipt of a formal request accompanied by any applicable fees.

- B. To be eligible for certification as a professional geologist, an applicant shall meet each of the following minimum qualifications:
- 1. Be of ethical character.
- 2. Have a baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university with either a major in geology, engineering geology, geological engineering, or related geological sciences; or have completed at least 30 semester hours or the equivalent in geological science courses leading to a major in geology.
- Jiopics for discussion di discussion discussion discussion discussion discussion discuss 3. Have at least seven years of geological work that shall include either a minimum of three years of geological work under the supervision of a qualified or certified professional geologist or a minimum of three years of experience in responsible charge of geological work. The adequacy of the position and the required supervision and experience shall be determined by the Board in accordance with standards set forth in its regulations. The following criteria of education and experience qualify toward the required seven years of geological work:
- a. Each year of full-time undergraduate study in the geological sciences shall count as one-half year of experience up to a maximum of two years, and each year of full-time graduate study shall count as a year of experience up to a maximum of three years. Credit for undergraduate and graduate study shall in no case exceed a total of four years toward meeting the requirements for at least seven years of geological work.
- b. The Board may consider, in lieu of the above-described geological work, the cumulative total of geological work or geological research of persons occupying research or post-graduate positions as well as those teaching geology courses at the college or university level, provided such work or research can be demonstrated to be of a sufficiently responsible nature to be equivalent to the geological work required in this section.
- 4. Have successfully passed an appropriate examination approved by the Board and designed to demonstrate that the applicant has the necessary knowledge and skill to exercise the responsibilities of the public practice of geology.

At the discretion of the Board, separate examinations may be prepared for various subspecialities of geology; however, there will be no specialty certification, only certification as a professional geologist.

(1981, c. 132, §§ 54-964, 54-965; 1984, 835.)

## § 54.1-2208.3. Waiver of examination.

The Board may waive the examination requirement for certification as a professional geologist for an applicant who otherwise meets the requirements of this article and who also meets any of the following conditions:

- 1. Makes written application to the Board and has at least 12 years of geological work that includes the geological work as specified in subsection B of § 54.1-1403.
- 2. Makes written application to the Board and holds an unexpired certificate of registration, certification, or license to engage in the practice of geology issued to him on the basis of comparable requirements by a proper authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United States or the District of Columbia.

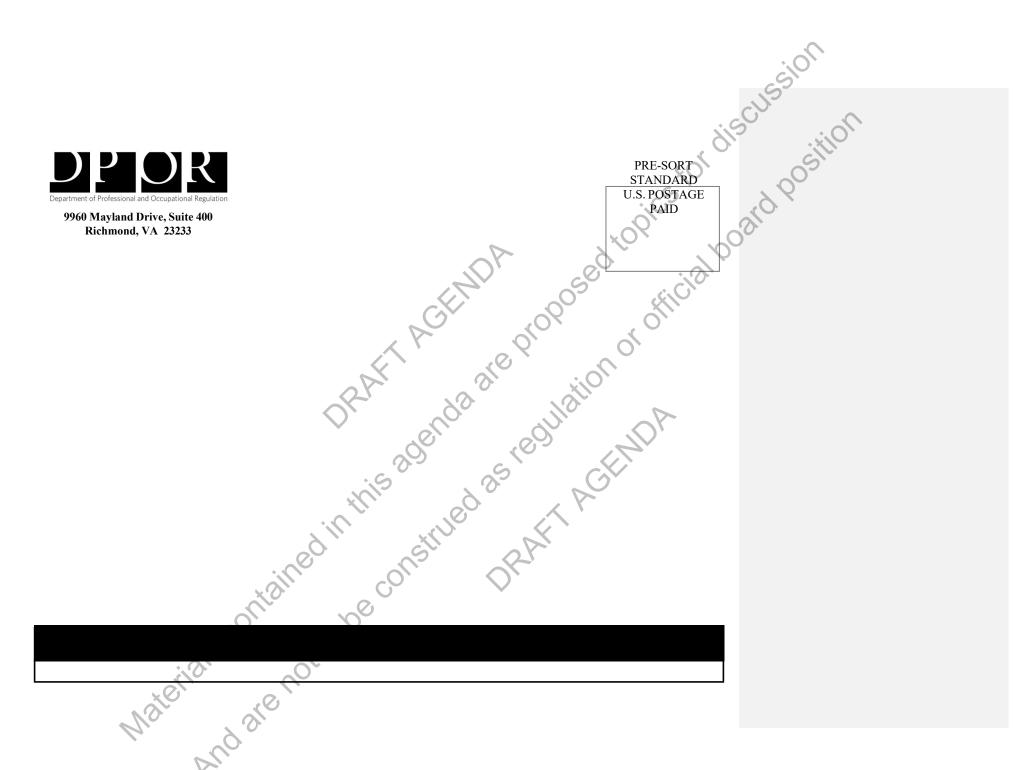
(1981, c. 132, § 54-966; 1988, c. 765, § 54.1-1404; 1994, c. 247; 1996, c. 49; 2012, cc. 803,

#### § 54.1-2208.4. Professional ethics and conduct.

discussion discussion of the control A. The Board, in coordination with an ad hoc panel of certified professional geologists convened by the Board and representing various geological interests in Virginia, shall have prepared and adopted a Code of Professional Ethics and Conduct that shall be published and made known in writing to every Virginia certified professional geologist and applicant for certification under this article. The Board may revise and amend this code as needed and shall forthwith notify each certified professional geologist in writing of such revisions or amendments.

- B. The full Board, by majority vote, shall have the power to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the certification of any professional geologist who, after an appropriate formal hearing, is found to have been involved in:
- 1. Any fraud or deceit in obtaining certification;

- ...the
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  ...uld adversely affect the
  ...e a revoked or suspended
  ..ritten application to the Board showing
  ..-1405; 2012, ec. 803, 835.)



# Soil Scientists

- ASA, CSSA, SSSA Science Policy Report: **Farm Bill Priorities and Midterm Elections** - Emailed November 17, 2022
- ASA, CSSA, SSSA Science Policy Report: **Thanksgiving Edition - Emailed November** 28, 2022
- ASA, CSSA, SSSA Science Policy Report: Share your feedback on Conservation Funding - Emailed December 7, 2022
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  - Emailed December 27, 2022

## **Wetland Professionals**

- **Changes ahead for WSSI's Richmond** office - Emailed December 6, 2022
- Field Notes: Vol. 30, No. 10 November 30, 2022 - Emailed December 6, 2022
- Field Notes: Vol. 31, No. 1 January 17, 2023 - Emailed January 17, 2023
- January 25, 20

  January 25, 20

  And are not to be construed as redulation of the part of t Field Notes: Vol. 31, No. 2 - January 25, 2023 - Emailed January 25, 2023

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Soil Scientists

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## Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation Statement of Financial Activity

# Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists 954180

2022-2024 Biennium

January 2023

**Biennium-to-Date Comparison** 

	January 2023		July 2020 -	July 2022 -			
	Activity		January 2021	January 2023			
Cash/Revenue Balance Brought Forward			Ŏ,	16,455			
Revenues	1,425		8,300	9,665			
Cumulative Revenues			.,00	26,120			
Cost Categories:	OK		.2				
Board Expenditures	77	5	5,121	10,467			
Board Administration	794	),	10,186	10,841			
Administration of Exams	19		1,565	272			
Enforcement	1		5	8			
Legal Services Information Systems	909		6,812	34   5,517			
Facilities and Support Services.	280		2,228	2,095			
Agency Administration	463		4,649	7,277			
Other / Transfers	(15)		0	(15)			
Total Expenses	2,561		30,588	36,496			
Transfer To/(From) Cash Reserves	(1,136)		0	(10,376)			
Ending Cook Polymer Releases							
Ending Cash/Revenue Balance				0			
latel.							
Cash Reserve Beginning Balance	35,416		0	44,655			
Change in Cash Reserve	(1,136)		0	(10,376)			
Cash Reserve Ending Balance	34,280		0	34,280			
Number of Regulants							
Current Month Previous Biennium-to-Date	1,216 1,189						

## **Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation** Supporting Statement of Year-to-Date Activity

## Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists - 954180 Fiscal Year 2023

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	Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation													S				
							Support	ting Staten	nent of Yea	r-to-Date A	ctivity				7.5			
	Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation Supporting Statement of Year-to-Date Activity Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals, and Geologists - 954180 Fiscal Year 2023																	
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Fiscal YTD Charges	Planned Annual Charges	Current Balance	Projected Charges at 6/30	Projected Favorable (U Amount	
Board Expenditures	5,639	132	57	1,652	87	2,823	77	0	6	0	0	*08	10,467	22,108	11,641	17,896	4,212	19.1%
Board Administration	2,247	1,541	1,501	801	1,460	2,497	794	0	NO'	0	050	0	10,841	23,526	12,684	16,989	6,536	27.8%
Administration of Exams	55	38	40	20	38	62	19	VC,	0	0,00	0		272	3,400	3,128	230	3,170	93.2%
Enforcement	2	1	1	1	1	2		0	No.	0	;;(0	0	8	16	8	12	4	25.3%
Legal Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	0		0	NOT.	0	34	68	34	58	10	14.3%
Information Systems	613	976	754	541	906	817	909	9,	0	1000	0	0	5,517	12,492	6,975	9,289	3,203	25.6%
Facilities / Support Svcs	198	374	299	260	322	362	280	0	600	0	0	0	2,095	4,385	2,290	3,487	898	20.5%
Agency Administration	1,119	794	1,590	787	1,055	1,470	463	Sin	0	2P	0	0	7,277	13,961	6,684	11,709	2,252	16.1%
Other / Transfers	0	0	0	0		0	2 -15	0	0	0	0	0	-15	0	15	-26	26	
Total Charges	9,874	3,856	4,243	4,061	3,869	8,033	2,561	0	0	0	0	0	36,496	79,955	43,460	59,644	20,311	25.4%
		Nai	Sign	701	e ro													
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- **Other Business**
- Materials contained in this agenda are proposed topics for discussion And are not to be constitued as regulation or official board position