

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

The Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on November 19, 2019, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present:

Citizens

Bennette Burks
Robin Jones

Geologists

Warren "Ted" Dean
Michael Lawless
David Spears
Drew Thomas

Soil Scientists

Larry Giannasi
David Hall

Wetland Delineators

Robin Bedenbaugh
Justin Brown

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

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Mary Broz-Vaughan, Director
Kathleen (Kate) R. Nobsch, Executive Director
Bonnie Davis, Administrative Assistant
Conner Eads, Virginia Management Fellows Program

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

Mr. Thomas, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Call to Order

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

**Emergency Evacuation
Procedures**

Ms. Nobsch stated that Mr. DeBerry, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Parker send their regrets. She introduced Ms. Broz-Vaughan, DPOR Director, and the Board members introduced themselves.

**Welcome and
Introductions**

There was no public comment.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Thomas stated he attended the fall ASBOG conference. New officers were elected, discussion of moving to computer testing for the ASBOG exam took place, as well as vetting of exam questions. He stated it was very rewarding work.

ASBOG

Ms. Nobsch stated this was for informational purposes only. National

Pipeline Safety

Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) contacted thirty one states, including the Governor of Virginia, regarding recommendations following the Merrimack Valley explosion. Ms. Broz-Vaughan stated Virginia's Industrial Exemption exempts certain pipelines from requiring a Professional Engineer for public utility. This will limit that; it will require a PE to perform the design work.

Information

Mr. Thomas reviewed the licensee counts as of October 1, 2019:
Soil Scientists – 90; Wetland Delineators – 117; Geologists – 909

Licensed and Certified Population

Mr. Spears inquired if the number of geologists includes geologists in training. Mr. Thomas asked if the Board tracks who takes the Fundamentals Exam and do not take the Professional Geologists exam. Ms. Nobsch stated she will research and report back at the next meeting.

Any regulant with an email address on file with DPOR should have received communication regarding Merit. Merit issues digital licenses or certificates to individuals with email addresses on file with DPOR. Merit can keep track of regulant's continuing education and provides an electronic version of license or certification. It will also send regulants a reminder to renew which still needs to be completed with DPOR.

Merit

Ms. Nobsch stated five board members from the PSSWPG Board attended the Board Member Training in October. Board Members that attended stated the following about the training: very well timed; interesting how other boards work; gave a bigger perspective; board members are very passionate about their services.

Board Member Training Update

Ms. Nobsch stated the financial statements were provided for informational purposes.

Financial Statements

Ms. Nobsch informed the Board the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) Report recommended that the Board for Professional and Occupational Regulation (BPOR) review the need for regulation of certain occupations. The BPOR will be providing basic information on the Soil Scientists and the Wetland Delineators, as well as other identified professions. The initial report will be completed and filed by December 31, 2019.

Other Business

Mr. Giannasi arrived at 10:40 a.m.

Arrival of Chair

Chair of the meeting was passed from Mr. Thomas to Mr. Giannasi.

Ms. Nobsch stated former Board Member, Angela Whitehead, commented on the fast track regulation that went into effect on August 1, 2019. The Board noted the comment and stated that the regulation is to

Other Business continued

prevent the use of work of another without written consent before it becomes public record. After the work becomes public record, it can be used without consent.

The Board discussed Wetland Delineator seals. Ms. Nosbisch stated the regulations are silent on a seal so it is not required; however, the Geologists have a seal if a Wetland Delineator wanted to use it as a template.

Ms. Nosbisch discussed the importance of a quorum. She noted that without a quorum the Board cannot conduct business. Meeting dates are provided a year in advance; however, she understands some instances are unpreventable. She appreciates the Board's service and realizes this work is voluntary, but it is important.

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

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bedenbaugh moved to approve the amended minutes from the December 6, 2018, Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists meeting. Mr. Burks seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Brown, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Hall, Jones, Lawless, Spears, and Thomas.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Nosbisch presented the 2020 meetings dates. Mr. Dean moved to adopt the following meeting dates for 2020:

Consideration of 2020 Meeting Dates

February 19, 2020
May 20, 2020
August 19, 2020
November 17, 2020

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

Ms. Jones moved to retain the current Chair and Vice Chair for the 2020 meetings. Mr. Spears seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Brown, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Hall, Jones, Lawless, Spears, and Thomas. There were no nominations from the floor.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that every four years, the Board is required to conduct a periodic review of the regulations and public participation guidelines. The review is to ensure the regulations are supported by statutory authority; determine that the regulations are

Periodic regulator Review

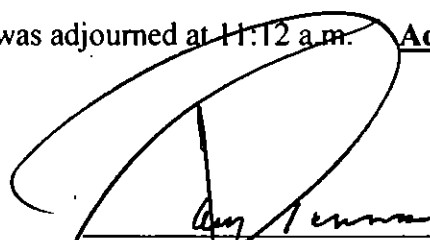
necessary for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the public; are clearly written and easily understood; and ensure the economic impact on small business is minimized as much as possible. The public comment period was September 16 through October 7, 2019. There were no comments. Mr. Dean moved to retain the regulations in their current form. Mr. Burks seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Bedenbaugh, Brown, Burks, Dean, Giannasi, Hall, Jones, Lawless, Spears, and Thomas.

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

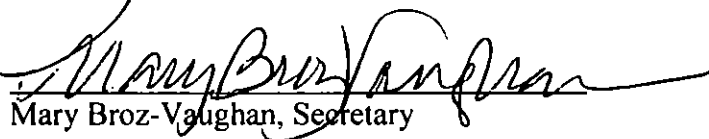
Conflict of Interest Forms
/ Travel Vouchers

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Adjournment



Larry Giannasi, Chair



Mary Broz-Vaughan, Secretary

**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 November 19, 2019

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

11/19/19
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 November 19, 2019

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

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

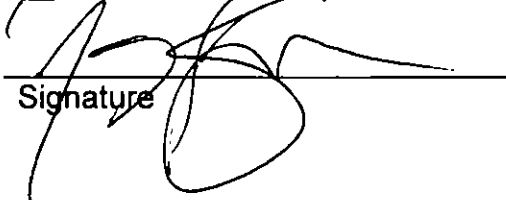
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

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

11/19/19
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 November 19, 2019

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

11/19/2019
Date

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

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

1. Name: Ted Dean
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting November 19, 2019

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.

Warren Dean
Signature

11/19/19
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 November 19, 2019

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

N/A

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

N/A

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

11-19-19
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 November 19, 2019

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

11/19/19
Date

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

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

1. Name: Robin Jones
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting November 19, 2019

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 11/19/19

**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 November 19, 2019

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

11/19/19

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 November 19, 2019

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

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

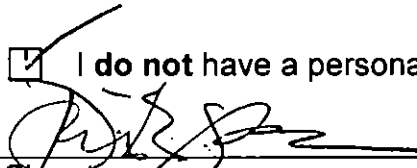
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

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

11/19/2019

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 November 19, 2019

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

11.19.19
Date