

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

The Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on January 9, 2014, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present:

J. Meade R. Anderson
Robert B. Atkinson
Nancy Barker
Douglas S. Davis
Warren (Ted) Dean
J. James Liu
Robin E. Reed
Harry T. (Tom) Saxton
David Spears
Angela Whitehead

Board members Angie Hall, Charles E. Nelson and Katherine S. White were not present at the meeting.

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

Kathleen (Kate) R. Nosbisch, Executive Director
Amy Goobic, Administrative Assistant

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

Mark N. Courtney, Director

Josh Lief, Senior Assistant Attorney General, was present for the meeting.

Mr. Dean, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Call to Order

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

**Emergency Evacuation
Procedures**

Mr. Spears moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Anderson, Atkinson, Barker, Davis, Dean, Liu, Reed, Saxton, Spears & Whitehead.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Davis moved to approve the minutes from the following meetings:

Approval of Minutes

- July 2, 2013, Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists meeting
- August 7, 2013, Professional Soil Scientists Public Hearing
- August 7, 2013, Geologists Public Hearing

Ms. Barker seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by

members: Anderson, Atkinson, Barker, Davis, Dean, Liu, Reed, Saxton, Spears & Whitehead.

Public Comment Period – Ryan Reed, President, Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientists (VAPSS), was present to address the Board. Mr. Reed stated that VAPSS supports the proposed regulations on soil scientist licensure that the Board would be considering.

Public Comment Period

Board members reviewed financial statements for informational purposes.

Review of Financial Statements

Ms. Nosbisch provided an update on National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG), informing the Board members of the upcoming Task Analysis Workshop, January 17-18. Mr. Dean stated that he was not able to attend due to a scheduling conflict. Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that she had a copy of the annual meeting report if anyone was interested in reviewing. She further commented that Mr. Anderson and Mr. Spears were thanked in the report regarding their participation in the Council of Examiners workshop held in Richmond in April.

Updates – ASBOG, VAWP, VAPSS

Ms. Nosbisch provided a brief report on the Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals, stating that there would be upcoming training available.

Mr. Reed, VAPSS, provided a brief update for the Board, stating that VAPSS is looking for additional education opportunities. He further commented that VAPSS was enjoying the relationship with the PSSWPG Board.

Board members reviewed the public comments made during the public hearing regarding soil scientist licensure. Discussion was held on public comment made pertaining to a seal for Professional Soil Scientists. Mr. Courtney stated that the statute does not mention the use of a seal. Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that the use of a seal could be revisited, however, if they would like it to be addresses in the regulations at the present time, it would delay the approval process. Mr. Dean moved to accept the Board's response to the comments. Mr. Davis seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Anderson, Atkinson, Barker, Davis, Dean, Liu, Reed, Saxton, Spears & Whitehead.

Regulatory Update

Ms. Whitehead moved to adopt the final soil scientist regulations. Mr. Dean seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Anderson, Atkinson, Barker, Davis, Dean, Liu, Reed, Saxton, Spears & Whitehead.

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that no public comments were received for the proposed geology regulations. Mr. Spears moved to adopt the final

geology regulations. Dr. Liu seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Anderson, Atkinson, Barker, Davis, Dean, Liu, Reed, Saxton, Spears & Whitehead.

Board members reviewed the General Assembly's amended language for §54.1-2206.02 of the Code of Virginia, regarding the Wetland Delineator certification. The changes would omit the requirement of a wetland professional to obtain experience only under a certified wetland professional. Ms. Nobsch informed the Board they would need to file a NOIRA to proceed with the regulatory process to change the regulations. Ms. Nobsch stated that they may be able to submit for fast-track consideration, as it is a minimal change to the regulations. Mr. Saxton moved to proceed with filing the NOIRA and submit as fast-track. Ms. Barker seconded motion which was unanimously approved by members: Anderson, Atkinson, Barker, Davis, Dean, Liu, Reed, Saxton, Spears & Whitehead.

Ms. Barker moved to adopt the proposed regulatory language provided to the Board. Mr. Davis seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Anderson, Atkinson, Barker, Davis, Dean, Liu, Reed, Saxton, Spears & Whitehead.

Ms. Nobsch informed the Board that she was in communication with Dawn Ferris, Soil Scientist Society of America, regarding the national exam. Ms. Nobsch indicated that there were no applicants for the Spring administration of the exam, and the next administration of the exam everything should be in order to utilize the national CSSE exam.

National SSSA Exam Update

Ms. Whitehead inquired as to whether board members would continue to review applications. Ms. Nobsch indicated that the applications would continue to undergo Board review. She further indicated there were still items to work through with the national exam.

Ms. Nobsch provided exam statistics to the Board:

- February - Soil Scientist exam – 1 applicant, passed part 1, failed part 2
- August -Wetland Professional exam – 3 applicants - 2 passed
- March - Fundamentals of Geology – 10 applicants – 6 passed
Practice of Geology – 7 applicants – 5 passed
- October - Fundamentals of Geology – 7 applicants – 5 passed
Practice of Geology – 7 applicants – 4 passed


Other Business


Ms. Nobsch also reminded the Board of upcoming meeting dates and to complete their financial disclosure statement and Conflict of Interest training.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. Adjournment



Warren (Ted) Dean, Chair



Gordon W. Eaton, Secretary


**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 January 9, 2013^A

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

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

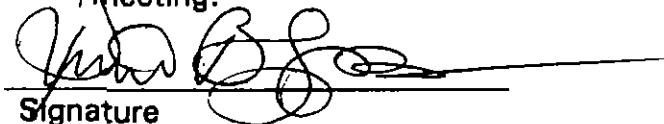
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

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

1/9/2014
Date

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

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

1. Name: Tom Saxton
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2014

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

1-9-14
Date

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

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

1. Name: Dr. Robert B. Atkinson
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2014

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

NA

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

NA

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

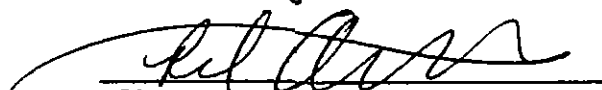
NA

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

9 Jan. 2014
Date

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

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

1. Name: James Liu
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2013

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

N/A

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.

James Liu
Signature

1/9/2014
Date

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

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

1. Name: Nancy G. Barker
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2014

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

1/9/2014
Date

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

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

1. Name: Robin E. Reed
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2013

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.

Robin E. Reed
Signature

9 January 2014
Date

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

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

1. Name: Angela C. Whitehead
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2014

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

1/9/14
Date

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

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

1. Name: J. Meade R. Anderson
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2013

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:

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or

I did not participate in the transaction.

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



Signature

1/09/2013

Date

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

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

1. Name: Douglas S. Davis
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2014

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

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

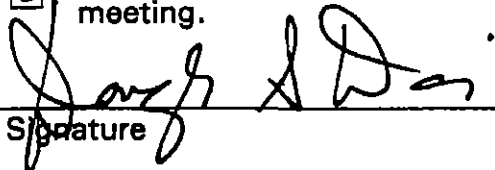
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or

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


Signature

1/09/14
Date

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

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

1. Name: Warren "Ted" Dean
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting January 9, 2013

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

1/9/14
Date