

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:

Citizens

Bennette Burks
Robin Jones

Geologists

Michael Lawless
Drew Thomas
David Spears
Warren "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. Giannasi, 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.

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.

**Public Comment
Period**

Ms. Nobsisch 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. Nobsisch 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. Nobsisch 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. Nobsisch 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 subject matter experts. Ms. Jones, Mr. Lawless and Mr. Thomas volunteered to the committee. Ms. Nobsisch 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. Nobsisch informed the Board that the financial statements were included for informational purposes.

**Financial
Statements**

Ms. Nobsisch thanked the Board members that were able to attend the Board Member Training Conference held in Williamsburg, October 13-14. The next conference will be held in 2024.

Other Business

Ms. Nobsisch stated that she had not yet received information on Board appointments.

Ms. Nobsisch 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 members present.


**Conflict of Interest
Forms/Travel
Vouchers**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Adjournment



R. Drew Thomas, Chair



Demetrios Melis, Secretary

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

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Justin T. Brown
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 1, 2022

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

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

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

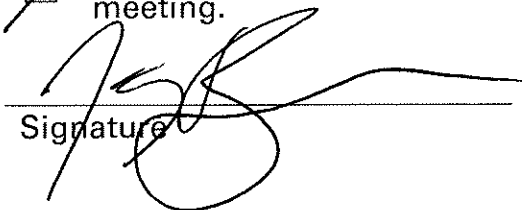
I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

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

Signature



Date

12/1/2022

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

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government


1. Name: R. Drew Thomas
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 1, 2022

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

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

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

- I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.
- or**
- I did not participate in the transaction.
6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.



Signature

12.1.22

Date

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

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

- 1. Name: David Hall
- 2. Title: Board Member
- 3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
- 4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 1, 2022

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

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

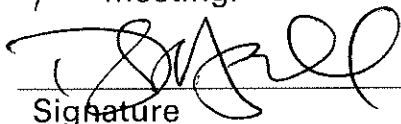
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

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

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

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



Signature

12/1/22

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 December 1, 2022
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 er Jones

Date 12/1/22

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

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

1. Name: David Spears
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 1, 2022

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

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

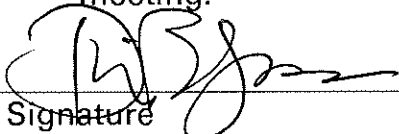
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

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

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

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



Signature

12/1/2022

Date

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

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

- 1. Name: Bennette Burks
- 2. Title: Board Member
- 3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
- 4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 1, 2022

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:

N/A

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

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

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

Bennette D. Burks.
Signature

12/1/2022
Date

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

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Michael D. Lawless
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting December 1, 2022
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

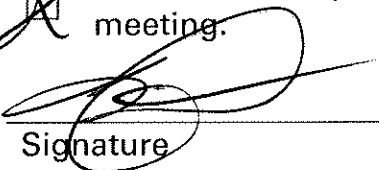
I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

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

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

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



Signature

12/1/22

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 December 1, 2022

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:

_____ N/A _____

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 J. Dean
Signature

12/1/22
Date