

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 themselves.

**Welcome and  
Introductions**

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**

There was no one present for public comment.

**Public Comment  
Period**

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.

**Other Business**

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

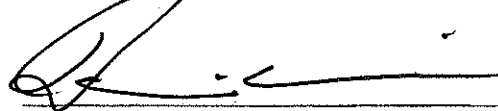
**Conflict of Interest Forms/Travel Vouchers**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

  
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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: Michael D. Lawless
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Geologist Section Meeting February 9, 2023

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:

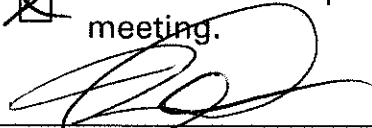
\_\_\_\_\_

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

2/9/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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: Geologist Section Meeting February 9, 2023

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

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Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

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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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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

2.9.2023

Date

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

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

1. Name: Matt Heller
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Geologist Section Meeting February 9, 2023

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:

\_\_\_\_\_

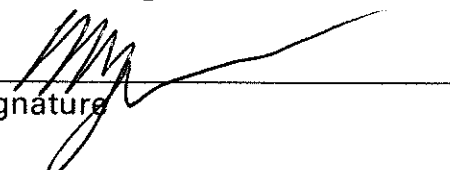
I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

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

2/9/23

**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: Geologist Section Meeting February 9, 2023

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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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

