

DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
76 Northern Avenue, Gardiner, Maine

BOARD OF LICENSURE OF FORESTERS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
December 11, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Ackley
Sarah Medina, Chair
Theodore Shina
Maxwell McCormack, Jr.
Steven Pelletier

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Karen Bivins, Administrator
Michael Miller, Assistant Attorney General
Deborah Fales, Office Specialist I
Kim Baker, Office Specialist I
Catherine Pendergast, Licensing Supervisor

Location: Central Conference Room

Start: 9:01 a.m.

Adjourn: 9:47 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Sarah Medina at 9:01 a.m.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

A motion was made by Shina and seconded by Pelletier to add the two memos regarding withdrawal of reciprocal agreements to the agenda. Unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

Action on Minutes of October 30, 2014 Meeting

A motion was made by Ackley and seconded by Shina to approve the minutes of the October 30, 2014 meeting as corrected. Pelletier abstained. Ackley, McCormack, Shina and Medina voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Rule-making Hearing

The public rule-making hearing on proposed changes the Board Rules, Chapters 10, 40, 50, 60,70, 80, and 110 was opened by the Chair at 9:04 a.m. No testimony was presented. The hearing was closed at 9:06 a.m.

Administrator's Report

The administrator reviewed the procedures memo dated 11/25/2014 regarding the procedure for review of license applications. A motion was made by McCormack and seconded by Pelletier, and unanimously voted to authorize the current procedure:

The Board authorizes the staff to review Intern Forester license applications and issue licenses when all requirements are met. The Board authorizes the staff to review for completeness all Intern Forester applications from those qualifying by variance, Forester applications, and any applications from those qualifying with a non-accredited degree program. The Board authorizes a Board member, on behalf of the Board, to then review those applications (other than Intern Forester) and notify the staff when the application is deemed complete and the license will be issued, or the applicant will be approved to take the exam.

It recently came to attention of staff that the reciprocal agreements with both North Carolina and Connecticut licensing boards were outdated and unnecessary. The administrator recommended that the Board officially withdraw from those agreements. A motion was made by Shina and seconded by McCormack to withdraw from the reciprocal agreements with North Carolina and Connecticut. Unanimous.

The Board was updated on the status of the new Maine Specific Exam to be administered through the SAF. Thank you letters will be sent out to Exam Subcommittee volunteers for all their hard work in question development for the new exam.

The Board will continue to get the word out to licensees and the requirement to register their unlicensed foresters with the Board.

Complaint Officer's Report

None.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed monthly reports for October and November.

Review and Action on Applications

The Board reviewed the applications as presented by staff.

Review and Action on Continuing Education

Ackley recused and left the room.

A motion was made by Shina and seconded by McCormack to approve the following courses:

PROGRAM NAME	SPONSOR	DATE(S)	HOURS APPROVED	CAT.
Pollinator Health and Safety Conference	UM Cooperative Extension & Dept of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry	11/20/2014	4 ¾ hours	II
Plum Creek Foresters Practices Act Refresher Training	Plum Creek Presented by Jim Ecker and Patty Cormier	12/02/2014	2 ¾ hours	I

Ackley abstained. McCormack, Medina Pelletier, and Shina voted in the affirmative. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Being no further board business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Baker, Office Specialist I