

**Minutes of the Maine Board of Licensure of Foresters Meeting**  
July 23, 2026

| <b>MEMBERS' PRESENT</b>           | <b>STAFF PRESENT</b>                      |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| John Ackley, Chairperson          | Catherine Pendergast, Director            |
| Theodore Shina, Complaint Officer | Suzanne Burke, Assistant Attorney General |
| Harold Burnett                    | Shara Chesley, Office Specialist 1        |
| Joseph Dembeck                    | Heidi Lincoln, Office Specialist 1        |
|                                   |                                           |
|                                   |                                           |
| <b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>             |                                           |
| Keith Kanoti- Vice Chairperson    |                                           |

**Location:** 76 Northern Ave Gardiner ME 04345    **Start:** 9:00 a.m.    **End:** 9:54 a.m.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson Ackley at 9:00 a.m.

**II. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

A motion was made by Dembeck and seconded by Burnett to add a Request for a continuing education deferment to the agenda. Unanimous.

**III. MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

A motion was made by Shina and seconded by Dembeck to approve the minutes of May 28, 2026. Minutes. Unanimous.

**IV. COMPLAINT/HEARING PROCESS PRESENTATION BY AAG SUZANNE BURKE**

AAG Suzanne Burkner presented a Power Point presentation on the hearing process.

**V. PROPOSED DISMISSALS**

None.

**VI. PROPOSED CONSENT AGREEMENTS**

None.

**VII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- Rulemaking Reconsideration Memo.

At their May 28, 2026 meeting the Board voted to initiate the rulemaking process and put proposed changes to Chapter 40: Qualifications for Intern License out for public comment. The purpose of the proposed rule changes was to update references incorporated in the rule. Staff discussed with the Board that Society of American Foresters (SAF) is currently in the process of a comprehensive Accreditation Handbook update which they expect to be completed no later than March 2027. The board discussed waiting for rulemaking until they could reference the 2027 edition of the SAF Accreditation Handbook.

A motion was made by Burnett and seconded by Ackley to rescind their prior vote to initiate rulemaking and address rulemaking again when the 2027 SAF Accreditation Handbook is finalized. Unanimous.

- **Request for Continuing Education Deferment.**

The Board discussed a request for a continuing education deferment from a Forester currently on Military Deployment. A motion was made by Burnett and seconded by Ackley to grant the deferment of licensee's continuing education for his 2026 license renewal until December 31, 2027. Unanimous.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**IX. MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2026.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Dembeck and seconded by Shina to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 a.m. Unanimous.