

Minutes of the Maine Board of Licensure of Foresters Meeting

May 28, 2026

MEMBERS' PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT
John Ackley, Chairperson	Catherine Pendergast, Director
Theodore Shina, Complaint Officer	Suzanne Burke, Assistant Attorney General
Harold Burnett	Jazmyne Marks, Professional Licensing Supervisor
Joseph Dembeck	Shara Chesley, Office Specialist 1
	Heidi Lincoln, Office Specialist 1
MEMBERS ABSENT	
Keith Kanoti- Vice Chairperson	

Location: 76 Northern Ave Gardiner ME 04345 **Start:** 9:01 a.m. **End:** 10:04 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS AND APPROVAL

None.

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

A motion was made by Shina and seconded by Dembeck to approve the minutes of July 31, 2025, Minutes. Unanimous.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A motion was made by Dembeck and seconded by Burnett to elect Ackley as Chairperson, Kanoti as Vice-Chair and Shina as Compliant Officer. Unanimous.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Delegation Memo: A motion was made by Burnett and seconded by Dembeck to approve the Board policy of Limited Delegation of Authority to Board Staff for various actions including application review, criminal conviction disclosure and complaints with issues outside of the authority of the Board. The policy expires June 30, 2028, unless rescinded earlier. Unanimous.

UMFK Degree Memo: The Board reviewed a Society of American Foresters (SAF) pre-candidacy self-assessment report from the University of Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK) for a Bachelor of Science in Forest Management Program. Andrew Egan of UMFK was in attendance to answer questions. UMFK is in the process of accrediting the program with SAF. A motion was made by Ackley and seconded by Shina to approve the educational program. Shina, Burnett and Ackley voted in the affirmative. Dembeck abstained. Motion carried.

Rule Memo: The Board discussed that the incorporated references to the Society of American Foresters and accreditation handbook and standards are outdated in Chapter 40 Sections 2 (2)(A) and 3(B) of Board Rules. A motion was made by Burnett and seconded by Ackley to initiate the APA Rulemaking Process for Chapter 40: Qualifications for Intern Forester License and put the proposed rule out for comment. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Shina and seconded by Dembeck to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m. Unanimous.

DRAFT