



Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

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MINUTES

Board Meeting
Friday, January 22, 2016

A meeting of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists was called to order at 10:06 a.m. on Friday, January 22, 2016, at the Board offices located at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, Alabama. Board members in attendance were Ms. Marsha Andrews (Chair), Mr. James Heller (Secretary/Treasurer), Mr. Roger Chapman, Mr. Steve Castleman, Mr. Billy Cooch and Mr. John Milledge. Board member not in attendance was Dr. David Allison. Also in attendance were Keith Warren (Executive Secretary), Mr. Matt Bledsoe (Legal Counsel), Ms. Hope Paulene (Administrator) and Ms. Renee' Reames (Executive Secretary to Mr. Warren and recording secretary).

The rescheduled meeting was advertised to the public on the Board's website, (www.algeobd.alabama.gov), as well as the Secretary of State's website, (www.sos.state.al.us), in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

The Board reviewed 7 applications for licensure, of which two were reciprocity applications. These applicants had taken the ASBOG exam.

The Board reviewed the minutes from October 22, 2015 meeting. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Chapman made the motion to approve the October minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heller and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the financial report and a detailed list of deposits and expenditures was provided to the Board members for their review. Mr. Heller recommended that the voucher for web services (item 11) be reviewed to determine if a correction was needed and indicated that everything else looked good in the financial report. Mr. Warren presented the Executive Secretary's report (copies available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes):

A)	Number of Licensees (through 1/20/2016):	
	1. Professional Geologists (PGs):	539
	(comprised of 216 Alabama licensees and 323 out-of-state licensees)	
	2. Licenses not renewed (July-December)	16
	3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs)	13
	4. Retired	4
	5. Temporary License (current)	2

B)	FY 2016 Financial Information (as of December 31, 2015)	
	1. Revenue	\$11,750.00
	2. Expenditure Vouchers	\$19,694.79
	3. Cash Balance	\$55,419.65

Mr. Cooch made a motion to approve the financial report as discussed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chapman and unanimously approved.

Mr. Warren reported that ASBOG Examination Workshop was scheduled on April 7-9, 2016, and asked that any members interested in attending this meeting to contact him about travel plans.

Hope Paulene presented the Administrator's report regarding applicants and examination results. The Board was encouraged by the number of GIT, as a positive sign regarding student awareness of licensure in Alabama. Ms. Paulene also presented the Board's quarterly report of goals and asked for recommendations regarding 2017 goals. A list of activities was provided to the Board for their review (available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). Mr. Warren reported that new employee, Leigh Moorner, would be assisting the Board Administrator, Hope Paulene, with licensee activities. The Board requested that the list of activities be provided in advance of the meeting for their review.

Mr. Castleman reported on plans for the 2016 Continuing Education Program sponsored by the Board and announced the date had been changed to May 26th due to a conflict by the venue. The Board unanimously agreed with the change in date.

Mr. Chapman made a motion to approve the quote for 2 Board banners received from Walker 360 at a price of \$691.22. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge and unanimously approved by the Board. It was the consensus of the Board that the two banners would be obtained prior to the Board-sponsored CE Program in May. Mr. Milledge reported on the attendance at The Second Annual Alabama Environmental Conference, sponsored by the University of Alabama, which he attended, along with other Board members, and he indicated that Board brochures were distributed to conference attendees.

Ms. Andrews inquired about plans to hold a Board meeting in Tuscaloosa. She reported that she had contacted former associates of Tony Neathery about writing an article regarding him. Mr. Warren stated that he would request a Resolution by the Legislature in honor of Mr. Neathery. It was suggested that The Survey may be available to hold the meeting and to invite charter board members and family members of Mr. Neathery. Mr. Warren reported that the Board members would be kept informed as these plans are finalized.

Mr. Millege reported that he had recruited individuals for the Speaker's Bureau to speak at different universities, honor societies, and student organizations about career paths and licensure. Mr. Castleman also reported on speakers at the upcoming CE Program and the Board discussed potential sponsors at the CE meeting and if sponsors' vendor booths would be allowed.

The Board also discussed sponsoring an outstanding student award program (OSA). Mr. Bledsoe indicated that the Board could present a Resolution for an outstanding student and establish criteria for recommendations and the process to select a student. Mr. Milledge made a motion to name the OSA after Thornton L. (Tony) Neathery and announce the new program at the meeting in Tuscaloosa. The motion was seconded by Mr. Castleman and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Heller presented updated statistical information on FG examination, and reported a 59.8 score average, which was down from the last reporting. The Board reviewed the historical performance results of applicants taking the examinations in Alabama.

The Board continued discussions from the previous Board meetings about creating an age limit exemption for continuing education credits. Mr. Bledsoe reported that the Board's statute did not authorize the collection of fees for inactive and retired licenses categories; however, the Board could establish an age cap for reporting CE hours. Mr. Castleman made a motion to approve an age cap of 65, for those licensees at the time of license renewal, to be exempt from reporting CE hours and that the Rule changes be published for public comment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chapman and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. Warren explained that the licensing fee would continue regardless of the age exemption for CE hours. The Board further discussed the need to modify online renewal process to allow this exemption in coordination with acceptance as a Final Rule. Mr. Warren indicated that this would be worked on during the Rule's approval process.

Ms. Andrew commented on the current online renewal process and recommended that the process be modified to not require the entry of individual CE classes, etc. She presented a *certificate statement* that the licensee could attest online to having the required CE hours. The Board also discussed creating a filter to prevent having the same licensees selected consecutively for audit as a result of the limited number of licensees in a category. Mr. Chapman made a motion to adopt the Certificate Statement format for documenting CE hours. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge and unanimously approved by the Board.

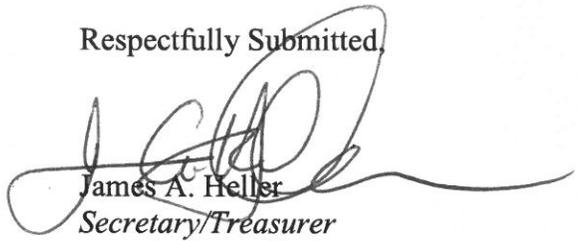
Mr. Warren presented for the Board's approval a Statement of Understanding of Reciprocity with Louisiana and explained the caveat that the State of Louisiana does not recognize soil science as geoscience. The Board discussed that Louisiana does not preclude soil scientists from obtaining a Louisiana license, provided that they have at least 30 hours of non-soil science geoscience coursework and 5 years of non-soil science geoscience experience. Mr. Warren suggested that this matter be mentioned at the upcoming Board-sponsored CE program scheduled in May. Mr. Chapman made a motion to approve the Statement of Understanding of Reciprocity with Louisiana. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge and unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board members had reviewed 7 applications for licensing at the beginning of the meeting. Each applicant had taken the ASBOG exam and 2 of the applications were by reciprocity. Mr. Chapman made a motion to approve the 7 PG applications as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge and unanimously approved by the Board (a list of the approved applications is available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled April 21, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business of the Board, Ms. Andrews adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



James A. Heller
Secretary/Treasurer

Marsha Andrews
Marsha Andrews
Chair

/rr

Board Approved Applications for License on January 22, 2016

Approved Geologist License:

Mitchell D. Cline—By ASBOG Examination

John G. Dean—By ASBOG Examination

Jason R. Harvell—By ASBOG Examination

Elizabeth Allison Keefer—Reciprocal from Georgia

Rachel P. Kirkman—Reciprocal from North Carolina

Ross T. Tucker—By ASBOG Examination

Chelsea Williams—By ASBOG Examination