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**MARYLAND BOARD OF FORESTERS  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, January 23, 2023**

**TIME:** 10:00 AM

**LOCATION:** 1100 N. Eutaw St.  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
Baltimore, MD 21201  
*(Teleconference via Google Meet and in person)*

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Michael Huneke – Chairman  
John Markovich – Vice Chair  
Jill Rhyne-Grey  
Daniel Rider  
Anthony DiPaolo  
Brian Knox  
Jake Martin

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Christopher Dorsey, Executive Director  
Sloane Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General  
Fatmata Rahman, Office Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mike LaMana, license applicant

The January 23, 2023 meeting of the Maryland Board of Foresters was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

**October 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Upon a motion by Mr. Markovich and a second by Mr. Knox, the minutes from the October 23, 2023 Business Meeting were approved with corrections, with all members voting in favor of the motion except for Mr. Martin, who abstained due to his absence from the meeting.

### **Commissioner, Greg Morgan**

Commissioner of the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, Department of Labor Greg Morgan, addressed the Board and thanked members for their work and meeting attendance.

### **Chairman's Report**

Mr. Huneke reminded the Board members that they should complete and submit the Financial Disclosure form by April 30, 2023.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Dorsey thanked Mr. Markovich for attending the Secretary's Chairperson Brunch in place of Mr. Huneke, which was held on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 2023 at the Maryland Department of Labor.

### **Old Business**

None to be discussed.

### **New Business**

A discussion was initiated by Mr. DiPaolo who questioned whether foresters listed in the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension publication were licensed by the Board and whether anyone was reviewing the list to verify the license status of individuals listed. Board members requested that Mr. Huneke reach out to Andrew Kling, who is responsible for the publishing the list, to see if foresters listed are, in fact, licensed by the Board.

Mr. Markovich informed the Board that the National SAF (Society of American Foresters) website still has the Maryland Board of Foresters being located at its former 500 N. Calvert Street Baltimore, MD 21202 address. Mr. Markovich requested that staff contact the SAF to update the address.

Upon a motion by Mr. Markovich and seconded by Mr. DiPaolo, the Board unanimously accepted the decisions made in New Business.

### **Closed Session**

Counsel Kinstler advised those present that the Board would convene in a closed session to discuss license applications, in accordance with § 3-305 (b)(2) and (7) of the Gen. Prov. Art., Md. Ann. Code, to protect the privacy and reputation of license applicants and to obtain advice

provided by Counsel regarding license applications. Counsel further stated that the Board would return to the Business Meeting thereafter to adopt its findings, if any, and continue with its meeting agenda.

Upon a motion by Ms. Rhyne-Grey and seconded by Mr. Knox, the Board unanimously voted convene in closed session at 10:27 a.m.

### **License Applications**

Three license applications were reviewed by the Board in closed session:

#### **OR-01**

OR-01: The Board found the applicant's education and references to be satisfactory. However, the applicant demonstrated only eight (8) months of the requisite work experience after his 2018 undergraduate graduation. In compliance with Md. Ann. Code, Bus. Occ. & Prof. § 7-304(c) and COMAR 09.29.01.02B(2). The Board discussed inviting the applicant to resubmit his license application after 16 more months of qualifying work experience in his current position or a similar position. Counsel Kinstler advised that the Board had to make a determination to grant or deny the application, but could advise the applicant of the reason for its decision and invite him to reapply in the future as his education and references were satisfactory.

Mr. DiPaolo moved, which Ms. Rhyne-Grey seconded, to deny the license application, as the applicant documented qualifying education and professional references, but instructed staff to invite the applicant to resubmit an application after 16 more months at his current or similar employment to obtain the requisite 24 months of qualifying work experience obtained after completion of the educational requirements. The motion unanimously passed.

#### **OR-02**

OR-02: After a discussion that the applicant's education was completed in the mid-1990s, but one of his educational institutions, though currently accredited, did not earn accreditation until after his attendance, the Board determined that, because the applicant is a certified forester by the Society of American Foresters ("SAF"), the SAF has approved his education, and given the applicant's vast qualifying work experience, the Board determined the applicant to be qualified for a forester license.

Upon a motion by Mr. Rider and seconded by Mr. DiPaolo, the Board unanimously voted to approve the license application.

**OR-03**

OR-03: The Board discussed the applicant’s education, work experience, and professional references and found them each satisfactory.

Upon a motion by Mr. Markovich and a second by Mr. Martin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the license application, as the applicant documented qualifying educational and work experience and provided the requisite professional references.

**Return to Open Session**

The Board unanimously voted to return to its Business Meeting at 11:00 a. m. upon a motion made by Mr. DiPaolo, seconded by Ms. Rhyne-Grey.

Upon the return to the Business Meeting at 11:00 a.m., Mr. DiPaola moved that the Board approve its actions taken during the closed session. Ms. Rhyne-Grey seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, upon a motion by Mr. Markovich and seconded by Mr. Martin, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

April 24, 2023—Board members are encouraged to attend the meeting in person and to notify staff of their intention to do so remotely or in person and whether they will require parking.

  X   With corrections           Without corrections

Signature on file \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair Signature

May 1, 2023 \_\_\_\_\_  
Date