



Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

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MINUTES

Board Meeting

Thursday, October 20, 2016

A meeting of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists was called to order at 10:12 a.m. on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery, Alabama. Board members in attendance were Ms. Marsha Andrews (Chair), Dr. David Allison (Vice Chair), Mr. James Heller (Secretary/Treasurer), and Mr. John Milledge (member). Board members not in attendance was Mr. Steve Castleman, Mr. Roger Chapman and Mr. Billy Cooch. Also in attendance were Keith Warren (Executive Secretary), Mr. Matt Bledsoe (Legal Counsel), and Ms. Renee' Reames (Executive Secretary to Mr. Warren and recording secretary).

The regularly scheduled 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 the minutes from August 25, 2016 meeting. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Heller recommended the following revisions to page 1 by listing Mr. Cooch as present and on page 3, second full paragraph stating that "... log boring activities and installation of monitoring wells by a non-geologist subordinate working under a P.G." Mr. Milledge made a motion to approve the August minutes as revised. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heller and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the financial report, along with a detailed list of deposits and expenditures for the Board's review. He reported that the Board's budget allocation for FY 2017 would remain at \$75,000. Mr. Heller indicated that his review of the financial information looked good.

FY 2016 Financial Information (as of 9/30/16)

1. Revenue	\$43,225.00
2. Expenditure Vouchers	\$57,002.36
3. Cash Balance	\$51,031.34

Mr. Warren continued with the Executive Director report which included the number of licensees (copy of the Executive Secretary's report is available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes):

Number of Licensees (9/30/16):

1. Professional Geologists (PGs):	547
(comprised of 214 Alabama licensees and 33 out-of-state licensees)	
2. Licenses not renewed (Oct. 2015 – Sept. 2016)	15
3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs)	11
4. Retired	10
5. Temporary License (current)	3

Dr. Allison made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge and unanimously approved.

Mr. Warren reported on the Administrator's report of daily activities accomplished. He reported that the results were not available from the recent ASBOG exams. This information would be presented at the next meeting. He also reported that the next ASBOG meeting was scheduled in November and the Council of Examination would meet at this annual meeting. He asked that the members notify him if they had an interest in attending this annual meeting.

Ms. Andrews requested recommendations from the CE Committee regarding a venue to host the next CE program. The Board asked that the CE registration roster include the city and state of those attending. Mr. Warren stated that he would send an email reminder to the CE Committee members about recommendations for a venue.

Dr. Allison presented the Outstanding Student Award Committee report. He commented on the timing for soliciting and presenting the award as it relates to students recommended for this award including this on their transcripts and resumes. He also suggested that junior as well as senior candidates from the three (3) universities being eligible for recommendation. The Board discussed when to begin the process and developing letters to the universities announcing the award program. Dr. Allison volunteered to prepare and mail the letters to the universities for the process to begin in 2017. The criteria for student nomination was discussed:

- Establish an academic excellence award for the outstanding upper-division (Junior or Senior rank) undergraduate Geology major enrolled in the Geology programs at one of the university in Alabama (currently UA, USA and AU).
- Eligible candidate is pursuing an active career in geological sciences, working primarily in the state of Alabama.
- Candidates will be ranked based on academic transcripts and letters of recommendation.
- Preference will be given to those candidates that demonstrate outstanding undergraduate research activity and/or service in geosciences.
- Geology departments who wish to nominate a candidate for the award should send the following:
 - Nomination letter by the department chair;
 - Official academic transcript
 - Three (3) letters of recommendation, which address:
 - Academic performance and future potential in geoscience career,
 - General character and leadership abilities of the candidate, and
 - Any outstanding research or service endeavors that the candidate has pursued.

- Closing date of the nominations will be January 1st of each year.
- Awards announced during the following Spring Board meeting (generally April).

Mr. Heller made a motion to move forward with the Outstanding Student Award program and accept the criteria as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Heller reported that he had not yet found someone to review the Position Statement prepared on the EPA's Coal Ash Disposal rule. The Board agreed to table further discussion on this matter to allow time for Mr. Heller to seek further comments and review of the Position Statement. Mr. Heller reported that he had obtained additional information about CE requirements of licensed engineers in other states vs. the inconsistency by state requirements for Geologists.

The Board discussed developing criteria concerning electronic seals on documents in consideration of electronic reporting has become more prevalent. The Board reviewed § 34-41-14 that requires a licensed PG to affix a seal. Mr. Warren stated that he would obtain information about other states' practices and present this information at the next meeting.

Mr. Warren reported that the annual renewal of the Administrative Services Contract was due for the Board's approval. Dr. Allison made a motion to approve the Administrative Services Contract with Warren & Company, Inc. for another year with no changes to the contract. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge and unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Andrew reported that the annual election of officers was due. She deferred this matter until the next Board meeting when more members could be present to participate.

Ms. Andrews commented on the meeting with the Alabama Sunset Committee. The Board members expressed interest in providing more feedback to the Committee when they inquired about having too many geology programs in the State, e.g. some small colleges have very good programs, limited to no earth studies at larger schools, USA having an undergraduate, but no graduate program, etc.

The Board members reviewed 5 applications for licensing. Dr. Allison made a motion to approve the 5 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 January 19, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business of the Board, Mr. Milledge made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dr. Allison and unanimously approved. Ms. Andrews adjourned the meeting at 11:34 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



James A. Heller
Secretary/Treasurer



Marsha Andrews
Chair

/rr