



Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

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MINUTES

Board Meeting
October 15, 2020

A meeting of the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists was held on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery, Alabama. During the COVID 19 State of Emergency, the meeting was conducted virtually and Board members in attendance via video-conferencing were Mr. Steve Castleman (Board Chairman), Mr. John Milledge (Vice Chair), Mr. Troy Perry, Jr. (member), Mr. Richard Katz (member joined at 10:15 a.m.), Dr. David King (new member), and Mr. Chris Bryant (new member). Member absent was Mr. Billy Cooch. Also in attendance, participating on the call was Ms. Bettie Carmack (Board Legal Counsel) and participating onsite were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Secretary), Ms. Hope Childers (Board Administrator) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary). Mr. Warren called Board roll and indicated that a quorum was present on the call to conduct business, noting that new members were present. Mr. Castleman, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

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.alabama.gov), in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act. Due to the COVID 19 State of Emergency, this meeting was held virtually. Chairman Castleman presented opening comments and welcomed all participants on the call.

New Board members, Mr. Bryant and Dr. King, were administered the oath of office by Mr. Warren.

Chairman Castleman presented for the Board's approval the Board meeting minutes from the July 16, 2020 regular meeting of the Board. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Perry made a motion to approve the July minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. King and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. Warren indicated that through this motion, a roll call vote had been established.

Mr. Warren presented the Executive Secretary's Report to the Board. He reported on the financial activities of the Board, as of September 30, 2020, which included a line-item report of expenditures for this period.

End of FY 2020 Financial Information:

1. Revenue	\$38,925.00
2. Expenditure Vouchers	\$60,784.91
3. Cash Balance	\$8,011.71

The Board discussed the current fund balance and reviewed the cost-saving measures previously approved by the Board, e.g., suspend travel, suspend compensation payments, etc. and Mr. Warren reported that, later in the meeting, he would be recommending a reduction in the cost of the Administrative Services Contract.

Mr. Warren also reported on the number of licensees for this same period and indicated that renewals were continuing:

1. Professional Geologists (PGs):	557
(comprised of 222 Alabama licensees and 335 out-of-state licensees)	
2. Licenses not renewed (April 2020 thru Sept. 2020)	25
3. Geologist-In-Training (GITs)	14
4. Retired	17
5. Temporary License (current)	1

Mr. Warren indicated that, at the next meeting, he would provide a list of licensees who had not renewed their license during the reporting period.

Mr. Perry made the motion to approve the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge. Chairman Castleman called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Castleman stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Katz joined the meeting at 10:15 a.m. Mr. Katz had recently been reappointed to the Board for another term. Mr. Katz was administered the oath of office by Mr. Warren.

Mr. Warren reported on the status of Board terms and recommendations to Governor Ivey about appointments to the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the Administrator's Report listing activities performed by the staff since the last Board meeting. (copy of the Executive Secretary's report and Administrator's report are available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Milledge report on activities to prepare a Board-sponsored CE program. He reported that Dr. Allison, a former Board member, had coordinated with USA that agreed to sponsor a platform for virtual presentations for CE credits. The Board discussed posting on Board's website a "call for speakers" for the purpose of adding to the library of CE presentations. The Board discussed waiving or suspending the CE requirements until the online library was functional. It was the Board decision to not suspend CE requirements, having identified free virtual programs offered by the Geological Society organization as a source to gain CE credits, along with so many other sources offering online courses.

Mr. Warren proposed legislative changes to the Board's statute, § 34-41-4 concerning the composition of the Board (proposed draft in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The Board discussed making modifications to the statute and the difficulty in fulfilling the classification subgroups in geology for member representation. Chairman Castleman asked the members to

review other states' Board statutes and the matter would be discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Warren indicated that he would contact prior members of the Board about the legislative history of the Board in creating the statute.

Chairman Castleman reported that 2021 Board meeting dates were proposed. Mr. Perry made the motion to approve the 2021 meeting dates: January 14th, April 8th, July 15th and October 7th. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. Warren indicated that a roll call vote had been established.

Mr. Warren recommended a reduction in the cost of the contract with Warren and Company for Administrative Services. He offered that the contract be reduced from \$4000 per month to \$2000 per month, with no reduction in services and that the contract rate be reassessed at the end of FY 2021. Mr. Perry made the motion to reduce the Administrative Services Contract from \$4000 per month to \$2000 per month as of November 1, 2020, through the remainder of FY 2021. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz. Chairman Castleman called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Castleman stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Chairman Castleman commented on the recent Sunset Committee meeting and the Board thanked Mr. Castleman for his presentation to the Sunset Committee.

Mr. Warren left the meeting at 11:40 a.m. due to a conflict in schedule.

Chairman Castleman reported that annual election of Board officers was due. Mr. Perry made a motion that the Board officers remain the same, with Mr. Castleman as Board Chair, Mr. Milledge as Vice Chair and Mr. Cooch as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Dr. King. Chairman Castleman called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Castleman stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Dr. King left the meeting at 11:45 a.m. due to a conflict in schedule.

Ms. Childers reported that four (4) PG applications for licensing had been received, with all applicants meeting the qualification for licensure. She reviewed the qualifications of the 4 applicants and recommended the Board's approval. Mr. Bryant made the motion to approve the 4 applicants for licensure as recommended (a list of the approved applications is available for viewing in the Board's official Book of Minutes). The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz and, following a roll call vote, the motion was unanimously approved by the Board. Ms. Childers indicated that a roll call vote had been established.

Chairman Castleman announced that the Board's next meeting was scheduled January 14, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

There being no further business of the Board, Mr. Perry made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Mr. Milledge. Chairman Castleman called for any objections to the motion, using the previous roll, and there were no objections. Chairman Castleman stated the motion was unanimously approved by the Board and he adjourned the meeting at 11.49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith E. Warren
Executive Secretary

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