

**STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF FORESTERS
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 15, 2019**

LOCATION: 500 North Calvert Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
Third Floor Conference Room

**MEMBERS
IN ATTENDANCE:**

Michael Huneke
John Markovich
Daniel Rider
Jill Rhyne-Grey

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Wade Dorsey
W. Allen Jones
Ann Sherrard

**DLLR OFFICIALS
/STAFF:**

Shanai Jordan, Executive Director
Christopher Dorsey, Assistant Executive Director
Sloane Fried Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General
Alicia Coar, Administrative Specialist

The January 28, 2019 meeting of the Maryland Board of Foresters was called to order at 10:26 a.m. by Mr. Huneke, presiding over the meeting in the absence of Mr. Dorsey, Chair.

Upon a motion (I) by Mr. Markovich and seconded by Mr. Rider, the minutes from the January 28, 2019 business meeting were approved unanimously, without amendment or correction.

Chairman's Report

No Report of the Chairman.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Jordan informed the board that Mr. W. Allen Jones and Ms. Ann Sherrard will no longer be members of Board.

Upon a motion (II) by Ms. Rhyne-Grey, seconded by Mr. Rider, the approval of the Executive Director's report was unanimously accepted.

License Applications

Counsel reminded the Board that all license applications must be reviewed by the Board in a closed session to protect the privacy of individual applicants in accordance with Gen. Prov. Art., Md. Ann. Code, § 3-305. Counsel explained that even when no members of the public are present to observe the proceedings of a public body, such as the Board, it must, in compliance with law, convene in a closed meeting when considering confidential material or matters and maintain minutes that set forth the facts of the matters considered, the reasons for the Board's determination(s), and the tally of vote(s) on each matter. Counsel further explained that the business meeting minutes should also reflect that the Board met in a closed session, the reason therefore, along with a description of the business discussed, without revealing confidential or privileged information, along with each vote the Board took during the closed session, and start and end times of the session.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon a motion (III) by Ms. Rhyne-Grey, seconded by Mr. Rider, and unanimously carried, the State Board of Foresters entered into a closed session at 10:35 a.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room, 500 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, pursuant to § 3-305 (b)(2) and (7) of the Gen. Prov. Art., Md. Ann. Code, in order to protect the privacy and reputation of license applicants and to obtain the advice provided by Counsel regarding license applications.

The Board reviewed four (4) license applications.

OR-01, upon a motion (IV) by Mr. Rider, and seconded by Mr. Markovich, the Board unanimously voted to approve the license application of an individual who demonstrated the required educational and pre-license work experience in compliance with Bus. Occ. & Prof. Art., Md. Ann. Code, §§ 7-101(c)(3)(ii) and 7-304(b) and provided the requisite professional references in accordance with COMAR 09.29.1.02.

OR-02, upon a motion (V) by Mr. Rider, and seconded by Mr. Markovich, the Board unanimously voted to deny the license application of an individual who, after a lengthy discussion, the Board found had been unable to demonstrate the required educational experience, including completion of a 4-year curriculum in forestry from a college or university that is approved by the Board or accredited by the Society of American Foresters, pursuant to Bus. Occ. & Prof. Art., Md. Ann. Code, § 7-304(b). Additionally, the Board found that the applicant failed to demonstrate the requisite work experience, pursuant to § 7-101(c), which the Board found constituted gardening and arboriculture and was three months short of the two years required by §§ 7-101(c)(3)(ii) and 7-304(b) and (c). The applicant also lacked three professional references from foresters required pursuant to COMAR 09.29.01.02. The Board concluded that the applicant's work experience and references demonstrated experience in gardening and arboriculture rather than forestry in accordance with Bus. Occ. & Prof. Art., Md. Ann. Code, § 7-101(c)(3)(ii).

OR-03, upon a motion (VI) by Mr. Markovich, and seconded by Mr. Rhyne-Grey, the Board unanimously voted to approve the license application of an individual who demonstrated the required educational and pre-license work experience in compliance with Bus. Occ. & Prof. Art., Md. Ann. Code, §§ 7-101(c)(3)(ii) and 7-304(b) and provided the requisite professional references in accordance with COMAR 09.29.1.02.

OR-04, upon a motion (VII) by Mr. Rider, and seconded by Mr. Markovich, the Board unanimously voted to approve the license application of an individual who demonstrated the required educational and pre-license work experience in compliance with Bus. Occ. & Prof. Art., Md. Ann. Code, §§ 7-101(c)(3)(ii) and 7-304(b) and provided the requisite professional references in accordance with COMAR 09.29.1.02.

The Board reconvened its business meeting at 11:00 a.m. Upon a motion (IX) made by Mr. Rider, seconded by Ms. Rhyne-Grey, and unanimously carried, the Board accepted the decisions rendered in the closed session.

New Business

Ms. Jordan asked the Board members if there was anyone who would be interested in becoming the new chair or vice chair. Ms. Jordan reported that Mr. Dorsey will be leaving the Board very soon and the Board needed to elect new officers. The Board nominated Michael Huneke for Chair and John Markovich for Vice Chair. Upon a motion (X) by Mr. Rider, and seconded by Ms. Rhyne-Grey, the Board voted to elect Mr. Huneke as Chairman by a vote of 3-1, and unanimously Mr. Markovich as Vice Chairman of the Board.

Old Business

Executive Director, Shanai Jordan, reminded the Board of their discussion at the last meeting regarding a clarifying revision to COMAR 09.29.01.02 regarding qualifying education for license applicants. The Board agreed to instruct Ms. Jordan to prepare and submit a regulation concept proposal to the Office of the Secretary.

Upon Motion (XI) by Mr. Markovich, and seconded by Mr. Huneke, and unanimously carried, the Board voted to direct Ms. Jordan to obtain approval for the Board to propose action to amend section .02 of COMAR 09.29.01, pertaining to professional references for license applicants.

Complaint Committee Report

No Complaint Committee Report.

Counsel's Report

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, by a motion (XII) by Mr. Markovich and seconded by Mr. Rider, and unanimously carried, the Board adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

October 21, 2019 - 500 North Calvert Street, Third Floor Conference Room, 10:00 AM

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Signature on File

 Chairman

8/14/2019

Date