

NC Board of Licensed Soil Scientist

Meeting – March 13, 2020

5211 Western Blvd, Raleigh, NC

**Meeting Minutes:**

Present: Scott Greene, Walter Giese, Don Wells, Patrick Johnson, Steve Broome and Deborah Piland (Administrator).

1. Scott Greene called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm and read the Ethics statement to the Board. Don Wells will recuse himself from considering the application of John Lewis as he is listed as the supervising soil scientist. No other Board members indicated any conflicts of interest with the agenda.

2. Agenda –Scott Greene reviewed the agenda. No other agenda items added or modified. **Walter Giese made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Don Wells, unanimously approved.**

3. Approval of October 4, 2019 minutes. After a review and discussion, Scott Greene indicated the following change; 1) a name correction (John Fowlkes). **Walter Giese made a motion to approve the corrected minutes, seconded by Don Wells, unanimously approved.**

4. Approval of minutes from the called January 23, 2020 meeting. After a review and discussion, **Walter Giese made a motion to approve those minutes, seconded by Don Wells, unanimously approved.**

5. Approval of Financial Report. Don Wells summarized the provided documents; the Profit & Loss statement and the Balance Sheet. The Profit & Loss statement and the Balance Sheet reports (green page) are from July 1, 2019 through February 28, 2020. In summary, we have a net income of -\$962.14 and the total assets are \$71,457.17. After a general discussion, **Walter Giese made a motion to approve the Financial Report, seconded by Scott Greene, unanimously approved.**

**Old Business:**

1. Ethics Education is required every two years. Board members can go to class or complete online training. Scott Greene will inform members who need this education.

2. Update on the 2L Rules: Don Wells informed the Board there is no status change on this item.

**New Business:**

1. A complaint was made by Ms. Lynne Cagle against Mr. Kenneth Owens (NCLSS). The Chairman, Scott Greene, has responded to both parties as required. The complaint indicates that Ms. Cagle was charged \$1,200 by Mr. Owens to dig soil pits and to evaluate the soil on a particular lot in Mecklenburg County, NC. After the pits were dug, she wanted the soil report but didn't get one from Mr. Owens. Mr. Owens responded that his fee was only for digging the soil pits for the County Health Department to review and that he was not providing a soil evaluation as part of his fee, therefore there was no soil report prepared by him. The local County Health Department did review the soil pits and they provided their pit evaluations to Ms. Cagle. Since the Health Department provided a report, Ms. Cagle wants some of the money returned as she felt Mr. Owens should have reviewed the soil and provided the report. After a discussion and reviewing the provided information, the NCLSS Board concluded that digging soil pits is not a listed practice of a LSS.

**Walter Giese made a motion to disregard the complaint against Kenneth Owens, as in this particular situation, he is not responsible for duties or services of a NCLSS but just for a back hoe operator digging pits for the local Health Department to review. Patrick Johnson seconds this motion, unanimously approved.** Scott Greene will respond to both parties of our findings and action.

2. Walter Giese handed out information for the Board to review related to the services and duties to be performed by a LSS. After a review and discussion, Scott Greene responded that he will provide additional information and get input from others. Then he will report back to Walter Giese and the Board as needed.

3. Scott Greene mentioned that there are several State laws that affect Soil Scientist. They were generally discussed and no actions are needed by the Board at this time.
4. HB 268, the appointed Task force has met and submitted their report to the legislature for review and comments. Based on this submittal, it could be sometime in 2021 before any new On-Site Wastewater Rules are approved.
5. Professional Practice Application submitted to the LSS Board.
  - a) Jesse Latriano submitted an application for full licensing. After a review and discussion of the application, it is incomplete. Scott Greene will respond to him about how to move forward.
  - b) Gary Morehouse, In-Training status, submitted an application for full licensing. After a review and discussion of the application, it is complete. **Don Wells made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Walter Giese, all attending members voted and approved.**
  - c) Melonie Allen, In-Training status, submitted an application for full licensing. After a review and discussion of the application, it is complete. **Don Wells made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Walter Giese, all attending members voted and approved.**
  - d) John Lewis submitted an application for full licensing. After a review and discussion of the application, it is complete. **Walter Giese made a motion to approve the application, seconded by Patrick Johnson. Eligible members voted and approved, (Don Wells recused himself)**
  - e) James Fitzgerald submitted an application for licensing by comity. After a review and discussion of the application, it does not meet the definition of comity because he has not taken a fundamental type exam in Georgia. **Walter Giese made a motion to deny the application, seconded by Steve Broome; all attending members voted and approved motion for denial.** Scott Greene will respond to him about how to move forward as he can sit for the professional exam based on education and work experience.

Announcement of Ones Taking Exam (No action needed)

- a) Bryan Hancock (Professional Practice Retest)
- b) James Rice (Fundamental Retest)
- c) Dustin Edwards (Fundamental)
- d) Laura Elliott (Fundamental)

#### **Other Business**

1. Scott Greene mentioned that the committee that oversees Licensing Boards had a meeting on March 9, 2020 and the topic of sun-setting for some current Licensed Boards came up and will be discussed this year. He will watch for any action and we can respond if needed.

Next meeting set for October 2, 2020 at 1 pm.

**Motion to adjourn made by Patrick Johnson, seconded by Walter Giese, Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Wells, LSS Board Secretary