



Meeting Opened: 4:00 P.M.

Attendance

Board Members: K. Massini, P. Catanzaro, K. Ross, E. Boss, M. Mueller

Public: None

Minutes of previous meeting

The Secretary referred members to the minutes of the January 8th, 2020 and March 12th, 2020 meeting and requested comments or corrections prior to their approval. *A motion was made (KR) and seconded (MM) to accept the November 13th, 2020 minutes with as written. Motion carried with a unanimous vote of members present.*

Public Inquiry

None

New Applications

To Review and recommend by the board to the director the new application package(s) submitted by:

Matthew Apgar – Application tabled, FLB requests further information

Tobias Carter - Application tabled, FLB requests further information

Christopher Ellis – Application tabled, FLB requests further information

Colin Mettey - Application tabled, FLB requests further information

Maria Urban - Recommended to the Director for Approval – assigned license number 455

Discussion followed about education requirements within the FLB regulation and how they match with current SAF standards for approved forestry curriculum.

Recusals: KR – Maria Urban

Renewal Applications

The following applications were reviewed and recommended to the director for license renewal.

None. License renewal has been extended per Executive Order of Massachusetts Governor Baker, see attached email sent to Licensed Forester on 05/24/2020 for further information.

Expired Licenses

None

Complaints

None



Other Business

Discuss logistics of future meeting when license renewals are resumed.

The Governor has lifted the executive order postponing license extension as of July 10th, 2020. The Board will suggest the following guidelines to the Director.

- Licenses that have expired between March 12th, 2020 and July 10th, 2020 will be submitted no later than October 8th, 2020 giving applicants 90 days to submit a renewal application per the Governor's order.
- Licenses that expire between July 10th, 2020 and October 8th, 2020 will be submitted no later than October 8th, 2020.
- Licenses that expire after October 9th, 2020 will follow existing regulation/policy for submitting date.
- License expiration dates will not change.
- Licenses that expired between January 1st, 2020 and December 31st, 2020 will have a baseline of 20 credits for renewal (8 category I and 20 total).
- Foresters should submit all earned credits for their normal license time frame to be added to the baseline for averaging in future years.

The Board will follow guidance from the Governor's office regarding in person, remote, and/or hybrid form for future meetings. Unless otherwise instructed by the Director there is no meeting planned until after October 8th, 2020 unless there is a need to review a new license application or address a license complaint.

If in person meetings are not possible when license renewals are conducted KM will process applications and initial. Applications will be divided in groups to be delivered to other FLB members for review and a second initial. This process is needed to verify earned credits that are submitted.

After approval/modification of these recommendations by Director, KM will draft a notice to all licensed foresters to explain critical dates for submission of licenses renewal, description of the credit baseline for 2020, the need to submit earned credits for averaging in future years, and will include the document outlining ways to achieve credits which was sent on 05/24/2020.

Discuss the online Silvicultural Institute Courses

PC contacted the Silvicultural Institute for clarification on the intent and content of the courses. After discussion the FLB decided to maintain the position that these courses are designed and intended for continuing education and are not a substitute for silviculture courses taken at the college or university level.

Next Meeting will be held at DCR Field office in Amherst, MA on

To Be Determined

Meeting Adjourned at 5:15 P.M. (*A motion was made (KM) and seconded (PC) unanimous approved*)

Cc: Peter Church