

**BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS REGISTRATION**

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PFEC Open 3

Professional Foresters Examining Committee Meeting Minutes

Held: July 22, 2024

OPEN SESSION MINUTES**Members Present:**

- Frank Mulhair, Chair
- Yana Valachovic
- James Hawkins
- Bill Snyder
- Christian Eggleton

Staff Participating:

- Dan Stapleton, Assistant Executive Officer, Licensing
- Deniele Casarubbia, Staff Services Analyst, Licensing
- Robert “Bob” Roth, Attorney

**Call to Order
Adjourn to Closed Session
Reconvene from Closed Session**

Report Out on Closed Session Items

The committee approved the candidates from the April exam. The committee also reviewed the October exam with additional suggestions and approved the minutes from the June 6th closed session meeting.

Report of the Executive Officer Foresters Licensing

E.O. Stapleton revealed that he had a meeting with Executive Officer Edith Hannigan and Jerry Bird from US Forest Service. The meeting was regarding the memorandum of understanding they have with the US Forest Service for work on Forest Service Land, and the conditions for use of an RPF in contract work.

Review of Draft June 2024 PFEC Open Session Meeting Minutes

There is a spelling error in E.O. Dan Stapleton’s name in the first paragraph under, “Report of The Executive Officer.”

Member Snyder moves to approve the minutes with an amendment to the spelling error. Member Eggleton seconds the motion.

Roll Call:

Yana Valachovic	Aye
James Hawkins	Aye
Bill Snyder	Aye
Christian Eggleton	Aye
Frank Mulhair, Chair	Aye

The motion passes unanimously.

Discussion of Qualifying Work Experience PFEC Priority #5

The committee reviewed the decision to include arboriculture as qualifying work experience for up to two years, as long as arboriculture is conducted for public safety on forested landscapes. The work would not be able to have an RPF supervisor because it's not considered forestry work.

The committee continued the discussion of fire training being considered as qualifying forestry experience.

Discussion of RPF License Reciprocity.

E.O. Stapleton revealed that the place that has the closest reciprocity is British Columbia. He explained that so far, there were no other places that have adequate requirements for reciprocity.

It was suggested to amend regulation 1611 to open up more opportunities for reciprocity.

E.O. Stapleton will continue to investigate the forestry requirements for British Columbia.

Discussion of RPF Fund Condition and Possible Fee Increases.

E.O. Stapleton generated a projection of funding using percentages of retained RPFs, RPFs passing the exam, and a subdued inflation rate. He suggested a possible \$60 increase would be necessary to remain in the black, however it is highly dependent on a 5% increase in RPFs from the exams.

The committee will continue the discussion of a fee increase at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned