**Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers of North Dakota**

**Fall Board Meeting**

**Friday, October 29, 2020 12:00pm, CST**

**Remote Conference Call due to COVID situation**

**Members Present:**

Alan Gulsvig

Matt Retka

Bruce Bogenrief

Jay Volk

**Members Absent:**

Perry Sullivan

**Others Present:**

David Breker

Lance Loken

Larry Edland

**Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order by Alan at 12:03 pm.

**Minutes of last Meeting**

The previously distributed Minutes of the last meeting from April 24, 2020 were reviewed. All in favor of approving the minutes, none opposed. Minutes approved.

**Secretary/Treasurer’s reports**

Treasure report was previously distributed and reviewed. No deposits or withdrawals since July. Matt noted the following:

* Recently sent the $273.51 check to risk management -so this amount is not reflected in the checking balance yet. Matt needs to get the folks there to change the address from our previous secretary, as this went to Darrell Vanderbush initially, not him. Hopefully they don’t charge a late fee.
* Our interest rate for the money market is less than it had been previously. Assumes we’ve reached the maturity of this account now.
* The state audit report is 100% online now. Matt plans to work on getting this submitted before year end.

Alan motioned to approve the treasurer report. Jay seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**Engineer’s consideration of proposing changes to the Soil Classifier law:**

Mat mentioned that NDACEC decided not to sponsor legislation changes to Soil Classifier Law this session. It was noted that someone/anyone else could sponsor a bill, but the NDACEC group would not be the sponsor. Lance mentioned that if we as a board propose changes to the law, it opens it up indefinitely. Lance was and is willing to act as a lobbyist if needed.

Alan recapped previous discussion with Sandra, who thought it would be best to work things out with any potential groups proposing changes during legislation if warranted. Sandra said we can’t do much with changing our law without the public rule changing process through the legislature. This would include changes to add new rules.

Discussion on updating the law for registration qualifications. There was discussion about potential to update the “rules” (NDAC) without opening up the law. Board to follow-up with new attorney general representative on this matter. Board to review law and see if rule changes can be made to make anything more clear. Alan to contact Dennis Johnson to see if any soil related bills have been put out, Jay to check into any posted pre-bill mechanisms.

**New Business:**

**Change in Board’s representative at Attorney General’s office.** Unsure who is Sandra’s replacement yet. Alan to inquire about this.

**Clarification of Soils Curriculum requirements for applicants:**

Larry mentioned previous proposed changes for 15 semester requirements for registration and would recommend starting any potential changes after next legislation session. Discussed possibilities of leaving the law as is and amending the rules. Matt and Alan plan to work on the definition for “approved curriculum” and see if this can be added to rules. Jay and Alan offered to research current status of university soils programs.

**Occupational Licensing Listening Sessions – summary of comments**

Alan said the sessions were encouraging board to give work opportunity and reciprocity. Matt recapped on his take-aways:

* The need for timely and nimble licensing procedures, and possible designation of registration authority to one individual when warranted.
* Ease for out-of-state professionals registration (i.e., it was noted that 41% of ND boards had some form of reciprocity licensing options)
* Requirement to have question on license applications for/if the applicant is a military spouse

Matt to work on getting the military spouse update to application.

**Review of new Classifier inquiries/applications**

Alan has had none. Matt had had a few inquiries. No applications have been submitted. Alan commented that COVID situation may be a factor.

**Non-Agenda Item for Board Appointments:** Matt terms ends in 2020. Bruce mentioned the application process is online. Matt was encouraged to apply on-line for another term.

**Next meeting – tentative date(s)**

Alan tentatively suggested late March Spring meeting in 2021.

**Bruce motioned to adjourn, Jay seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm**