

Report on the

# Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters

Montgomery, Alabama



## Department of Examiners of Public Accounts

401 Adams Avenue, Suite 280  
P.O. Box 302251  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2251  
Website: [www.examiners.alabama.gov](http://www.examiners.alabama.gov)

*Rachel Laurie Riddle, Chief Examiner*





Rachel Laurie Riddle  
*Chief Examiner*

**State of Alabama**  
Department of  
**Examiners of Public Accounts**

P.O. Box 302251, Montgomery, AL 36130-2251  
401 Adams Avenue, Suite 280  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104-4325  
Telephone (334) 242-9200  
FAX (334) 242-1775

August 18, 2021

Senator Will Barfoot  
Chairman, Sunset Committee  
Alabama State House  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Senator Barfoot,

This report was prepared to provide information for use by the Sunset Committee in conducting its review and evaluation of the operations of the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters in accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-20-9.

The report contains unaudited information obtained from the management, staff, and records of the Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters, in addition to information obtained from other sources.

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachel Laurie Riddle".

Rachel Laurie Riddle  
Chief Examiner

**Examiner**  
Charles Bass



# CONTENTS

<b>PROFILE .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Purpose/Authority .....	1
Characteristics .....	1
Operations .....	2
Financial .....	3
Licensure .....	3
<b>SIGNIFICANT ISSUES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS/SIGIFICANT ISSUES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ORGANIZATION.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>PERSONNEL.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>COMPLAINT HANDLING .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>REGULATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER ENTITIES.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>FINANCIAL INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>8</b>
Schedule of Fees .....	8
Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances .....	9
Operating Receipts vs. Operating Disbursements (Chart) .....	10
<b>QUESTIONNAIRES.....</b>	<b>12</b>
Board Member Questionnaire .....	12
Licensee Questionnaire .....	15
Complainant Questionnaire.....	19
<b>APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>20</b>
Applicable Statutes.....	20
Professional Services by Vendor .....	29
Examination Results by Alabama Public Educational Institutions.....	30
Board Members .....	31



# **PROFILE**

## **Purpose/Authority**

The Board of Registration for Foresters was created by Act No. 533, Acts of Alabama 1957, to license and regulate the professional practice of forestry in Alabama. Current statutory authority for the Board is found in the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 34-12-1 through 34-12-37.

The following legislative Acts were passed during the 2021 Legislation Session:

Act No. 434, Acts of Alabama 2021 – Amends Section 34-12-36 to provide for the sale of the nominal marketing or promotional items by the board; and to provide for the deposit and use of the funds received from the sale.

Act No. 435, Acts of Alabama 2021– Amends Section 34-12-34 to allow the board to call special meetings in accordance with its bylaws.

Act No 436, Acts of Alabama 2021 – Amends Section 34-12-8 to grant discretion to the board to relax or suspend the continuing annual education requirement of its licensees on a case by case basis in the event of extenuating circumstances.

<b><u>Characteristics</u></b>	
<b>Members and Selection</b>	Five foresters appointed by the Governor from a list of three nominees recommended by the Alabama Division of the Society of American Foresters.  <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-12-30(a)
<b>Term</b>	Five-year, staggered terms. No member can serve more than two consecutive terms.  <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-12-30(a)
<b>Qualifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Citizen of the United States</li><li>• Resident of the State of Alabama</li><li>• Must be a “registered forester”</li><li>• Member or fellow of the Society of American Foresters</li><li>• Engaged in the practice of the profession of forestry for the last ten years prior to such appointment.</li></ul> <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-12-31

<b>Consumer Representation</b>	No statutory requirement.
<b>Racial Representation</b>	No statutory requirement. One minority member is currently serving.
<b>Geographical Representation</b>	No statutory requirement.
<b>Other Representation</b>	The membership of the board shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographical, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state.  <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-12-30(b)
<b>Compensation</b>	\$50 per day plus travel expenses as paid to state employees.  <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-12-32
<b>Attended Board Member Training</b>	Executive Director
<b><u>Operations</u></b>	
<b>Administrator</b>	Lea Anna Meadows, Executive Director Appointed by the Board Annual salary: \$84,424.00 Salary set by the Board and approved by the State Personnel Department.
<b>Location</b>	513 Madison Avenue Montgomery, AL 36130-4500 Office Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30 – 5:00
<b>Employees</b>	One
<b>Legal Counsel</b>	Olivia Martin, Esq., employee, Office of the Attorney General
<b>Subpoena Power</b>	Yes, both persons and records  <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-12-35



<b>Internet Presence</b>	<a href="http://www.asbrf.alabama.gov">www.asbrf.alabama.gov</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing Education</li> <li>• Foresters Law</li> <li>• Rules of Conduct</li> <li>• Calendar</li> <li>• Members</li> <li>• History</li> <li>• Newsletter</li> <li>• Forestry Links</li> <li>• Roster of Foresters</li> <li>• Renewal Form</li> </ul>
<b><u>Financial</u></b>	
<b>Source of Funds</b>	<p>Licensing fees, administrative fines, and penalties. The Board is authorized to accept all gifts, bequests, and donations.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-12-36</p>
<b>State Treasury</b>	<p>Yes, Special Revenue Fund 0361</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-12-36</p>
<b>Required Distributions</b>	<p>No statutory requirements.</p>
<b>Unused Funds</b>	<p>The Board retains unused funds at fiscal year-end.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-12-36</p>
<b><u>Licensure</u></b>	
<b>Licensees</b>	<p>972 Registered Foresters as of March 25, 2021</p> <p><i>Source:</i> Executive Director</p>
<b>Licensure Qualifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold a bachelors or higher degree from a school approved by the Board or accredited by the Society of American Foresters.</li> <li>• Have passed a written or oral examination, or both.</li> <li>• Have a specific record of two years or more of experience in the practice of forestry of a nature satisfactory to the Board.</li> <li>• Be a person of good character and reputation.</li> <li>• Be a citizen of the United States or legally present</li> </ul> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-12-4</p>

<p><b>Examinations</b></p>	<p>Written and/or oral exams are prepared, monitored, and graded by Dr. Glenn Glover, contract consultant with the Board. Exams are given quarterly at the Board’s office in Montgomery, AL. The Board also gives the exam once a year at Alabama A&amp;M University and Auburn University if requested. Following are the passing rates for the past four years:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Written Examination Passing Rates</b></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th># Taken</th> <th># Passed</th> <th>% Passed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017</td> <td>37</td> <td>33</td> <td>89.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018</td> <td>41</td> <td>28</td> <td>68.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019</td> <td>37</td> <td>29</td> <td>78.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>33</td> <td>23</td> <td>69.7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Passing rates by Alabama educational institutions can be found in the appendix of this report.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-12-6  <i>Source:</i> Executive Director</p>	Year	# Taken	# Passed	% Passed	2017	37	33	89.2	2018	41	28	68.3	2019	37	29	78.4	2020	33	23	69.7
Year	# Taken	# Passed	% Passed																		
2017	37	33	89.2																		
2018	41	28	68.3																		
2019	37	29	78.4																		
2020	33	23	69.7																		
<p><b>Reciprocity</b></p>	<p>A registered forester may be granted reciprocity to practice in Alabama provided the state or country in which he or she is licensed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has standards for licensing comparable to Alabama and acceptable to the Board.</li> <li>• Observes these same rules of reciprocity in regard to persons licensed under Alabama Foresters statutes</li> </ul> <p>The Board has reciprocal agreements with Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, and North Carolina.</p> <p>As of March 25, 2021, there were a total of 76 reciprocity Licensed Foresters.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-12-11(a)  <i>Source:</i> Executive Director</p>																				
<p><b>Renewals</b></p>	<p>License expire on September 30<sup>th</sup> annually. No grace period is allowed.</p> <p>Licenses renewed online in FY 2020 - 64%</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975</i>, Section 34-12-8  <i>Source:</i> Executive Director</p>																				

<b>Licensee Demographics</b>	Data not collected by agency.
<b>Continuing Education</b>	Ten hours annually which can be taken during the two periods immediately preceding the renewal date.  <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-12-8(b) <i>Administrative Rule</i> 380-X-6-.04(1)

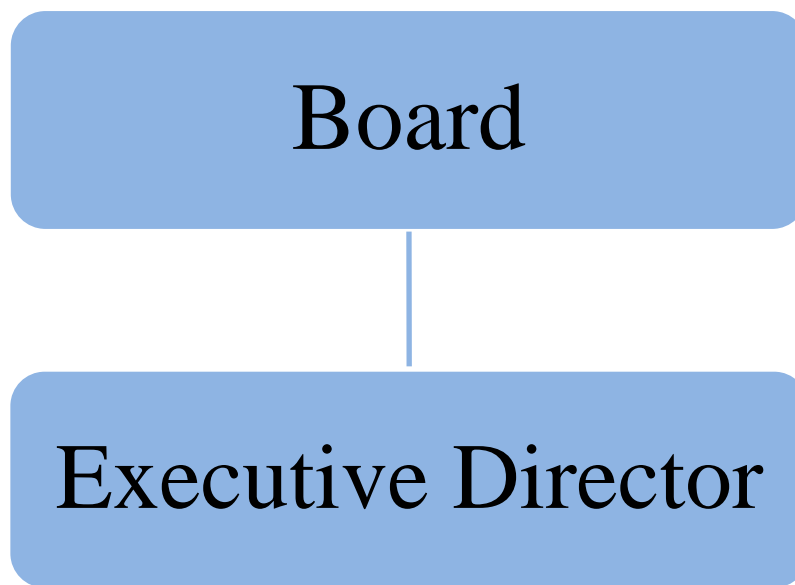
**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

No Significant Issues.

**STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS/SIGIFICANT ISSUES**

All prior findings/significant issues have been resolved.

**ORGANIZATION**



## **PERSONNEL**

The Board employs one white female as the executive director with an annual salary of \$86,424.00.

### **Legal Counsel**

Olivia W. Martin, Esq., Assistant Attorney General, an employee of the Attorney General's Office provides legal services for the Board.

### **Consultant**

Dr. Glenn Glover updates the Board's examination bank on a continuous basis to ensure that questions are accurate, comprehensive, and relevant. Dr. Glover meets with various forestry organizations and educational institutions for the purpose of soliciting questions for the exam. Dr. Glover grades examinations on an as-needed basis. The contract provides for an annual compensation of \$2,000 and up to \$3,000 per year for mileage, per diem, and any other necessary miscellaneous out-of-pocket expenses. Total compensation of the contract shall not exceed \$10,000 for the two-year period. The current contract is effective from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

## **PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS**

### **Number of Licensees for the Past Four Fiscal Years**

	<b>FISCAL YEAR</b>			
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Registered Forester	999	991	989	975

**Operating Disbursements per Licensee (FY 2020)** – \$143.11

### **Notification of Board decisions to Amend Administrative Rules**

The Board complied with notification procedures prescribed in the Administrative Procedure Act, which includes publication of proposed rules in the Administrative Monthly, and public hearings on proposed rules. Licensees are not specifically notified of proposed changes.

## **COMPLAINT HANDLING**

The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 34-12-9 and *Administrative Rules* 380-X-5-.01 through 380-X-5-.02 provide the Board's procedures for documentation, receipts, and investigation of complaints received by the Board.

<b>Initial Contact/Documentation</b>	Any person can file a complaint by mail, email or fax. The complaint forms are available on the Board's website and provided by the Executive Director upon request. Complaints must be signed and notarized. The Board notifies the complainant that the complaint has been received by the Board.
<b>Anonymous Complaints Accepted</b>	No
<b>Investigative Process / Probable Cause Determination</b>	Violations committee and the chairman of the Board investigate.
<b>Negotiated Settlements</b>	No
<b>Notification of Resolution to the Complainant</b>	Yes, by letter.

*Source:* Executive Director

Year/Number Received	Schedule of Complaints Resolved				
	Fiscal Year/Number Resolved				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021*
2017 / 3	2	1			
2018 / 4		2	2		
2019 / 2			1	1	
2020 / 3				1	2

\*As of March 26, 2021

**Average Time to Resolve Complaints** – 90 Days

### **Disposition of Resolved Complaints**

Number of Complaints	Resolution
4	No action taken
5	Cease and desist letter
2	No jurisdiction
1	Surrendered License

## REGULATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER ENTITIES

None.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**Source of Funds** – Licensing fees, examination fees, fines/penalties. The Board is also authorized by the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 34-12-36 to accept all gifts, bequests and donations

### Schedule of Fees

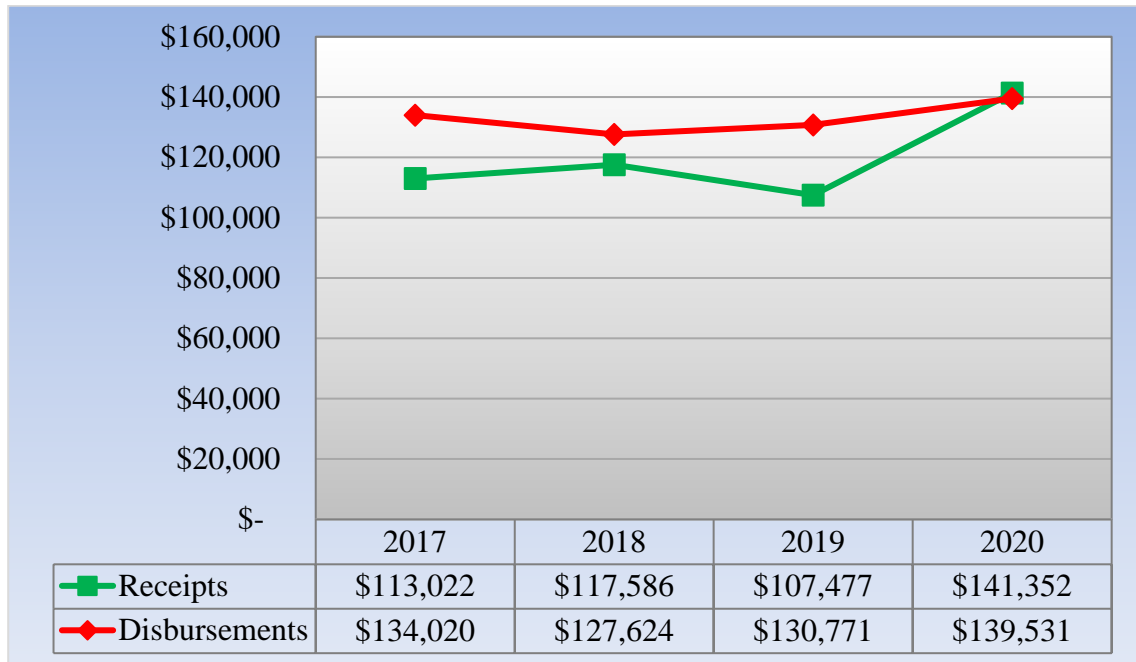
Fee Type/Purpose	Statutory Authority	Administrative Rule	Amount Authorized	Amount Collected
Application Fee	34-12-5	380-X-1-.09	≤ \$200.00	\$60.00
Reinstatement Application Fee	34-12-9	380-X-1-.09	≤ twice the renewal fee	\$150.00
Re-examination Fee	34-12-6	380-X-1-.09	≤ \$100.00	\$100.00
Renewal Fee	34-12-8(a)	380-X-1-.09	≤ \$200.00	\$130.00
Late Fee	34-12-8(a)	380-X-1-.09	≤ twice the renewal fee	\$100.00
License Replacement Fee	34-12-9	380-X-1-.09	≤ \$50.00	\$50.00
Printed Roster	34-12-3	380-X-1-.09	Determined by the board	\$10.00
Registered Forester Window Decal (Auto)		380-X-1-.09	Cost recovery	\$1.00
Bad Check Fee	8-8-15(b)	380-X-1-.09	\$30.00	\$30.00
Administrative Fine	34-12-9 34-12-12	380-X-5-.02(7)	≤ \$2,000 per violation	≤ \$2,000 per violation
<b>Reciprocity Application Fees are the same as charged Alabama applicants in the reciprocal states:</b>				
Arkansas	34-12-11 (b)	380-X-1-.09		\$80.00
Georgia	34-12-11 (b)	380-X-1-.09		\$20.00
Mississippi	34-12-11 (b)	380-X-1-.09		\$50.00
North Carolina	34-12-11 (b)	380-X-1-.09		\$90.00
South Carolina	34-12-11 (b)	380-X-1-.09		\$180.00

**Schedule of Receipts, Disbursements and Balances**

October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2020

	<b><u>2019-2020</u></b>	<b><u>2018-2019</u></b>	<b><u>2017-2018</u></b>	<b><u>2016-2017</u></b>
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>				
License Fees	\$ 141,352.00	\$ 107,476.75	\$ 117,567.99	\$ 113,021.99
Salvage Equipment or other Property	-	-	18.04	-
Total	<u>141,352.00</u>	<u>107,476.75</u>	<u>117,586.03</u>	<u>113,021.99</u>
<b><u>Disbursements</u></b>				
Personnel Cost	85,707.60	79,896.80	77,551.86	81,833.12
Employee Benefits	30,430.37	28,542.77	27,139.22	25,921.92
Travel, In-State	2,542.90	1,466.35	1,381.75	1,078.84
Travel, Out-of-State	-	1,347.36	1,208.48	2,085.72
Repairs and Maintenance	26.25	-	52.50	665.00
Rentals & Leases	-	-	115.34	93.53
Utilities & Communication	1,347.04	2,570.15	2,323.92	3,369.95
Professional Services	14,575.44	12,519.28	14,123.57	13,844.88
Supplies, Materials, and Operating Expenses	4,584.28	4,378.71	3,727.31	5,102.42
Grants & Benefits	-	50.00	-	25.00
Other Equipment Purchases	317.20	-	-	-
Total	<u>139,531.08</u>	<u>130,771.42</u>	<u>127,623.95</u>	<u>134,020.38</u>
Excess(Deficiency) of Receipts over Disbursements	1,820.92	(23,294.67)	(10,037.92)	(20,998.39)
Cash Balance at Beginning of Year	<u>115,380.81</u>	<u>138,675.48</u>	<u>148,713.40</u>	<u>169,711.79</u>
Cash Balance at End of Year	117,201.73	115,380.81	138,675.48	148,713.40
Reserved for Unpaid Obligation	<u>(8,395.00)</u>	<u>(7,400.88)</u>	<u>(7,167.20)</u>	<u>(9,141.62)</u>
Available Cash at Year End	<u>\$ 108,806.73</u>	<u>\$ 107,979.93</u>	<u>\$ 131,508.28</u>	<u>\$ 139,571.78</u>

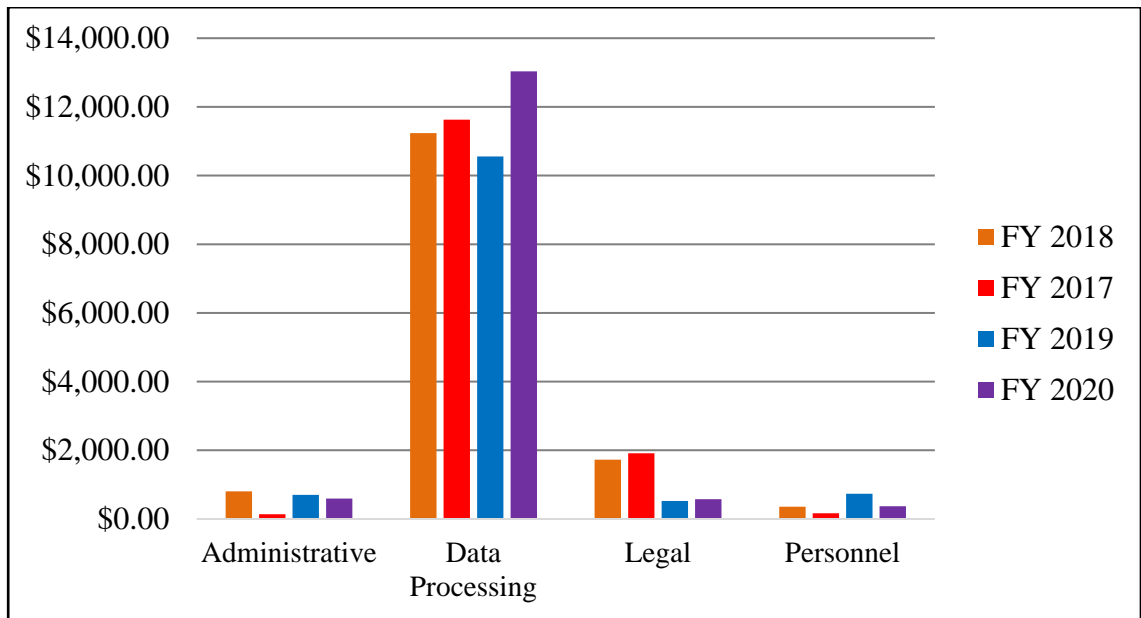
**Operating Receipts vs. Operating Disbursements (Chart)**





<b>SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
As of September 30 <sup>th</sup>				
<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>
Administrative	\$ 138.55	\$ 805.55	\$ 703.53	\$ 596.25
Data Processing	11,628.83	11,236.02	10,554.75	13,033.19
Legal	1,912.50	1,725.00	525.00	575.00
Personnel	165.00	357.00	736.00	371.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 13,844.88</b>	<b>\$ 14,123.57</b>	<b>\$ 12,519.28</b>	<b>\$ 14,575.44</b>

**Professional Service Disbursement Chart**



## **QUESTIONNAIRES**

### **Board Member Questionnaire**

A letter was sent to all five members of the Board of Registration for Foresters requesting participation in our survey. Three participated in the survey. The percentages, where shown, are based on the number who responded to the question.

**1. What are the most significant issues currently facing the Board of Registration for Foresters and how is the Board addressing these issues?**

**Board Member #1** – “Continuous monitoring of the test for certification to ensure fairness, relevance and freshness, to allow the State to have well quality registered professionals in the field of forestry. Additionally, attending to any potential violations to the rules set forth in the laws governing their practice.”

**Board Member #2** – “One issue that was discussed at the board meeting is to re-evaluate the complexity of the questions given on the Registered Forester's examination. We do not want the examination to be so difficult that very few foresters pass.”

**Board Member #3** – “There are several changes needed in the Board's code to update processes. Our legal staff has written up changes needed and are in the process of getting legislative attention and action needed. Promulgating rules without legislative action is also being reviewed by the legal staff so updates to processes and rules can be made by the board without the burden of legislative action every few years.”

**2. What, if any, changes to the Board's laws are needed?**

**Board Member #1** – “Several changes are currently passing through legislative process to better enable operation of the Board.”

**Board Member #2** – “To my knowledge, there were no changes to the Board's laws that were recommended at this time. There was a discussion to allow applicants with a 2-year forestry degree to be eligible to take the Registered Forester's examination, but the board decided to keep the current policy.”

**Board Member #3** – “As mentioned before we have some minor changes in process as mentioned in Question 1.”

*Board Member Questionnaire*

**3. Is the Board adequately funded?**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67%</b>
Unknown	1	33%

**Board Member #2** – “I participated in my first board meeting in January 2021, so I am not completely abreast with the funding situation.”

**4. Is the Board adequately staffed?**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100%</b>
------------	----------	-------------

**Board Member #2** - “To my knowledge, the Board is adequately staffed.”

**5. Does the Board receive regular reports on the operations of the Board from the Executive Director?**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67%</b>
No	1	33%

**6. Has the Board experienced any significant changes to its operations?**

<b>No</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67%</b>
Unknown	1	33%

**7. Does the Board plan any significant changes in its operations?**

<b>No</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67%</b>
Unknown	1	33%

**Board Member #2** - “I am unaware of any proposed or significant changes in its operations.”

**8. Do you have any other comments you would like to make?**

**Board Member #1** – “This Board meets quarterly, operates efficiently with volunteers from their peers appointed by the Governor to assure the State and the public an ethical and educated professional has been certified as a registered forester with the State of Alabama.”

**Board Member #2** – “I am excited to learn more about the Board of Registration for Foresters and hope that I can contribute fully to its operations.”

**Board Member #3** – “As a former General Manager working for an international forest management company, I have seen professional forestry in action across many geographies. Forestry is a very complex activity with many risks like no other and requires professional skills, experience and creativity to manage successfully. In my opinion Alabama's Forestry Registration Law and Board implementation is by far the most comprehensive among the other states of which I am familiar. Alabama has one of the best managed privately owned forests in the U.S. due to our professional managers in this state. Industry recognizes this and numerous new sawmills and green energy pellet mills have been constructed (or are in construction) across the state. Economic demand incentivizes highly productive and well managed forests for the long term benefit of our state and its citizens. Our professional forestry and wildlife school at Auburn is turning out the best forest management practitioners in the country to meet our professional standards and highly developed forest resources in Alabama. Well over ninety percent of our forests are owned privately of which most owners are small individual and family owned properties. Our registration law in Alabama protects landowners from unqualified managers or unscrupulous contractors from giving and implementing management advice that is detrimental to their forest objectives and their financial interest. In summary, our professional forester registration law is an integral part of making Alabama's forests top tier in our nation. Our registration law promotes high quality practitioner's through our college educational curriculums along with subsequent testing and experience requirements. Landowners have access to highly qualified professional foresters that make recommendations in their interest and can implement quality control over timber sales, logging, stand silviculture, reforestation operations. The citizens of Alabama benefit from Alabama's well managed forests with industry jobs, improved tax revenues and recreational benefits of having a large forest base. Forests provide the best land use watersheds by protecting Alabama's water resource quality through our professionally developed and universally implemented Best Management Practices for Forestry. The Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters and the licensing it conducts is integral to our state's forest resources that our citizens benefit from today and into the future.”

**Licensee Questionnaire**

A letter was sent to one hundred licensees requesting participation in our survey. Forty participated in the survey. The percentages, where shown, are based on the number who responded to the question.

**1. What do you think is the most significant issue(s) currently facing your profession in Alabama?**

**Respondent #1** – “Logger/qualified worker shortages.”

**Respondent #2** – “FUEL PRICES, HIGH EQUIPMENT RATES, LACK OF TRUCK DRIVERS.”

**Respondent #3** – “As the state BMP Coordinator for the AFC, one of the issues that I am facing is the inability to have educational presentations to landowners, timber companies, and loggers in a public setting due to Covid-19 restrictions. I would also like to see less restrictions on prescribed burning in Jefferson County.”

**Respondent #4** - “Low Timber prices and lack of good loggers.”

**Respondent #5** – “Depressed timber prices.”

**Respondent #6** – “Regulations.”

**Respondent #7** – “Low value. Too many non-foresters are practicing forestry. The worst consequence they face is a cease and desist letter and that is if someone reports them. What would the penalty be if I started writing prescriptions for medicine or practicing law without a license? I'd go to jail. The industry is also putting off management on to the loggers through PLM training while they offer no incentive for wood to be produced under a forester's supervision.”

**Respondent #8** – “Trucking shortage.”

**Respondent #9** – “Use of a registered forester is not required for forestry activities. It is not promoted or enforced.”

**Respondent #10** – “Paper Mills awarding contracts to timber buyers or loggers who have forestry education.”

**Respondent #11** – “Power of the unelected government bureaucracy.”

**Respondent #12** – “Lack of common-sense woods sense in graduates.”

**Respondent #13** – “Not enforcing stricter actions against non-foresters! Why can lawyers sell timber? I can't practice law!!”

**Respondent #14** – “Low stumpage prices for landowners.”

**Respondent #15** – “A community of loggers that are aging out without being replaced by a younger generation.”

**Respondent #16** – “Timber Theft.”

**Respondent #17** – “Private Property Rights being infringed upon by county commissions/ government overreach.”

**Respondent #18** – “Low pine sawtimber prices.”

**Respondent #19** – “Online education.”

**Respondent #20** – “Logging labor and affordable freight. High insurance costs.”

**Respondent #21** – “Environmental Regulations to come.”

**Respondent #22** – “Too much government regulation and presence.”

**Respondent #23** – “Rapidly increasing fuel cost and little change in wood prices for producers to use to absorb the cost.”

**Respondent #24** – “Lack of qualified workforce, government regulations, insurance requirements and costs, equipment costs, lack of face to face communication from mill reps.”

**Respondent #25** – “Lack of understanding of the dynamics of forestry by the general population, i.e. voters.”

**Respondent #26** – “Lack of competition on the Mill level. The mills control everything now. Prices used to go up in the Winter. Now they go down.”

**Respondent #27** – “Loggers rule, with wood dealerships, registered foresters are a non-issue in the business.”

**Respondent #28** – “Overreaching non-scientific policy restrictions from liberal organizations and lobbyist.”

**Respondent #29** – “There are individuals with no forestry training claiming to be foresters.”

**Respondent #30** – “Environmental concerns and public opinion.”

**Respondent #32** – “Markets.”

**Respondent #32** – “People practicing forestry without license.”

**Respondent #33** – “The reduction of professional logging companies, which causes landowners with small tracts of timber not to be able to market their timber.”

**Respondent #34** – “Government regulation of forest practices.”

**Respondent #35** – “Influence on elected and non-elected government officials by outside environmental special interest groups.”

**Respondent #36** – “Environmental extremist that prefer preservation over conservation.”

**Respondent #37** – “Balance of supply and demand. Future demand of paper products.”

**Respondent #38** – “Trucking shortages due to an aging demographic and increased federal regulations that make it hard to insure new drivers. Also, insurance costs have skyrocketed.”

**Respondent #39** – “Invasive species lack of trained logging operator’s timber haulers condition of roads and bridges.”

**Respondent #40** – “Logging contractor's ability to get affordable insurance for their trucks and business in general.”

**2. Do you think regulation of your profession by the Board of Registration for Foresters is necessary to protect the public welfare?**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>83%</b>
No	7	17%

**3. Do you think any of the Board’s laws, rules, or policies are an unnecessary restriction on the practice of your profession?**

Yes	2	5%
<b>No</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>88%</b>
No Opinion	3	7%

**4. Are you adequately informed by the Board of changes to and interpretations of the Board’s positions, policies, rules, and laws?**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>78%</b>
No	7	17%
Unknown	2	5%

**5. Do you consider mandatory continuing education necessary for the competent practice of your profession?**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>65%</b>
No	13	33%
No Opinion	1	2%

**Respondent #10** – “It seems like a lot of the classes are unnecessary. Many practicing foresters have more experience of the subject matter than the teachers.”

**Respondent #15** – “However, the minimum requirements (hours) should be revisited from time to time. For example, 10 hours every two years instead of annually, The reason is because we tend to take the same classes over and over.”

**Respondent #17** – “Not to the extent that it is required. 10 hours per year is excessive.”

**Respondent #29** – “The Board requires 10 hours per year which is entirely too much, and the majority of the classes have no value. I'm also a licensed real estate agent and we're required to take 15 hours every two years and the liability to the public is exponentially higher in real estate.”

**Respondent 34** – “I think the current requirements are excessive and often the continuing ed is repetitive just to meet the requirements.”

**6. Does the Board respond to your inquiries in a timely manner?**

Yes	19	48%
No	1	2%
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>50%</b>

**7. Has the Board performed your licensing and renewal in a timely manner?**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>98%</b>
No Opinion	1	2%

**8. Do you think the Board and its staff are satisfactorily performing their duties?**

<b>Yes</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>80%</b>
No	2	5%
Unknown	2	5%
No Opinion	4	10%



**Complainant Questionnaire**

A letter was sent to five complainants requesting participation in our survey. Two participated in the survey. The percentages, where shown, are based on the number who responded to the question.

**1. Was receipt of your complaint acknowledged?**

Yes	2	100%
-----	---	------

**2. Approximately how long after filing your complaint did the Board contact you?**

Within 15 days	1	50%
Within 30 days	1	50%

**3. Did the Board communicate the results of the investigation of your complaint to you?**

Yes	1	50%
No	1	50%

**Respondent #2** – “THE BOARD TREATED THIS AS IF IT WAS NO BIG DEAL JUST ALITTLE MISTAKE THAT THE FORESTER MADE ACTING AS A SURVEYOR AND GETTING THE LAND LINE WRONG COSTING MY CLIENT TREES OUT OF HIS YARD.”

**4. Do you think the Board did everything it could to resolve your complaint?**

Yes	1	50%
No	1	50%

**5. Do you have any additional comments you would like to make?**

**Respondent #1** – “No.”

**Respondent #2** – “APPARENTLY THE BOARD TREATS SMALL LANDOWNERS WITH CONTEMPT. THE BOARD PROTECTS FORESTERS AT ALL COSTS EVEN WHEN THE FORESTER IS IN DIRECT VIOLATION OF STATE LAW. THE BOARD MADE NO EFFORT TO RESOLVE THIS MATTER. IT WAS JUST A LITTLE MISTAKE ACCORDING TO THE BOARD.”

## **APPENDICES**

### **Applicable Statutes**

#### **Section 34-12-1 Definitions.**

For purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the respective meanings ascribed by this section:

- (1) BOARD. The State Board of Registration for Foresters.
- (2) PRACTICE OF FORESTRY. Any professional service such as consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, or responsible supervision as interpreted by the board of any forestry activities in connection with any public or private lands wherein the public welfare and property are concerned or involved when the professional service requires the application of forestry principles and data. The term also means the application, teaching, investigation, or administration of forestry theories, principles, practices, or programs directly or indirectly related to the environmental and economic use and the biological and ecological understanding of gross areas of land in public or private ownership or direction, or both, and supervision over persons engaged in the formation or implementation, or both, of forestry policies.
- (3) REGISTERED FORESTER. A person who, by reason of his or her knowledge of the natural sciences, mathematics, economics, and the principles of forestry and by his or her demonstrated skills acquired through professional forestry education and professional forestry experience as interpreted by the board is qualified to engage in the practice of forestry and who also has been duly registered and holds a current valid license issued by the board.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §2; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §2; Acts 1973, No. 1202, p. 2020, §2; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3.)*

#### **Section 34-12-2 Registration required; exceptions.**

(a) In order to benefit and protect the public, no person in either public or private capacity shall practice or offer to practice forestry, unless he or she has submitted evidence that he or she is qualified so to practice and is registered by the board as hereinafter provided or unless he or she is specifically exempted from registration under this chapter. It shall be unlawful for any person to practice or offer to practice in this state forestry, as defined by this chapter, or to use in connection with his or her name or otherwise assume, use, or advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that he or she is a registered forester, unless duly registered or exempt from registration under this chapter.

(b) This chapter shall not be construed to prevent or to affect:

- (1) The practice of any other legally recognized profession or trade.
- (2) The application of forestry principles and procedures on any timberlands, woodlands, or forest in which any person, firm, partnership, or corporation owns an interest; or persons, firms, partnerships, and corporations having the right to manage and administer forestlands in any legal manner.
- (3) The work of an employee or a subordinate of any registered forester holding a license under this chapter; provided, that such work is done under the direction, supervision, and responsibility of a person holding a license under this chapter.

- (4) The practice of forestry by officers and employees of the United States government on federally owned lands.
- (5) The practice of forestry by officers and employees of the State of Alabama on state-owned lands.
- (6) Employees of the federal government and educational institutions of the State of Alabama who, in the exercise of their assigned duties, conduct forestry education programs or provide free forestry advice and assistance to timberland owners, or both.  
*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §1; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §1; Acts 1973, No. 1202, p. 2020, §1; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-3 Roster of registered foresters.**

A roster showing the names and places of business of all registered foresters qualified according to this chapter shall be prepared by the secretary of the board during the month of January biennially in even-numbered calendar years. Copies of this roster shall be posted on the board website, placed on file with the Secretary of State, and furnished to the public, upon request, for a reasonable fee determined by the board.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §11; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §5; Acts 1977, No. 755, p. 1293, §1; Act 2006-150, p. 221, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-4 Qualifications of applicants for registration.**

(a) The following requirements shall be considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is qualified to practice forestry and to be registered and licensed pursuant to this chapter. Each applicant shall:

- (1) Hold a bachelors or higher degree from a school approved by the board or accredited by the Society of American Foresters in a forestry curriculum accepted by the board.
- (2) Have passed a written or oral examination, or both, designed to show the knowledge and skill obtained through graduation from the school or college.
- (3) Have a specific record of two years or more of experience in the practice of forestry of a nature satisfactory to the board and indicating that the applicant is competent to practice forestry.
- (4) Be a person of good character and reputation.
- (5) Be a citizen of the United States or, if not a citizen of the United States, a person who is legally present in the United States with appropriate documentation from the federal government.

(b) The board shall issue licenses only to those applicants who meet the requirements of this section.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §12; Acts 1961, Ex. Sess., No. 141, p. 2082, §1; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §6; Acts 1973, No. 1202, p. 2020, §5; Acts 1990, No. 90-105, p. 124, §3; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3; Act 2010-278, p. 502, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-5 Applications; registration fees.**

Application for registration shall be made on forms prescribed and furnished by the board. An application shall contain statements made under oath showing the education of the applicant and a detailed summary of his or her professional work. The application shall also contain not less than five references, of whom three or more shall be registered foresters or graduates of a curriculum in forestry of four years or more in a school or

college approved by the board or accredited by the Society of American Foresters, having personal or professional knowledge of the forestry experience of the applicant. Any proposed subsequent statement, correction, or addition to the application shall be given under oath in writing and shall be made a part of the original application. The registration fee for a license shall be set annually by the board in an amount not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200), which shall accompany the application. Should the board deny the issuance of a license to any applicant, the fee deposited shall be retained by the board as an application fee.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §13; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §7; Acts 1973, No. 1202, p. 2020, §6; Acts 1977, No. 756, p. 1294, §1; Acts 1986, No. 86-117, p. 138, §3; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-6 Examination.**

When written or oral examinations, or both, are required, they shall be held at such time and place as the board may determine. The methods of procedure shall be prescribed by the board. A candidate failing an examination may apply for reexamination at the expiration of six months. This examination and all subsequent oral and written examinations shall be granted upon payment of a fee to be determined annually by the board, not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) in each instance.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §14; Acts 1986, No. 86-117, p. 138, §3; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-7 Licenses - Issuance; contents; use of license number.**

The board shall issue a license upon payment of a registration fee as provided for in this chapter to an applicant who, in the opinion of the board, has satisfactorily met all of the requirements set out by this chapter. Licenses shall show the full name of the registrant, shall have a serial number and shall be signed by the chairman of the board. The issuance of a license by the board shall be evidence that the person named therein is entitled to all of the rights and privileges of a registered forester while the license remains unrevoked or unexpired. Plans, maps, specifications, and reports issued by a registrant shall be endorsed with his or her name and license number during the life of the registrant's license, but it shall be a misdemeanor for anyone to endorse any document with the name and license number after the license of the registrant named therein has expired or has been revoked, unless the license shall have been renewed or reissued. It shall be a misdemeanor for any registered forester to endorse any plan, specification, estimate, or map unless he or she shall have actually prepared such plan, specification, estimate, or map, or shall have been in the actual charge of the preparation thereof.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §15.)*

**Section 34-12-8 Licenses - Expiration; renewal.**

(a) Licenses shall expire on the 30th day of September next following their issuance or renewal and shall become invalid on that date unless renewed. The secretary of the board shall notify, at his or her last registered address, every person registered under this chapter of the date of the expiration of his or her license and the amount of the fee that shall be required for its renewal for one year. The notice shall be mailed three months in advance of the date of the expiration of the licenses. Two subsequent monthly notices may be

mailed, the second by certified mail, return receipt requested. The annual renewal fee for licenses shall be established annually by the board and shall not exceed two hundred dollars (\$200). Renewal of licenses for the following year may be effected at any time during the three months preceding September 30 of the year in which the license has been issued or renewed by the payment of the renewal fee so fixed by this chapter. Licensees who renew their licenses between September 30 and December 31 of any year renewal is due shall pay a late renewal fee set by the board not to exceed an amount equal to twice the annual renewal fee. The board shall make an exception to the foregoing renewal provision in the case of a person who is in the armed services of the United States. A licensee who fails to renew a license by December 31 of any year renewal is due shall have his or her license revoked.

(b) The state board shall adopt a program of continuing education for its licensees not later than October 1, 1991, and after that date no licensee shall have his or her active license renewed unless, in addition to any other requirements of this chapter, the minimum continuing annual education requirements are met. It is further provided that the continuing education program herein required shall not apply to any licensee who is 65 years of age or older and shall not include testing or examination of the licensees in any manner.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §16; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §8; Acts 1977, No. 756, p. 1294, §1; Acts 1986, No. 86-117, p. 138, §3; Acts 1990, No. 90-105, p. 124, §3; Acts 1994, No. 94-130, p. 163, §3; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3; Act 2006-150, p. 221, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-9 Licenses - Revocation; administrative fines; reissuance; replacement of lost license.**

The board may revoke the license of any registrant who is found guilty by the board of gross negligence, incompetency, or misconduct in the practice of forestry. The board may discipline its licensees by the imposition and collection of an administrative fine set by the board not to exceed two thousand dollars (\$2,000) per violation, and may institute any legal proceeding necessary to effect compliance with the chapter. All administrative fines collected by the board shall be deposited in the State Treasury in the "Professional Foresters Fund." The board may designate a person or persons to investigate and report to it upon any charges of fraud, deceit, gross negligence, incompetency, or other misconduct in connection with any forestry practice against any registrant, as may come to its attention. Any person or persons so designated by the board shall receive the same compensation and shall be reimbursed for expenses in the same amount as the board as outlined in Section 34-12-32. Any person may prefer charges of fraud, deceit, gross negligence, incompetency, or other misconduct in connection with any forestry practice against any registrant. The charges shall be in writing, shall be sworn to by the person making them, and shall be filed with the secretary of the board. All charges, unless dismissed by the board as unfounded or trivial, shall be heard by the board within three months after the date on which they have been preferred. The time and place for the hearing shall be fixed by the board, and a copy of the charges, together with a notice of the time and place of the hearing, shall be personally served on, or mailed to the last known address of, the registrant, at least 30 days before the date fixed for the hearing. At any hearing, the accused registrant shall have the right to appear personally and by counsel, to cross-examine witnesses appearing against him or her, and to produce

evidence and witnesses in his or her own defense. If, after a hearing, three or more members of the board vote in favor of finding the accused guilty, the board may revoke the license of the registered forester. Any applicant whose license has been revoked as above may apply for a review of the proceedings with reference to the revocation of his or her license by the aforementioned circuit court and from there by appeal to the Supreme Court of Alabama. The only record to be considered by either the circuit court or by the Supreme Court shall be the record made before the board. New evidence shall be presented to the board, in session, before it may be used in court proceedings. The board, for reasons it may deem sufficient, may reissue a license to any person whose license has been revoked when three or more members vote in favor of reissuance. A new license to replace a revoked license may be issued, subject to the rules of the board and at a fee set by the board not to exceed an amount equal to twice the annual renewal fee. Lost, destroyed, or mutilated licenses may be issued, subject to the rules of the board and at a fee set by the board not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50) for the issuance.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §19; Acts 1986, No. 86-117, p. 138, §3; Acts 1994, No. 94-130, p. 163, §3; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3.)*

#### **Section 34-12-10 Firms, partnerships, and corporations.**

Registration shall be determined upon a basis of individual, personal qualifications. No firms, companies, partnerships, or corporations can be licensed under this chapter.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §17.)*

#### **Section 34-12-11 Reciprocity.**

(a) A person not a resident of, and having no established place of business in Alabama, or who has recently become a resident thereof, may use the title of registered forester and practice forestry provided:

(1) Such person is legally licensed as a registered forester in his or her own state or country and has submitted evidence to the board that he or she is so licensed;

(2) The state or country in which he or she is so licensed:

a. Has standards for licensing comparable to Alabama and acceptable to the board; and

b. Observes these same rules of reciprocity in regard to persons licensed under the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Each person seeking the privileges of reciprocity granted under this chapter shall submit his or her application therefor to the board and shall receive a card or certificate from the board before exercising such privileges. The application fee for obtaining such a reciprocity card or certificate shall be the same as is charged an Alabama licensee seeking to obtain reciprocal privileges in the home state or country of the applicant.

(c) Persons practicing forestry in the state through reciprocity shall be subject to the same renewal and expiration rules as provided in Section 34-12-8.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §18; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §9; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3.)*

#### **Section 34-12-12 Violations and penalties.**

(a) Any person who shall practice or offer to practice the profession of forestry in this state without being registered or exempted in accordance with this chapter; or any person who shall use in connection with his or her name or otherwise assume, use, or advertise

any title or description tending to convey the impression that he or she is a registered forester, without being registered or exempted in accordance with this chapter; or any person who shall present or attempt to use as his or her own the license of another; or any person who shall give any false or forged evidence of any kind to the board or any member thereof in obtaining a license; or any person who shall attempt to use an expired or revoked license; or any person, firm, partnership, or corporation who shall violate any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) nor more than two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for each offense. The board, or the person or persons designated by the board to act in its stead, may prefer charges for any of the violations of this chapter in any county in this state in which the violations may have occurred. All duly constituted officers of the law of this state, or any political subdivision thereof, shall enforce this chapter and prosecute any persons, firms, partnerships, or corporations violating the same. The Attorney General of the state and his or her assistants shall act as legal advisers of the board and render legal assistance as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

(b) All fines collected for the violation of any provisions of this chapter shall be paid over to the secretary of the board to be by him or her delivered to the State Treasurer to be placed in the Professional Foresters Fund in the same manner as funds received for the issuance of licenses.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §20; Acts 1973, No. 1202, p. 2020, §7; Acts 1990, No. 90-105, p. 124, §3; Acts 1994, No. 94-130, p. 163, §3; Act 98-145, p. 223, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-30 Creation; composition; diversity of membership.**

(a) A State Board of Registration for Foresters is created whose duty it shall be to administer this chapter. The board shall consist of five foresters, who shall be selected and appointed by the Governor of Alabama from among 10 nominees recommended by the Alabama Division of the Society of American Foresters and shall have the qualifications required by Section 34-12-31. Each member of the board shall receive a certificate of his or her appointment from the Governor and before beginning his or her term of office shall file with the Secretary of State his or her written oath of affirmation for the faithful discharge of his or her official duties. The five members of the initial board shall be appointed for terms of one, two, three, four, and five years, respectively, and in making the appointment the Governor shall designate the term for which each of the members is appointed as provided for above. At the expiration of the term of any member of the initial board, the Governor shall, from a list of three nominees recommended by the Alabama Division of the Society of American Foresters, appoint for a term of five years a registered forester having the qualifications required by Section 34-12-31 to succeed the member whose term on the board is expiring. Nothing contained in this chapter shall prohibit any member whose term expires to be reappointed to succeed himself or herself on the board. After March 7, 1990, no member shall serve more than two full consecutive terms of office. If the Governor fails to make appointment in 90 days after expiration of any term, the board shall make the necessary appointment from nominees submitted as hereinabove provided and who meet the qualifications set out by Section 34-12-31. Each member of the board shall hold office until the expiration of the

term for which such member is appointed or until a successor shall have been duly appointed and shall have qualified.

(b) The membership of the board shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state. The board shall annually report to the Legislature by the second legislative day of each regular session the extent to which the board has complied with the diversity provisions of this subsection.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §3; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §3; Acts 1986, No. 86-117, p. 138, §3; Acts 1990, No. 90-105, p. 124, §3; Act 2010-278, p. 502, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-31 Qualifications of members.**

Each member of the board shall be a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of Alabama, a "registered forester" under the provisions of this chapter, a member or fellow of the Society of American Foresters and shall have been engaged in the practice of the profession of forestry for the last 10 years prior to such appointment.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §4; Acts 1969, No. 1051, p. 1965, §4.)*

**Section 34-12-32 Compensation and expenses.**

Each member of the board shall receive a nominal sum of \$50 per diem when actually attending to the work of the board or any of its committees and for the time spent in necessary travel and, in addition thereto, shall be reimbursed for all traveling expenses as provided in Article 2 of Chapter 7 of Title 36, and incidental and clerical expenses necessarily incurred in carrying out the provisions of this chapter. Such compensation and expenses shall be paid out of the Professional Foresters Fund in the manner prescribed herein.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §5; Acts 1973, No. 1202, p. 2020, §3; Acts 1986, No. 86-117, p. 138, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-33 Removal of members; vacancies.**

The Governor may remove any member of the board for misconduct, incompetency, or neglect of duty. Vacancies in the membership of the board shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment only in the manner provided by this chapter for the appointment of members of the board.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §6.)*

**Section 34-12-34 Meetings; officers; quorum.**

The members of the board shall be named and appointed by the Governor within 60 days after September 13, 1957. The board shall hold a meeting within 30 days after its members are first appointed and thereafter shall hold at least two regular meetings each year. Special meetings shall be held at such time and place as the bylaws of the board may provide; provided, that not more than one meeting may be held in any one calendar month. Notice of all meetings shall be given in such manner as the bylaws may provide. The board shall elect or appoint annually the following officers: A chairman, vice-chairman, and a secretary, who shall each be members of the board. A quorum of the board shall consist of not less than three voting members.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §7.)*



**Section 34-12-35 Powers generally.**

The board shall have the power to make all bylaws and rules, not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this state, which may be reasonably necessary for the proper performance of its duties and the regulations of the proceedings before the board. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, following appropriate review by the Contract Review Permanent Legislative Oversight Committee, the board may enter into any contract or agreement relating to the board without further approval. The board shall adopt and have an official seal. In carrying into effect the provisions of this chapter, the board may, under the hand of its chairman and the seal of the board, subpoena witnesses and compel their attendance and may also require them to produce books, papers, maps, or documents. Any member of the board may administer oaths of affirmation to witnesses appearing before the board. Witnesses officially called by the board shall receive the same compensation and shall be reimbursed for expenses in the same amount as the members of the board as provided and set out in Section 34-12-4. If any person shall refuse to appear as a witness before the board, or refuse to testify, or refuse to produce any books, papers, or documents, the board may present its petition to the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, setting forth the facts, and the court shall, in a proper case, issue a subpoena to the person, requiring his or her attendance before the circuit court and there to testify or to produce such books, papers, and documents as may be deemed necessary and pertinent by the board. Any person failing or refusing to obey the subpoena or order of the circuit court may be proceeded against in the same manner as for refusal to obey any other subpoena or order of the court. The board is empowered to apply for relief by injunction, without bond, to restrain any person, partnership, or corporation from the commission of any act which is prohibited by this chapter. Application for an injunction may be made to the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Alabama, or the circuit court of the county in which it is alleged that the violation is occurring. The members of the board shall not be personally liable for instituting any such proceedings.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §8; Acts 1973, No. 1202, p. 2020, §4; Act 2002-83, p. 261, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-36 Receipts; disbursements; bond of secretary; employees; gifts, bequests, etc.**

The secretary of the board shall receive and account for all moneys derived under the provisions of this chapter and shall pay the same monthly to the State Treasurer, who shall keep such moneys in a separate fund to be known as the "Professional Foresters Fund." Such fund shall be kept separate and apart from all other moneys in the Treasury and shall be paid out only by warrant of the Comptroller upon the State Treasurer, upon itemized vouchers approved by the chairman and attested by the secretary of the board. All moneys in the Professional Foresters Fund are hereby specifically appropriated for the use of the board. The secretary of the board, its office manager, or other designated officer of the board who handles funds shall give surety bond to the state in such sum as the board may determine. The premium on the bond shall be regarded as a proper and necessary expense of the board and shall be paid from the Professional Foresters Fund. The board may employ such clerical and other assistants as are necessary for the proper performance of its work, or, in lieu of employing clerical assistants, the board may contract with any state department or agency to furnish the board with such clerical

assistance as the board deems necessary. The compensation of such assistants or the cost of contracting for such clerical assistance shall be paid out of the Professional Foresters Fund in the manner prescribed herein.

The board is authorized to accept all gifts, bequests, and donations from any source whatsoever, and such gifts, bequests, and donations shall be used or expended in accordance with their terms or stipulations, but in the absence of any such terms or stipulations, such gifts, bequests, or donations may be used or expended for such purposes as the board may determine.

Except as otherwise provided herein, the board may make expenditures for any purpose which, in the opinion of the board, is reasonably necessary for the proper performance of its duties under the provisions of this chapter, including the expenses of the board's delegates to any annual conventions of, and membership dues to, the Society of American Foresters; provided, that under no circumstances shall the total amount of warrants issued by the Comptroller in payment of the expenses and compensation provided for by this chapter exceed the amount of the examination and registration fees, license fees, donations, and other moneys collected by the board as herein provided.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §9; Acts 1986, No. 86-117, p. 138, §3.)*

**Section 34-12-37 Records and reports.**

The board shall keep a record of its proceedings and a register of all applications for registration, which register shall show the name, age and residence of each applicant, the date of the application, the place of business of such applicant, his or her educational and other qualifications, whether or not an examination was required, whether or not the application was rejected, whether or not a license of registration was granted, the date of the action by the board, and such other information as may be deemed necessary by the board. The records of the board shall be prima facie evidence of the proceedings of the board set forth therein, and a transcript thereof, duly certified by the secretary of the board under seal, shall be admissible in evidence with the same force and effect as if the original were produced. Annually, as of the thirtieth day of September each year, the board shall submit to the Governor a report of its transactions of the preceding year and shall transmit to him or her as a part of the report a complete statement of the receipts and expenditures of the board and the statement shall be attested by the chairman and the secretary of the board.

*(Acts 1957, No. 533, p. 750, §10.)*

**Professional Services by Vendor**

	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>
<b>Administrative Services:</b>				
Gilmore Services	\$ 27.80	\$ 27.80	\$ 42.73	\$ -
Department of Finance	10.75	57.75	75.80	59.25
Ala Assoc of Regulatory Board	-	250.00	-	-
Elishia A. Ballentine	-	140.00	125.00	137.00
Legislative Services Agency	100.00	330.00	460.00	400.00
<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>138.55</b>	<b>805.55</b>	<b>703.53</b>	<b>596.25</b>
<b>Data Processing</b>				
Office of Information Technology	-	1,651.67	1,631.27	2,866.23
Department of Finance	9,564.09	7,584.35	7,300.56	8,102.00
Glenn R. Glover	2,064.74	2,000.00	1,622.92	2,064.96
<b>Total Data Processing</b>	<b>11,628.83</b>	<b>11,236.02</b>	<b>10,554.75</b>	<b>13,033.19</b>
<b>Legal Professional</b>				
Attorney General Office	1,425.00	1,725.00	525.00	575.00
Foresters Registration Board	487.50	-	-	-
<b>Total Legal Professional</b>	<b>1,912.50</b>	<b>1,725.00</b>	<b>525.00</b>	<b>575.00</b>
<b>State Personnel Department</b>				
Personnel Department Services	<b>165.00</b>	<b>357.00</b>	<b>736.00</b>	<b>371.00</b>
<b>Total Professional Services</b>	<b>\$ 13,844.88</b>	<b>\$ 14,123.57</b>	<b>\$ 12,519.28</b>	<b>\$ 14,575.44</b>

**Examination Results by Alabama Public Educational Institutions**

<b>Examination Pass/Fail Rates By Alabama Institutions</b>			
<b>2017</b>	<b># Taken</b>	<b># Pass</b>	<b>% Passed</b>
Auburn	20	16	80%
<b>2018</b>			
Auburn	25	20	80%
Alabama A&M	7	2	29%
<b>2019</b>			
Auburn	33	26	79%
<b>2020</b>			
Auburn	25	17	68%

No Alabama A&M graduates took the examinations in 2017, 2019 or 2020

## Board Members

### BOARD MEMBERS

RAIFORD C. JOHNSON, RF  
Chair  
Tuscaloosa  
DAMON E. WILKINSON, RF  
Vice Chair  
Mobile  
DANIEL P. NORMAN, RF  
Secretary  
Pell City  
ALAN P. BRUCE, RF  
Member  
Birmingham  
DANA M. STONE, RF  
Member  
Pike Road

513 MADISON AVENUE  
MONTGOMERY, AL 36130-4500

Phone: 334/240-9301

Fax: 334/240-9387

Email: [LeaAnna.Meadows@asbrf.alabama.gov](mailto:LeaAnna.Meadows@asbrf.alabama.gov)

Website: [www.asbrf.alabama.gov](http://www.asbrf.alabama.gov)

March 16, 2021

Mr. Charles Bass  
Examiners of Public Accounts  
P.O. Box 302251  
Montgomery, AL 36130-2251

Dear Mr. Bass:

Below is the board member information you requested.

Raiford C. Johnson, Chair Tuscaloosa, AL Expiration of Term: January 7, 2022	2017-2012 2012-2027- Re-appointed
Damon E. Wilkinson, Vice-Chair Mobile, AL Expiration of Term: January 6, 2023	2018-2023
Daniel P. Norman, Secretary Pell City, AL Expiration of Term: January 6, 2024	2019-2024
Alan P. Bruce, Member Birmingham, AL Expiration of Term: January 6, 2025	2020-2025
Dana M. Stone, Member Pike Road, AL Expiration of Term: January 6, 2026	2021-2026

Sincerely,



Lea Anna Meadows  
Executive Director