

**BOARD OF TREE EXPERTS****MINUTES****August 18, 2015**

The Board of Tree Experts met on this date at the Jackson Township Municipal Building 95 W. Veterans Highway, Jackson, NJ at 9:40 a.m. to discuss the business of the Board.

Those present were:

Steve Chisholm, President	Gary Lovallo
Rich Wolowicz, Vice President	Barry Emens
Dave Johnson	Jennifer Dalia DAG
Joe Greipp	Mark Goggin
Michael D’Errico, Program Manager	Lynn Fleming
Assemblyman Ron Dancer	

**Open Public Meetings Act:**

The Open Public Meetings Act was read by D. Johnson

**Minutes of the Last Meeting:**

R. Wolowicz made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2015 meeting, B. Emens seconded the motion which was unanimously approved with a minor typo correction D. Johnson abstained.

**Administrative Report & Correspondence:**

M. D’Errico reported to the Board: That a renewal notice was received from Licensing and Examinations for a CTE in August. This happens every year since that individual had let their license lapse and after retaking the CTE Exam and passing was given his old CTE number back again, resulting in a “later issued” renewal notice than other CTE’s. Ethics training receipts were emailed to Ray Papperman of the DEP - - all appointed members of the Board fulfilled their requirement of the training. The Board received a notice from the Department of Treasury that Foremost Insurance paid a fee to state on behalf of a tree company for damages to state property. Several articles and a news video was shown to the Board concerning recent injuries and fatalities amongst the public and tree care workers.

**Treasurers Report:**

The Treasurer’s Report for Fiscal Year 2015 and of August 18, 2015 was provided by D. Johnson:

Treasure’s Report for Fiscal Year 2015:

Balance: 7/01/2014	\$ 14,789.59
Disbursements	\$ 12,273.52
Receipts	<u>\$ 23,122.00</u>
Checking Account Balance	\$ 25,638.07

Federal Grant	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>
Asset Balance as of June 30, 2015	\$ 30,638.07

Treasurer's Report – August 2015

Balance 7/01/15	\$ 25,638.07 (FY2016)
Disbursements	\$ 3,075.00
Receipts	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Checking Account Balance	\$ 22,493.07
Federal Grant	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>
Asset Balance as of August 18, 2015	\$ 27,493.07

R. Wolowicz moved to accept the Treasurer's report for Fiscal Year 2015 and for August 2015 as reported. J. Greipp seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

**General Public Comments:**

Assemblyman Ron Dancer discussed with the Board the LTE/LTCO law, and the Board's Administrative Rules.

**Old Business:**

A. Angie's List, BBB, CAMCA - M. D'Errico discussed with the Board that both Angie's List and the Better Business Bureau contacted the Board concerning the new LTE/LTCO law and the proper way to list tree care companies to their clients and to the public. Previously, Home Advisor also contacted the Board for a similar request. The CAMCA (County and Municipal Consumer Affairs Association) also contacted the Board concerning continued issues with tree care work and consumers and numerous fraud cases. The CAMCA which provided support for the LTE/LTCO legislation also offered their legislative contacts to the board to assist in getting the rules through the process and approved. The CAMCA expressed their disappointment that the implementation of the law has been delayed due to the rules being stalled. The CAMCA needs the LTE/LTCO law and rules in place to assist its members with consumer complaints and fraud activities.

B. Draft Rules, Impact and Summary Statements – S. Chisholm reported that the board's subcommittee on rules met and reviewed the latest comments submitted by SFS. Once the rules are updated they will be sent to Ray Cantor of the DEP for submission to the Governor's office and the Office of Administrative Law.

C. LTCO Exam - A copy of the draft cover page of the Licensed Tree Care Operator's Examination was handed out to the Board. The examination is almost completed and is based upon tree care services that would be provided by an LTCO and on the Board's discussion of topics and the percentage of questions for each of those topics.

D. Other – None

### **New Business:**

A. CTE Exam and Certification of the 2015 CTE Exam – The Board was provided with an update to the 2015 CTE exam that was given on July 8, 2015 at Rutgers University. 36 exam applications were approved for the 2015 exam. 3 individuals did not show for the exam. 12 individuals passed the examination based on the requirements of the Board. The 12 individual names were read into the minutes by Vice-President R. Wolowicz. They are as follow: Richard Arnold, Alfred Birchler, Jr., Alexander Burke, Maureen Campbell, Charles Germain, Warren Hippeli Jr, Herbert Landmann, Andrew Mink, Taylor Sapudar, William Smithson IV, Jacob Spooner, and David Wyka. Motion was made by D. Johnson to certified the results, B. Emens seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously. D. Johnson motioned that the Board cover the Shade Tree Conference awards banquet ticket cost for each of the new CTE's to accept their certificate. M. Goggin seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

B. Use of Electronic Technologies in Rulemaking – J. Dalia explained to the Board the email that was sent out previously concerning new rules that just became effective that require agencies with rule making authority such as the Board to use more electronic technology to provide information about operations, rules, decisions, etc. The Board discussed and will need to go through the new rules and make a list to see where the rule can be applicable and to make sure the Board complies.

C. Other – B. Emens discussed his recent talk at the Delran Camp Fire meeting about the right tree in the right place and the recent storms that hit Burlington County. The Burlington County Times and the local newspaper were in attendance. G. Lovallo discussed the ISA meeting in Orlando Florida and the interest in NJ's Tree Expert licensing from attendees especially from Kentucky and Virginia. L. Fleming discussed the recent storms in Burlington and Gloucester Counties and the assistance SFS provided including a pre-storm packet for FEMA participation. D. Johnson mentioned that Rainbow Tree is sponsoring a tree care work day at Federal Veterans Cemeteries called Saluting Branches. In New Jersey the program will be at the Beverly National Cemetery (Burlington County) on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **General Public Comments:**

Assemblyman Dancer discussed emergency preparedness and how OEM's and local fire departments need training from the tree care industry during storm events. The Board discussed the role the Committee for the Advancement of Arboriculture is playing in safety and professional training with state and local agencies. Assemblyman Dancer also discussed the funding for gypsy moth spraying and the issue of state properties and control methods.

### **Closed Session:**

None

**Next Meeting - Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 9:30 am in Jackson at the Township Municipal Building**

D. Johnson moved to adjourn and R. Wolowicz seconded the motion. Motion passed  
**Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.**