



**Indiana Registry of Soil Scientists**  
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## **IRSS Board Meeting Minutes**

**Location of Meeting:** William H. Daniel Turfgrass Center  
Purdue University  
1340 Cherry Lane  
West Lafayette, IN 47907

**Date:** December 9, 2016

**Time:** 9:30 am

Board members present: Dr. Gary Steinhardt, Tom Eickholtz & John Bonsett in person, Dave Lefforge & Spencer Williams via conference call

Others present: Karen Pribyla, Shirley Myers, Jerold Shively, Gary Hudson, Trish Waller & Matt Pearson

Meeting called to order at 9:30 by Pearson and he introduced the board members.

With chairman Lefforge not being present Dr. Steinhardt presumed the role as chairman for this meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from the August meeting made by Lefforge. Seconded by Eickholtz. Motion carried.

Next the board heard the complaint filed to the board by Mr. Pat Bridgman against registered professional soil scientist William Rutherford. Dr. Steinhardt lead the discussion of the issues with the 3 soils reports that were submitted to the Fulton County Health Department for the septic field investigation. Bonsett shared concerns he had gathered from speaking with the Fulton County Health Department's Environmental Specialist. Specifically, the inadequacies in the report and the readiness to make changes to the report without seeing the need to revisit the site.

Following lengthy discussion Lefforge made a motion to suspend Rutherford's registration until he contacts the board. Following contacting the board Rutherford's registration will be reinstated with him being on probation for 12 months where he is to participate in 1 field exercise and either an additional exercise or join Dr. Steinhardt's soils class for 2 Saturday trainings in soil descriptions. Motion seconded by Eickholtz. Motion carried.

Next was discussion of the complaint received by the board from Dr. Karen Pribyla and her Clay County home site. Dr. Pribyla explained her situation and concerns over a collapsed basement

wall and the discrepancies that appeared between 2 soils evaluations; one conducted by Jerold Shivley in 2013 for the installation of a septic repair and the other by Randy Staley in 2016 following the wall collapse.

Mr. Shivley said that he and Staley went to the site together and he explained many of the differences in the reports. Mr. Staley was not able to be present due to a prior commitment. Motion made by Eickholtz to form a Technical Review Committee to investigate the site. Seconded by Bonsett. Motion carried

Next the board discussed the status of former IRSS Lambda Mort. Lambda let her registration lapse in 2008 and is now seeking to be reinstated. Motion to reinstate her as an Associate Soil Scientists by Lefforge. Seconded by Eickholtz. Motion carried.

Discussion and planning for upcoming events where IRSS should be active: IOWPA, IASWCD and others.

Discussion of what seems to be one of the largest obstacles in becoming a soil scientist is fulfilling the work requirement;

**IC 25-31.5-4-4**

**Work requirement**

Sec. 4. (a) The work requirement for registration as a professional soil scientist consists of three (3) years of professional experience in soil science.

And

**307 IAC 1-3-5 Work requirement**

Sec. 5. (a) Three (3) years of work experience are required for registration as a RPSS. Credit will be allowed for regular work and for certain kinds of college course work as explained in this section. The board will decide how much work credit to allow for various kinds of work using the following guidelines:

Lefforge appointed a working group consisting of Eickholtz & Pearson to review the existing requirements and prior to the May CEUF have some proposed changed to allows for soil judging to be included as a work requirement.

With nothing further to discuss motion to adjourn made by Eickholtz, seconded by Bonsett.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am

Respectfully submitted by:

Matt Pearson

Administrative Advisor to the Board