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## Soil Classifiers Certification Advisory Committee (SCCAC)

### Minutes of the 35th Meeting Tuesday, November 15, 2005

**Presiding:** Tim Kring, Chairman

Meeting called to order 9:55 A.M.

**Members in attendance:** Tim Kring, Chairman; Tim Allee; Dr. Sam Asady; Dr. Larry West; Greg Harless, Secretary.

- The first order of business was the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting of the SCCAC dated August 23, 2005.

To approve the minutes:

Motion: Tim Allee

Second: Sam Asady

—→ *Motion carried unanimously*

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Erin White, SCIT** petitioned the Committee for full certification.

Motion to certify: Sam Asady

Second: Larry West

Discussion: Committee consensus is to grant certification with the inclusion of an advisory to improve the consistency of soil series to soil properties. Significantly differing taxonomy should be named with separate or variant series names.

—→ *Motion carried unanimously*

- **Bradley Jones, SCIT** petitioned the Committee for full certification.

Motion to certify: Larry West

Second: Tim Allee

Discussion: Applicant's file contains no recent examples of his mapping work. Certification is therefore pending until five new examples of mapping work are submitted. Written notice to the applicant is forthcoming.

—→ *Motion carried unanimously*

## NEW BUSINESS

- Joseph Guy Morris, SCIT Candidate

Mr. Morris currently holds a B.S. degree in Biology and is presently in study at UGA under a major in Water & Soil Resources. He is in process of acquiring the needed soil science courses to qualify for entry into the SCIT program. His file review request included a query as to whether or not certain biology courses pertaining to his Biology degree will suffice as part of the coursework requirements for ultimate certification.

- Committee consensus finds that Mr. Morris is short by five semester hours of soils courses. In addition, the biology courses in question are unacceptable. The secretary was instructed to issue a letter to the applicant advising that he must pick up five additional semester hours of the necessary soil courses, and, one of the following: Physical Geology, Geomorphology or Hydrology. Upon completion of these stipulations, he must submit an updated application to the Committee.

## Miscellaneous Topics

1. Greg Harless reminded the members of the upcoming February 28, 2006 standardized certification/re-certification date for all DHR certified soil scientists. The Department's inception of the new standard date is on schedule and written reminder notices are being mailed.
2. On-going concerns about how to ultimately resolve conflicting soil reports between two soils professionals in disputed site evaluations were revisited by Greg Harless on behalf of the Department. The question remaining: Does DHR and the Committee want to pursue the investigation of need to bring in a third party soils professional with ARCPACS affiliation, for instance, to evaluate the site? Committee consensus was to table the issue until such time pressing need may arise.
3. Greg Harless notified the Committee that the Department has discontinued the web site posting of a listing of approved soils professionals based on a county address listing. Complaints of inequity in the listing method prompted the action.
4. On behalf of DHR, Greg Harless asked Dr. Larry West if he was available to provide a second training seminar on Soil Fill Evaluation to supplement the upcoming training event at the Hazlehurst Training and Demonstration Center scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2005. Dr. West agreed.
5. Tim Kring, Chairman, broached the subject of the protocol to follow for replacement of Committee members Dr. Mark Latimore and Dr. Lewis Rogers. Pressing obligations inhibit their desire and availability to attend meetings. The Secretary will issue a letter of intent to rotate those gentlemen off out of the roster. Dr. West suggested certified soil scientist David Huff as a potential candidate to fill one of the vacancies.

## FUTURE BUSINESS

- Next scheduled exam

The next exam will be administered at the discretion of Dr. West's availability. There are only two eligible applicants for testing.

### Special note:

Beginning immediately, all new approved SCIT's will receive a letter notifying them that in addition to the written examination required at the beginning of their training, they must submit to a practical field examination prior to final certification. Eligibility for the practical field exam will be achieved after the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in training. Tentative scheduling for the field exam is twice a year.

**Proposed next meeting**

- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for: Tuesday, February 14, 2006

*Meeting adjourned 12:00 Noon*