

Tennessee Highway Officials Certification Board Minutes of Meeting on February 21, 2018

The Tennessee Highway Officials Certification Board met in Conference Room G, on the 3rd Floor of the William R. Snodgrass Tennessee Tower in Nashville on February 21, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. Central time.

Attending were the following members of the board:

Manny Belen (participated by phone)
Bryon Fortner
Nicole Shaffer
Bob Wormsley
Abby Sutton Carver

Applicants Participating by Phone:

None

Persons Participating by Phone

Clint Hall

Applicants Participating in Person:

DeKalb County – Danny Lynn Hale
DeKalb County – James D. Sprague
Fentress County – Mark Anthony Beaty
Stewart County – Ronnie Lee Sumner

Others Participating in Person:

Morgan Crocker – Tennessee Highway Officials Association
Levie Glenn – Warren County Road Superintendent
Barry Knight – Visitor
Ben Gastel – Attorney for James D. Sprague
Andrew Dodd – HAVA Attorney for Division of Elections

Chairman Carver called the meeting to order.

A motion was made by Manny Belen, seconded by Bob Wormsley, and unanimously approved to accept the meeting minutes from February 7, 2018.

Chairman Carver reviewed statutory requirements and the board's guidelines for certifying applicants.

The board proceeded to examine affidavits submitted for certification. The status next to each applicant's name indicates the final action of the board. Motions for the board action were made and seconded by the members indicated. All votes were unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

Previously Certified Applicants

A motion by Bryon Fortner was made to discuss all previously certified applicants and was seconded by Abby Carver.

A motion to approve all previously certified applicants was made by Bob Wormsley and seconded by Bryon Fortner.

- **Fentress County – Mark Anthony Beaty - Approved - (Wormsley/Fortner)**

New Applicants

Fentress County – Brian Benton French – Approved – (Fortner/Wormsley)

The motion to discuss the applicant was made by Bob Wormsley, seconded by Bryon Fortner.

Based on the application submitted by Mr. French, the board was able to clearly identify four (4) years of supervisory experience in highway maintenance and/or construction.

Stewart County – Ronnie Lee Sumner – Approved – (Fortner/Wormsley)

The motion to discuss the applicant was made by Nicole Shafer, seconded by Bryon Fortner.

Based on the application submitted by Mr. Sumner, the board was able to clearly identify four (4) years of supervisory experience in highway maintenance and/or construction.

Previously Denied Applicants

Fentress County – Richard Joseph (Joe) Greer – Denied – (Lack of motion to reconsider.)

The motion to discuss the additional information submitted by Mr. Greer was made by Nicole Shafer, seconded by Bryon Fortner.

Based on the application and additional documentation submitted by Mr. Greer, the board was unable to clearly identify four (4) years of supervisory experience in highway construction and/or maintenance.

There was no motion made to reconsider and approve Mr. Greer's application. Therefore, Mr. Greer's application remains denied.

Challenged Applicants

Chairman Carver updated the board regarding Mr. Cleadus Bumbalough of White County, who was provisionally approved at the February 7, 2018 meeting pending receipt of a copy of his high school diploma by the February 15 qualifying deadline. Mr. Bumbalough did not provide a copy of his high school diploma by that deadline and was therefore denied by the board.

Warren County – Larry Nelson Judkins – Denied – (Belen/Wormsley)

The motion to discuss Mr. Judkins application was made by Bryon Fortner, seconded by Bob Wormsley.

The board reviewed the additional challenge filed by Mr. Levie Glenn. The board thoroughly reviewed and discussed the application, challenges submitted by Mr. Glenn, and additional documentation submitted by Mr. Judkins. The board previously requested a letter from Mr. Creed Sorrelle, Mr. Judkins' immediate supervisor, detailing Mr. Judkins' duties while working for TDOT in order to clarify his responsibilities. Mr. Judkins was unable to provide a letter from Mr. Sorrelle, but did provide copies of his performance evaluations.

Based on the application and additional documentation submitted by Mr. Judkins, the majority of the board was unable to clearly identify four (4) years of supervisory experience in highway construction and/or maintenance. Specifically, the large majority of Mr. Judkins' responsibilities were regarding inspection according to the submitted documentation. Inspection is not considered highway construction or maintenance unless the inspector is also the party responsible for the supervision of the construction or maintenance. The majority of the board did not see sufficient evidence that Mr. Judkins was supervising the construction or maintenance as a whole.

Manny Belen, who previously voted to approve Mr. Judkins, made a motion to reconsider and deny Mr. Judkins' application, seconded by Bob Wormsley.

Manny Belen, Nicole Shaffer, Bryon Fortner and Bob Wormsley voted in favor of the motion to reconsider and deny. Abby Sutton Carver voted against the motion to reconsider and deny.

DeKalb County – Danny Lynn Hale – Approved - (Lack of motion to reconsider)

The motion to discuss Danny Lynn Hale's application was made by Bryon Fortner, seconded by Bob Wormsley.

The board reviewed the challenge filed by Rachel Hudson and additional documentation submitted by Mr. Hale. After discussion, the board did not see sufficient evidence provided in the challenge to reconsider the board's previous approval and there was no motion made to reconsider Mr. Hale's application. Therefore, Mr. Hale's application remains approved by the board.

DeKalb County – James D. Sprague – Approved - (Lack of motion to reconsider)

The motion to discuss James D. Sprague's application was made by Bob Wormsley, seconded by Bryon Fortner.

The board reviewed the challenge filed by Rachel Hudson. After discussion, the board did not see sufficient evidence provided in the challenge to reconsider the board's previous approval and there was no motion made to reconsider Mr. Sprague's application. Therefore, Mr. Sprague's application remains approved by the board.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2018.

Since there was no other business before the board, Chairman Carver adjourned the meeting.

Submitted this 21st day of February, 2018.



Abby Sutton Carver, Chairman
Tennessee Highway Officials Certification Board