

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

### MINUTES

April 8, 2015

The North Carolina Board of Funeral Service met for a duly scheduled Board Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on April 8, 2015, at the Board's office, 1033 Wade Avenue, Suite 108, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Present: Ken Stainback, President; Elizabeth Williams-Smith, Secretary; Charles Graves, Joe Clay, Valdus Lockhart, Kelly Byrd, and John Shields. Absent: Stephen Aldridge and Broadus Combs.

Also Present: Peter M. Burke, Executive Director; Stephen N. Dirksen, General Counsel; Fred Jordan with Miracles in Sight; Tom Schneider with North Carolina Funeral Directors Association, Michael Rulison with Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Triangle, and Corrine Culbreth; staff members Lyn Cochrane and Dara Lyon Warner.

Mr. Stainback called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and read the Ethics Statement. Mr. Lockhart stated he had attended the Funeral Directors & Morticians Association of N. C., Inc. Board of Directors Meeting held in Concord on April 7.

Mr. Stainback led the Pledge of Allegiance and there was a moment of silence.

The guests introduced themselves.

Ms. Smith stated the minutes had been previously submitted to Board members and made the motion to approve them. Mr. Graves seconded and the motion carried.

Preneed Committee: Mr. Byrd stated the report was for information only.

There are 657 licensed preneed funeral establishments and 1,689 individuals licensed to sell preneed as of April 7, 2015. There are 172,409 active contracts as of April 7.

Disciplinary Committee: Ms. Smith stated the committee met via teleconference on April 2, 2015 and presented the report. There is an addendum. Ms. Smith noted the following cases C15-025, C15-009, C15-011, M15-011, M15-012, M15-013, M15-014, M15-015, C14-048, M15-001, and M15-008. Mr. Byrd made the motion to accept the recommendations for the noted cases and Mr. Clay seconded.

Laws & Rules: The Committee met on March 25 and April 1, 2015 via teleconference to discuss pending legislation included in House Bill 296. The committee recommended changing the statement relative to preneed sales licensees so as to allow for "independent" sales licensees to serve non-related funeral establishments holding a preneed establishment permit which are located outside a 50-mile radius. Mr. Stainback made to motion to accept the change. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion carried.

Finance & Personnel Committee: In Mr. Aldridge's absence, Mr. Stainback deferred to Mr. Burke. The committee met via-mail on Monday, March 30 to consider the 2015 Mutual Burial Association assessment. The committee recommends the assessment to remain at \$100 per MBA and \$.30 per association member. Mr. Byrd made the motion to accept the recommendation. Mr. Graves seconded and the motion carried.

Mr. Burke reviewed the financials. Mr. Byrd made the motion to accept the report. Mr. Lockhart seconded and the motion carried.

Attorney Report: Mr. Dirksen stated the Board needed to vote on the Disciplinary Committee report since the recommendations were accepted and seconded. The vote was then carried out and recommendations passed.

Mr. Dirksen presented his report for information only. Twelve cases were noticed all pertaining to late renewals. All had been resolved. There will be no Thursday hearings but there would be one heard today at 10:00 a.m

Executive Director's Report: Mr. Burke presented the following information.

New Funeral Establishments: Ray Funeral & Cremation Service, Asheville, and Trinity Memorial Funeral Home, Kinston.

New Unaffiliated Licensee: Jonathan Holland Funeral Service Licensee, Monroe.

New Crematory: Blue Ridge Crematory, Inc., Asheville, and Pope Crematory, LLC, Raleigh.

New Funeral Director Licensees: Mark Hayden.

New Funeral Service Licensees: James Brasco, Christopher Cordell, Lyle Donaldson, Robert Shaw III, Peter Thornton, Dustin Turner

New Trainees Michael Elmore, Joshua Hopkins, Jeremy Long, Aaron Pendley, Phillip Quick, Phyllicia Reynolds, Otilie Sommars.

New Transporters: Aaron Crawford, Lenoir, Ralph Johnson, Dudley, Troy McDowell, Jr., Rocky Mount, Richard Scruggs, Shelby, Robert Stafford, Jr., Clayton

The Cremation and Preneed Contract Fee graphs were reviewed.

Board members were reminded to complete the Statement of Economic Interest for the State Ethics Commission by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Burke will meet with Representative Jamie Boles on April 15 regarding H-296. Representatives from the NCFDA and FD&MA of N. C., Inc. were also invited.

Mr. Burke, Mr. Dirksen and Mr. Stainback will attend an Occupational Licensing meeting on May 5 at the NC Bar.

Board Inspectors Inez Green and David Hall will attend the CLEAR NCIT Basic Training class on April 27-29 in Raleigh.

Mr. Burke has been invited to attend the Ontario Board of Funeral Service Preceptor Training class on May 12-14. Discussion ensued.

Old Business: Mr. Byrd asked for an update on the online renewals. Mr. Burke stated that the individual renewals would be done first, then the others.

New Business: There was none.

Public Comment: Mr. Rulison made comments. He had heard there would be a bill submitted proposing the merger of the Board and the Cemetery Commission. Ms. Culbreth made comments regarding trainees and Mr. Schneider made comments regarding SB361.

The Board recessed at 9:30 to prepare for hearings.

The Board returned to open session and Mr. Byrd made a motion to adjourn at 11:05 a.m. Mr. Graves seconded and the motion carried.

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Kenneth D. Stainback, President

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Elizabeth Williams-Smith, Secretary