

MINUTES
South Carolina Athletic Commission
10:00 a.m., August 13, 2019
Synergy Business Park Kingstree Building, Room 105
110 Centerview Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

Mr. Edwin Estridge, Chairman, called the regular scheduled meeting of the SC Athletic Commission to order at 10:03 a.m. Other commission members attending the meeting included: William D'Andrea, Hamp Kennemore, Pam Shealy, Coleman Bates, and James Dylan Vaught.

Staff members participating during the meeting included: Bob Horner, Advice Counsel; Eric Thompson, Administrator; Renee Young, Administrative Assistant; and Andy Hastings, Program Coordinator.

Meeting Called to Order

Mr. Estridge announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the South Carolina Athletic Commission Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, on the Commission's website and provided to all requesting persons, organizations and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act

Approval of Agenda

MOTION

Ms. Shealy made a motion the agenda be approved as presented. Mr. Vaught seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MOTION

Approval of Unexcused Absences

James Phillips Absent - Ms. Shealy made the motion to approve Mr. Phillips' absence. Mr. Bates seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION

Mr. Bates made a motion the minutes be approved. Mr. D'Andrea seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairperson's Remarks – Edwin Estridge

Mr. Estridge made no remarks at this time.

Administrator's Remarks

Budget Update

Mr. Thompson presented the budget for the members' information.

There are currently 1,173 licensees.

Mr. Thompson stated the Showcase MMA event will be in Greenville on August 17. There will be a Boxing event in Columbia on September 7. Mr. Thompson also asked for board guidance on holding outside events; there were complaints/concerns about an event held in November 2018 where fighters were cold; sand, dirt and debris was tracked into the ring; there were issues with locker room locations; the ringside doctors had concern over the safety of the fighters.

Another issue brought to the board's attention was inclement weather and the effect it can have on an outside event. One event was canceled because of bad weather and had to be made up. Mr. Thompson also made board members aware that the next board meeting would be held on October 29, 2019.

OIE Report

The Athletic Commission Case Report was presented by Mr. Rodney Pigford. 1 active case; 4 closed cases; 2 Do not open cases; and 2 pending board action cases. This was for the period from January 1 - August 13, 2019.

IRC Report

There was a recommendation that a letter of warning be sent out. Motion was made by Mr. Vaught and seconded by Ms. Shealy, which carried unanimously.

New Business

Mr. Thompson also asked for board guidance on holding outside events; there were complaints/concerns about an event held in November 2018 where fighters were cold; sand, dirt and debris was tracked into the ring; there were issues with locker room locations; the ringside doctors had concern over the safety of the fighters. Another issue brought to the board's attention was inclement weather and the effect it can have on an outside event. One event was canceled because of bad weather and had to be made up.

A task force comprised of Pam Shealy, Edwin Estridge, Shawn Woods, & Diana Williams will meet and look into updating current regulations that the Athletic Commission currently operates under. Regulations mentioned that might need to be updated pertain to the weight classes for MMA fighters.

MOTION

Shaun Woods made a presentation to the board for the purpose of having USMMAF approved as sanctioning body for Amateur Boxing and Kickboxing in SC. Motion made by Mr. D'Andrea to approve USMMAF as a sanctioning body; motion was seconded by Mr. Vaught and carried unanimously.

MOTION

Election of officers - Ms. Shealy nominated Mr. Estridge to stay in his position as chair. Motion was seconded by Mr. Vaught. Mr. Estridge accepted his role to stay as Chairperson of the Board.

MOTION

Ms. Shealy made a motion nominating Mr. Vaught as the Vice Chair of the Board. Motion was seconded by Mr. D'Andrea, which carried unanimously. Mr. Vaught accepted the role of Vice Chair of the Board.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to be discussed during this meeting.

Executive Session

The Commission did not enter executive session.

Public Comments

No public comments were made during this meeting.

Adjournment**MOTION**

There being no further business to be discussed at this time, Ms. Shealy made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Vaught seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The August 13, 2019 meeting of the SC Athletic Commission adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

The next meeting of the SC Athletic Commission is scheduled for October 29, 2019.