

MINUTES
South Carolina Auctioneers' Commission
Meeting

10:00 a.m., February 11, 2025
Synergy Business Park
110 Centerview Drive
Kingstree Building
Columbia, SC 29210
LowCountry Conference Room

1. Meeting Called to Order

Rafe Dixon, Chairperson called the meeting of the South Carolina Auctioneers' Commission to order at 10:04 a.m. A quorum noted as present.

Commission Members Present:

Julian R. Dixon, Jr., Chairperson
Matthew Holiday
Gwen Bryant
Lisa Davey
Bryan Hope

SCDLLR Staff Present:

Laura Smith - Board Executive
Cory Griffin - Admin Coordinator
Otis Richardson - Admin Assistant
Carolyn Sutherland-OAC
Byron Ray-OIE
Jennifer Stillwell-OIE
Alexus Bell-ODC

Members of the Public:

Katherine Boone - Court Reporter

A. Public Notice

Mr. Dixon announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC Auctioneers' Commission office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, 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.

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Dixon called for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Holiday made the motion to remove item 10 from the agenda. Mrs. Davey seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Hope made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mrs. Davey seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. Introduction of Commission Members

The Commission members introduced themselves.

4. Approval of Excused Absences

All present

5. Approval of Minutes from the November 12, 2024 meeting

The Commission members reviewed the minutes. Mr. Dixon called for a motion.

MOTION: Mrs. Davey made a motion to approve the November 12, 2024 minutes. Mr. Hope seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

6. Executive Session

MOTION: Mr. Holiday made a motion to go into executive session for legal counsel. Mrs. Davey seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

MOTION: Mrs. Davey made a motion to exit executive session. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bryant, which carried unanimously. No votes were taken.

7. Chairperson’s Remarks – Rafe Dixon

Mr. Dixon stated executive session was for legal advice and no votes were taken. Mr. Dixon welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

8. Board Executive Remarks – Laura Smith

Mrs. Smith explained that the recovery fund balance does not reflect the deductions for the SCAA funds, which the commission approved at their November 2024 meeting. Mrs. Smith reminded the commission that the renewals are coming up and staff will conduct another audit. Mr. Hope inquired about exam locations. Mrs. Smith stated PSI conducts the exams and has locations all over the SC and the United States. Once they receive exam eligibility, a licensee will need to contact PSI directly to set up in the city of their choice. They can verify locations from the PSI website. There is an exam site in the Rock Hill/Charlotte area.

A. Financial Report

Mrs. Smith informed the Commission that the cash balance on December 31, 2024 was \$444,413.20 and the Recovery Fund balance was \$129,698.

B. Licensing Numbers

	<u>ACTIVE</u>	<u>INACTIVE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
APPRENTICE	2	0	2
AUCTIONEER	751	38	789
FIRMS	188	0	188

9. Reports

- A. Investigative Review Committee (IRC) – Jennifer Stillwell presented for Robby Dean
Mrs. Stillwell presented the IRC report. The IRC recommendations included 2 dismissals.

MOTION: Mr. Holiday made a motion to approve the IRC report. Mrs. Bryant seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- B. Office of Investigation and Enforcement (OIE) – Jennifer Stillwell present for Robby Dean
Mrs. Stillwell presented the OIE report as information only. Mrs. Stillwell advised the Commission that they have received no complaints as of this year. There are currently 2 active investigations. Mr. Dixon inquired if the pending cases are separate from the 2 cases for dismissal reflected in the IRC report. Ms. Stillwell indicated they were separate cases. The Commission accepted this report as information.

- C. Office of Disciplinary Counsel Report (ODC) – Alexis Bell
Mrs. Bell presented the ODC Report as information only. Ms. Bell advised there are 2 open cases, which are pending a disciplinary hearing or agreement. Since January 1, 2024, ODC has closed six cases. No cases have been closed since the last report on February 4, 2025. There are no appeals pending. The Commission accepted this report as information.

10. Old Business

The Commission discussed the SCAA conference. The Commission had previously approved funds for two staff members and Mrs. Davey to attend SCAA. Board staff is seeking approval to add 2 additional staff members to attend the conference. It was noted that Investigator, Robby Dean and ODC Attorney, Alexis Bell will be attending the conference as presenters.

MOTION: Mr. Holiday made a motion to approve 2 staff members and 1 OIE, 1 ODC, and Mrs. Davey to attend the SCAA Conference. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hope, which carried unanimously.

11. New Business

MOTION: Mrs. Davey made a motion to schedule a special called meeting for the recovery fund hearing before the next scheduled Auctioneers' Commission meeting. Mrs. Bryant seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

12. Public Comments

None

13. Executive Session

None

14. Adjournment

Mr. Dixon called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Hope made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Bryant seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Dixon, after ensuring there being no further business to discuss, adjourned the **February 11, 2025** meeting of the South Carolina Auctioneers' Commission at 10:52 a.m.