

**South Carolina Board of Barber Examiners
Board Meeting Minutes
9:00am, October 9, 2023
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building
110 Centerview Drive, Pee Dee Conference Room
Columbia, South Carolina 29210**

1. Meeting Called to Order

- a. Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Barber Examiners 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.
- b. Rules of the Meeting

2. Introduction of Board Members and All Other Persons Attending

Chairman Paul E. Robinson called the meeting of the S.C Board of Barber Examiners to order at 9:13 a.m. Other Board members participating in the meeting included:

- Renee Patton
- Melissa Jones Horton

Staff members present included: Theresa Brown, Administrator; Mary League, Advice Counsel; Robynn Devine, Staff; Robert Dean, (OIE); Jennifer Stillwell, (OIE); LeAnna McMenamin, (ODC); and Josh Shannon (DOTS)

All other persons in attendance: Miranda Brown, Court Reporter; Yataye Keaton, Erica Keith, Vincent Landing, and Markel Bailey.

3. Approval of Excused Absences

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to approve the absence of Mr. Christopher Javis. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton seconded the motion and it carried.

4. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton seconded the motion and it carried.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to approve the Barber Board meeting minutes for August 14, 2023. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton seconded the motion and it carried.

Ms. Melissa Jones Horton made a motion to approve the OJT Overview meeting minutes for August 28, 2023. Ms. Renee Patton seconded the motion and it carried.

Ms. Melissa Jones Horton a motion to approve the OJT Overview meeting minutes for September 25, 2023. Ms. Renee Patton seconded the motion and it carried.

Ms. Melissa Jones Horton made a motion to approve the OJT Overview meeting minutes for

October 2, 2023. Ms. Renee Patton seconded the motion and it carried.

6. Chairperson's Remarks – Paul E. Robinson

There were no remarks.

7. Administrator's Reports, For Information – Theresa Brown

a. Budget/Drawdowns – For information

- b. OIE Report – For Information – Robert Dean** – Mr. Robert Dean gave the OIE report and stated that this is for informational purposes only. For year to date, they received a total of 75 total complaints, 5 active investigations and 14 cases that are closed.

- c. IRC Report – For Approval – Robert Dean** – Mr. Robert Dean gave the IRC report. There were 4 cases and the recommendations are 2 dismissals, 1 formal complaint, and 1 letter of caution. Discussion then ensued.

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to approve the IRC report. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton seconded the motion and it carried.

- d. ODC Report – For Information – LeAnna McMenamin** – Ms. LeAnna McMenamin stated that the ODC report is for informational purposes only. Ms. McMenamin stated there are currently 22 open cases, 4 pending hearings or agreements, 4 cases have been closed since the last report in July and 34 total cases closed for the year 2023.

- e. Inspection Report – For Approval – Jennifer Stillwell** – For the month of August, 301 inspections were completed, 257 of those were physically inspected, 10 were permanently closed, 31 were not open at the time of inspection, and that included 3 schools. During the month of September, a total of 145 inspections, 106 of those were physically inspected, 4 were permanently closed, 35 were not open at the time of inspection, and there were no schools inspected for this month, for a total of 2,285 for the year.

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to approve the Inspection report. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton second the motion and it carried.

8. New Business

a. Consideration for Licensure

i. Melvin Keith Bryant (Closed Session)

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to go into Closed Session in compliance with state and federal confidentiality laws. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton seconded the motion and it carried.

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to come out of Closed Session. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Bryant was granted a student permit with conditions that he provide the Board with a SLED report each year until he is off of supervised release.

b. Consideration for New School

i. Marlboro County High School

Ms. Theresa Brown stated that Ms. Melissa Jones Horton is the instructor for this school and if she recuses herself, there will not be a quorum. Ms. Brown stated that she will approve the application and asked can this be ratified at the next Board meeting so that this Board meeting can moved forward and there should be a quorum at the next Board meeting. Ms. Brown stated this school can go forward for the preliminary and final inspection with LLR and a Board member.

Mr. Paul Robinson stated that he will do the inspection at Marlboro County High School.

9. Consideration of Panel Hearing Officers

Mr. Paul Robinson stated that the Board members were asked to submit names of individuals to the office to be considered as Panel Hearing officers to review and make preliminary decisions on the hearings prior to the Board meetings.

Ms. Theresa Brown stated the names that were given were Jeff Hackett, Tony Taylor, and Marwin McKnight. The office has reached out to all of the individuals that were given and the named individuals were the ones who came back stating they are willing to be a hearing officer and/or a backup hearing officer. Discussion then ensued.

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to accept Jeff Hackett, Tony Taylor, and Marwin McKnight as hearing officers. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton seconded the motion and it carried.

10. Board Member Reports

Ms. Melissa Jones Horton stated that she attended the 96th Annual NABBA Conference. It was a wonderful occasion, wonderful hospitality, and they had a host of vendors. The industry seemed like it is growing and they had a 2023 Hall of Fame inductee, Laura Clemente, from Ohio. Ms. Jones Horton stated she enjoyed herself and the mid-winter conference will hopefully be in Houston, Texas and the annual conference will be in Oklahoma.

Ms. Renee Patton stated that one thing that took place during the conference that she thought was important was the Administrator's meeting. During the meeting, the administrators were so excited that they voted to extend the meeting because they ran out of time. The administrators were a welcoming and enthusiastic group. The annual meeting will be in Oklahoma City and the following year it will be in West Virginia, and the following year it will be in Charlotte, NC. However, the fourth year it will be the 100th year celebration and they are strongly encouraging the entire United States to attend because it will be in Columbus, Ohio which is where they originated.

11. Public Comments

Erica Keith Suter, owner and operator of Erica K Styles Braiding Studio, made a comment about hair braiding, what she would like to see, and what she would like South Carolina to do as a state to take hair braiding to another level.

Yataye Keaton, a Master Hair Care Specialist as well as a Hair Braider, asked the Board a question about Section 47-220 (2) regarding what "removing" means and what "except in public places" means.

Mr. Paul Robinson informed Ms. Keaton that during public comments, the board does not have discussions on comments. Ms. Mary League then stated that Ms. Keaton can contact the Board's office and they can provide some guidance for her inquiry.

Gwendolyn Davis asked if someone wanted to change the regulations, would they go to their legislator.

12. Adjournment

Ms. Renee Patton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 am. Ms. Melissa Jones Horton seconded the motion and it carried.