

MINUTES
South Carolina Contractor's Licensing Board
Board Meeting
July 30, 2026, 10:00 a.m.

July 30, 2026

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

Scott Appleton, Board Chairman, called the regularly scheduled meeting of the South Carolina Contractor's Licensing Board to order at 10:06 a.m.

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, and on the Agency's website, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media per Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Staff members in attendance: Jonathan Eversfield, Board Executive; Kristina Dudley, Administrative Coordinator; Charlie Gwynne, Advice Counsel; Maurice Smith, Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Alexis Bell, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel; Chris Elliott, Assistant Disciplinary Counsel.

The Court Reporter was Elizabeth Janiskee with Creel Court Reporting, Inc.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Appleton noted a continuance has been granted for the application hearing for Agenda Item 10e, per request of both parties. This item will be removed from the agenda.

Motion:

Ms. Lineberger-Thomas made a motion to approve the July 30, 2026 agenda, as modified. Mr. Walsh seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Appleton introduced himself and the following Board members: Courtney Walsh, J. Keith Lindler, Daniel Lehman, John Williams, Kimberly Lineberger-Thomas, and Terry Marcum.

APPROVAL OF EXCUSED ABSENCES

Motion:

Ms. Lineberger-Thomas made a motion to approve the excused absence for Mr. William Edward Gibbs and Mr. Legrand Richardson, Jr. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion:

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the April 30, 2026 Board Meeting minutes. Ms. Lineberger-Thomas seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

BOARD CHAIRMAN REMARKS – Scott Appleton

Mr. Appleton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

Board Executive's Report – Jonathan Eversfield

Mr. Eversfield provided the board with a brief legislative update regarding House Bill 4730, which was ratified and signed by the SC Governor on May 15, 2026. This bill amended Section 40-11-360(11) of the South Carolina Code of Laws to explicitly include "single-pole billboard structures" alongside traditional signs and billboards in the list of activities exempt from contractor licensing.

Mr. Eversfield directed the Board members to the PSI exam report, cash report, and licensure statistics provided in the meeting materials. There are currently 12,020 licensed general contractors and 7,833 licensed mechanical contractors. There are currently 547 burglar alarm company licenses, 6,860 burglar alarm registered employees, 418 fire alarm company licenses, 239 fire sprinkler company licenses.

Mr. Eversfield reminded the Board that the burglar/fire alarm and fire sprinkler contractor renewals will end July 31st, 2026, and General Contractor renewals will open in August of 2026.

Mr. Eversfield notified everyone that the next Board meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2026.

Office of Investigation and Enforcement (OIE) Report – Maurice Smith

Mr. Smith reported that since January 1, 2026, OIE received 372 total complaints related to contractors; there are currently 66 active investigations, 240 closed cases, and 66 cases pending other actions.

Mr. Smith reported that since January 1, 2026, OIE received 10 total complaints for burglar alarm and fire alarm; there is currently 1 active investigation, 6 closed cases, and 3 cases pending other actions.

Investigative Review Conference Report (IRC) – Maurice Smith

Mr. Smith presented IRC report from the IRC meeting on July 16, 2026, for the Board's consideration and approval. For contractors, the IRC recommended 27 cases for dismissal, 14 cases for formal complaints, and 8 cases for formal complaint with a citation.

For burglar alarm and fire alarm, the IRC recommended 1 case for dismissal.

Motion:

Mr. Lehman made a motion to approve the July 16, 2026 IRC reports, as presented. Mr. Marcum seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) – Chris Elliott

Mr. Elliott presented the ODC report. There are currently 182 open cases in ODC. Of those cases, 56 cases are pending hearings and agreements. Since the last report on April 16, 2026, 10 cases have been closed, and 26 cases have been closed since January 1, 2026.

DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS – Final Order Hearings

Motion:

Mr. Lindler made a motion to go into closed session. Ms. Lineberger-Thomas seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Case No.: 2026-218

Chris Elliott, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, represented the State. The Respondent was present at the hearing. In accordance with Board confidentiality statutes, the hearing was closed.

Mr. Appleton and Mr. Lehman recused themselves from this hearing. The recusal form was signed, and a copy was provided to the court reporter.

Motion:

Mr. Williams made a motion to go into Executive Session for legal advice. Mr. Lindler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Motion:

Ms. Lineberger-Thomas made a motion to come out of Executive Session where only legal advice was discussed. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

It was noted for the record no votes were taken during executive session.

Motion:

Mr. Walsh made a motion to accept the July 6, 2026 Memorandum of Agreement and Stipulations, as written, and also recommended to add that respondents' license and certificate remain suspended until such time as Respondent takes and successfully passes both the Business Management and Law for Commercial Contractors Examination and the National Commercial Building Contractor Examination (NASCLA). Following successful passing of these examinations, and the payment of any necessary reinstatement fees, Respondents' license and certificate shall be reinstated without further order of the Board. Mr. Marcum seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Appleton rejoined the meeting.

Case No.: 2025-498

Chris Elliott, Office of Disciplinary Counsel, represented the State. The Respondent was not present at the hearing. In accordance with Board confidentiality statutes, the hearing was closed.

Mr. Lehman recused himself from this hearing. The recusal form was signed, and a copy was provided to the court reporter.

Motion:

Ms. Lineberger-Thomas made a motion to accept the Hearing Officer's Recommendation, as written. Mr. Lindler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Motion:

Mr. Williams made a motion to return to open session. Ms. Lineberger-Thomas seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Lehman rejoined the meeting.

APPLICATION HEARINGS

Kerr Roofing and Sheetmetal (CLG) / Zachary Kerr (CQG) – Initial Application

The General Contractor's initial application and Primary Qualifying Party initial application for a Group 5 General Contractor license with the Roofing classification and Mr. Kerr listed as the owner and primary qualifying party could not be approved at staff level due to items appearing on Mr. Kerr's criminal background report. Mr. Kerr was present. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion:

Ms. Lineberger-Thomas made a motion to approve the General Contractor's initial application and Primary Qualifying Party initial application. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

ProCircuit Electrical LLC (CLM) / Cody Schultz (CQM.31920) – Initial Application

The Mechanical Contractor's initial application and Primary Qualifying Party revision application for a Group 1 Mechanical Contractor's license with the Electrical classification and Mr. Schultz listed as the owner and primary qualifying party could not be approved at staff level due to items appearing on Mr. Schultz's criminal background report. Mr. Schultz was present. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion:

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the Mechanical Contractor's initial application and Primary Qualifying Party revision application. Mr. Lehman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Medical Systems and Instrumentation Solutions LLC (CLM) / Ryan Graves (CQM) – Initial Application

The Mechanical Contractor's initial application and Primary Qualifying Party initial application for a Group 2 Mechanical Contractor's license with the Air Conditioning and Heating classifications and Mr. Graves listed as the owner and primary qualifying party could not be approved at staff level due to items appearing on Mr. Graves' criminal background report. Mr. Graves was present. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion:

Mr. Marcum made a motion to approve the Mechanical Contractor's initial application and Primary Qualifying Party initial application. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Bennett Power Solutions LLC (CLM)/ Brandon Bennett (CQM) – Initial Application

The Mechanical Contractor's initial application and Primary Qualifying Party initial application for a Group 3 Mechanical Contractor's license with the Electrical classification and Mr. Bennett listed as the owner and primary qualifying party could not be approved at staff level due to items appearing on Mr. Bennett's criminal background report. Mr. Bennett was present. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion:

Mr. Marcum made a motion to approve the Mechanical Contractor's initial application and Primary Qualifying Party initial application. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried, with Mr. Lehman opposed.

Paragon Builders (CLG.100190) / Thomas Brock (CQG) – Qualifying Party Application

The General Contractor's Qualifying Party Reinstatement application to add himself as an additional Qualifying Party for Paragon Builders could not be approved at staff level due to items appearing on Mr. Brock's criminal background report. Mr. Brock was present. Mr. Brock and Paragon Builders were represented by James M. Griffin. Application hearings are recorded by a certified court reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Mr. Appleton recused himself from this hearing. The recusal form was signed, and a copy was provided to the court reporter.

Motion:

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the General Contractor's Qualifying Party Reinstatement application. Ms. Lineberger-Thomas seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Appleton rejoined the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Designation of Hearing Officers

The board engaged in discussion regarding the designation of hearing officers for panel hearings involving disciplinary cases.

Motion:

Mr. Walsh made a motion to approve all Board Members as appointed Hearing Officers of the Board, with the exception of the Board Chair. Mr. Lindler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Ms. Lineberger-Thomas made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The meeting concluded at 1:35pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

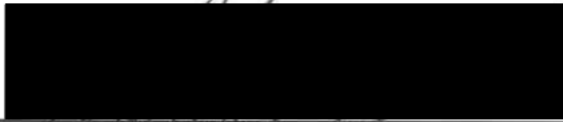
STATEMENT OF RECUSAL

In accordance with Section 8-13-700(B), I hereby abstain from all votes, deliberations and other action on the following matter(s):

Final Order Hearing – Thompson House / Eric Coffey – 2026-218

REASONS FOR RECUSAL:

Knowledge of Allegations – Served as Hearing Officer in Related Case (2025-67)



Board Member Scott Appleton

7-30-26

Date

STATEMENT OF RECUSAL

In accordance with Section 8-13-700(B), I hereby abstain from all votes, deliberations and other action on the following matter(s):

Final Order Hearing – Thompson House / Eric Coffey – 2026-218

REASONS FOR RECUSAL:

Knowledge of Allegations – Served as Hearing Officer



Board Member: Daniel B. Lehman

7-30-26

Date

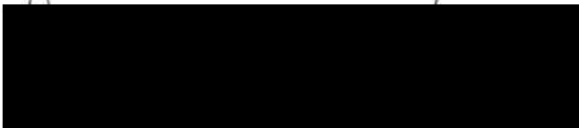
STATEMENT OF RECUSAL

In accordance with Section 8-13-700(B), I hereby abstain from all votes, deliberations and other action on the following matter(s):

Final Order Hearing – Leisure Enterprises LLC / Noah A. Messer – 2025-498

REASONS FOR RECUSAL:

Knowledge of Allegations – Served as Hearing Officer



Board Member: Daniel B. Lehman

7-30-26

Date

STATEMENT OF RECUSAL

In accordance with Section 8-13-700(B), I hereby abstain from all votes, deliberations and other action on the following matter(s):

Case / Applicant: Thomas Brock

REASONS FOR RECUSAL:

☒ Economic Conflict/Relationship

☐ Personal Conflict/Relationship

☐ Knowledge of Allegations

☐ Requested by Applicant/Respondent


Board Member: Cott Appleton

7-30-26
Date