

**South Carolina Board of Cosmetology
Special Called Meeting
March 18, 2020
9:00 a.m.
Synergy Business Park
Kingstree Building, Conference Room 108
110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, SC 29210**

1. Meeting Called to Order

- a. Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the SC Board of Cosmetology 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. Consideration of Delegation of Authority to Board Chair to Address Issues Arising During Public Emergency

Board Chair Melanie Thompson called the meeting of the S.C. Board of Cosmetology to order at 9:02 a.m. via conference phone. Other Board members participating in the meeting via conference phone included:

- ❖ Vice Chairperson LaQuita Clark-Horton
- ❖ Patricia Walters
- ❖ Eddie Jones
- ❖ Marcia Delaney

Staff members participating included: Mary League, Advice Counsel; Theresa Brown, Administrator (via conference phone); Shannon Beaudry, Staff; Patrice Deas, Staff; Jennifer Stillwell, Office of Investigations and Enforcement (OIE)

All other persons attending: Tina Behles, Court Reporter; Steven Dawson; Courtney Sykes; Garrett Shuler; Scott Bills

Chairperson Thompson stated that because of the ever-changing nature of the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Board can give the chair (or the vice chair in the chair's absence) authority to address issues that arise during the emergency. The rest of the Board would be made aware of these decisions, and the decisions will be ratified at the next Board meeting. Ms. Thompson stated that this action would not give her unilateral decision-making abilities but would expedite decisions that need to be made during the period of the emergency.

Ms. Delaney made a motion to delegate authority to the Board chair or vice chair in the absence of the Board chair to address issues arising during the public health emergency. Mr. Jones seconded and the motion carried.

3. Consideration of Cancellation of CE Classes During Public Health Emergency

Ms. Thompson previously made a decision regarding the cancellation of CE classes during the public health emergency, and this decision needs to be ratified by the Board. The decision was to give CE providers the ability to cancel or reschedule CE classes with less than 45-days' notice. Ms. Thompson stated that this pandemic is changing every day so this is the decision right now and it could change. Some CE classes are small, with less than 10 people, and those CE providers might choose to continue those classes.

Ms. Clark-Horton made a motion to approve giving CE providers the ability to cancel or reschedule classes with less than 45-days' notice without penalty during the public health emergency. Ms. Delaney seconded the motion and it carried.

4. Consideration of Online Theory Classes for Cosmetology Schools During Public Health Emergency

Ms. Thompson originally made the decision to allow schools to use the Milady and PivotPoint platforms for online education.

This situation affects private schools, accredited private schools, and high schools. Accredited programs have to handle accreditation. Many accrediting agencies require that states specify the number of hours that are allowed to be done online and a potential time frame that will be allowed.

Ms. Thompson's suggestion for right now is that for cosmetology programs, to allow 300 hours over a 10 week span (20-25% of the grand total hours required for the program). For the 300 hour nail technician program, it would be 60 hours, and for the 450 hour esthetics program, it would be 90 hours.

Mr. Jones made a motion to approve this recommendation. Ms. Delaney seconded the motion and it carried.

Mr. Steven Dawson requested that the Board not state the number of hours specifically but to leave it at 25% of the program hours. This would help with the accrediting agencies.

Mr. Scott Bills asked that the Board be careful to not limit the allowance to only theory hours; instead, it could be classroom time not clinic time.

Mr. Jones made an amended motion to approve schools to do distance/online learning for up to 25% of the total required hours per program over a 10 week span. Ms. Delaney seconded the motion and it carried.

At the last Board meeting, the Board approved the new esthetics exam launch date of May 1st. Given the current situation, they need to postpone the launch date until after the overview in June (this may change).

Ms. Clark-Horton made a motion to postpone the new esthetics exam until July 1. Ms. Delaney seconded the motion and it carried.

Ms. Thompson stated that even if public schools are extended into the summer time, students are still considered actively enrolled in a high school program. High schools should be doing the same as other schools regarding distance learning. The recommendation for now is to just keep in compliance with academic hours but the school timeline should follow the public school timeline.

5. Public Comments

Mr. Garrett Shuler stated that Milady is offering their platform, Mindtap, for free right now. The Board stated they do not need to specify the platform that schools must use.

There was an inquiry about whether Methods of Teaching can be done online. The answer is no, not right now.

Ms. League stated there will be a disclaimer about closing salons online. Salons need to abide by current safety and sanitation guidelines and follow mandates from the governor and president. Federal OSHA and the CDC have employee guidelines that will be shared on the site as well.

Professional Credential Services is currently the exam provider and they are the ones responsible for scheduling tests. They have cancelled exams for March and the beginning of April.

Ms. Thompson stated schools should try their best and use common sense, and the Board will be flexible and understanding during this time.

6. Adjournment

Ms. Clark-Horton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 a.m. Mr. Jones seconded the motion and the motion carried.

