

South Carolina Board of Cosmetology
Board Meeting
9:00 a.m., May 8, 2023
Via WebEx

1. Meeting Called to Order

a. Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Cosmetology office, Synergy Business Park, Kingtree 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. The meeting will be held virtually. Due to technical constraints, members of the public who wish to attend may do so by telephone. For meeting access information, please email boardinfo@llr.sc.gov.

b. Rules of the Meeting

2. Introduction of Board Members

Vice Chairperson Laquita Clark-Horton called the meeting of the S.C. Board of Cosmetology to order at 9:02 a.m. Other board members participating in the meeting were:

- ❖ Ashley Tucker Johnson
- ❖ Patricia Walters

LLR staff present included: Mary League, Advice Counsel; Theresa Brown, Administrator; Robynn Devine, Patrice Deas, Lakin Raulerson, Jennifer Stillwell, OIE; Sheila Hawkins, OIE; Prentiss Shealey, ODC; and Erin Baldwin, ODC.

Others in attendance: Julie Taradash, Court Reporter; Cynthia Gray, Heather Kost, Laura Dowery, Nhi Nguyen, Tierra Polite, Eursel Ashford, Matika Mapel, Cedric Brown, Dagmar Aro, Jill Bryan, and Tori Smith.

3. Approval of Excused Absences

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to approve the absence of Melanie Thompson from the meeting. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried.

4. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda with any deviations necessary. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. Cosmetology Board Meeting – March 13, 2023

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 13, 2023 Board meeting. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried.

6. Vice Chair Remarks – Laquita Clark Horton

There were no remarks.

7. Administrator's Remarks – Theresa Brown

a. Budget/Drawdowns – For Information

b. **OIE Report – For Information** – Erin Baldwin- Ms. Erin Baldwin stated the OIE report is for information only.

c. **IRC Report – For Approval** – Erin Baldwin- Ms. Erin Baldwin stated in Mr. James Kemfort absence, she asked the Board to approve the IRC report.

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to approve the IRC report. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried.

- d. **ODC Report – For Information – Erin Baldwin-** Ms. Erin Baldwin stated the ODC report is for information only. Ms. Baldwin then informed the Board that for the next few months or until a permanent replacement is hired, the Board will be seeing Ms. Erin Baldwin and Ms. Prentiss Shealey. Both Ms. Baldwin and Ms. Shealey will maintain the Board until the position is filled.
- e. **Inspection Report/Citation Report – For Approval – Jennifer Stillwell-** For the month of March, 1,221 inspections were completed and 5 of those were schools. For the month of April, a total of 963 inspections were completed and 20 of those were schools. The total to date 3, 818 salons that were inspected and 35 of those were schools.

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to approve the Inspection and Citation Report. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried.

- f. **Examination Information – For Information – Theresa Brown –** Ms. Theresa Brown informed the Board that she sent a few emails to them regarding the examination issues that happened in the month of April with our testing provider, PSI. Specifically the cosmetology practical examination where the candidates did not receive the completed examination. Ms. Brown stated that the exam ended after blood exposure which is not correct. A school reached out to inform Ms. Brown and she contacted PSI to get it corrected. Ms. Brown asked PSI to reach out to all the candidates involved, with the practical examination from April 10, 2023 and April 17, 2023, and afford them the opportunity to receive the components of the examination they did not receive. Ms. Brown stated that she is working with PSI to make sure those candidates receive the correct examination in order for those individuals to receive licensure

Ms. Theresa Brown stated there was a scoring glitch with the theory portion of the April examinations. Ms. Brown stated that it is her understanding that the full cosmetology examination was delivered without any issues. If there are any further issues, Ms. Brown stated she will send a letter to the school and to the candidates involved so that way they will be informed on why they may have to complete certain components of the examination from the office.

8. New Business

- a. **Consideration of Licensure**
 - i. **Heather Kost**

Ms. Heather Kost appeared before the board representing herself to request approval to be considered for licensure. She is seeking approval for renewal based on criminal background history on her criminal background report and she is currently on probation. Ms. Kost was sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Kost explained her reasoning for why she should be approved for consideration of licensure then discussion ensued.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to approve with a 4 year probationary period running consecutive with Ms. Kost's probation as well as a SLED check showing no new convictions at the end of every year at her expense. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

- ii. **Nhi Y Nguyen**

Ms. Nhi Y Nguyen appeared before the board representing herself to request approval to be considered for licensure with prior discipline. Currently her file in the system is revoked. Ms. Nguyen was sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Nguyen explained her reasoning for why she should be approved for consideration of licensure then discussion ensued.

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to go into executive session for legal advice. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried.

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to come out of executive session. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried. No votes were taken during the executive session.

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to grant Ms. Nhi Y Nguyen the approval of her application and she will receive a new license number. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried.

b. Consideration of School Changes

i. Spartanburg Community College (Adding New Program)

Ms. Cynthia Gray and Ms. Jill Bryan appeared before the board representing Spartanburg Community College to request to add an instructor training program. Both Ms. Gray and Ms. Bryan were sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Gray and Ms. Bryan explained their reasoning for wanting to add an instructor training program then discussion ensued.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to approve Spartanburg Community College for the addition of their instructor training program. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

ii. Bella Beauty School LLC (Adding New Program)

Ms. Laura Dowey appeared before the board representing Bella Beauty School LLC to request to add a nail technology program to her secondary location. Ms. Dowey was sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Dowey explained her reasoning for wanting to add a nail technology program to her secondary location then discussion ensued.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to approve Bella Beauty School LLC for the addition of its nail technology program pending preliminary and final inspection. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

iii. Canvas Artistry (Adding New Program and Location Changes)

Ms. Matika Maple appeared before the board representing Canvas Artistry to request to change locations and to add an esthetics program. Ms. Maple was sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Maple explained her reasoning for wanting to change locations and add an esthetics program then discussion ensued.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to approve Canvas Artistry for a location change and add an esthetics program pending a preliminary inspection and a final inspection due at a later date. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion for a 5 minute comfort break. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

iv. Epiphany Beauty Institute (Contract Change and Update School Hours)

Ms. Tierra Polite appeared before the board representing Epiphany Beauty Institute in regards to contract changes and updating the school hours. Ms. Polite was sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Polite explained her reasoning for changing the contract and updating the school hours then discussion ensued.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to approve Epiphany Beauty Institute for the update to the schools hours and contract changes. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

v. Professional School of Nails & Esthetics (Location Change)

Mr. Cedric Brown appeared before the board representing Professional School of Nails & Esthetics in regards to a change of location. Mr. Brown was sworn in by the court reporter. Mr. Brown explained his reasoning for changing the location of his school then discussion ensued.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to approve Professional School of Nails & Esthetics for their location change pending preliminary and final inspections. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

vi. The Prevalent Institute (Location Change)

Ms. Eursel Ashford-Weston appeared before the board representing The Prevalent Institute in regards to a change of location. Ms. Ashford-Weston was sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Ashford-Weston explained her reasoning for changing the location of her school then discussion ensued.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to approve The Prevalent Institute for their location change pending preliminary and final inspections. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

c. Final Order Hearings

i. 2022-160

This case is in the matter of Dagmar Aro. Ms. Dagmar Aro appeared before the board representing herself. Ms. Aro was sworn in by the court reporter. Ms. Erin Baldwin presented the findings of the case.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to accept to the hearing officer's recommendation. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

ii. 2022-187

This case is in the matter of Tan Nhut Ngo. Mr. Tan Nhut Ngo did not appear before the board. Ms. Erin Baldwin stated that respondent has not attended a hearing. In this matter, the State has had no communication with Mr. Ngo, however, they did provide an appropriate service and the packet was provided to the Board members. Ms. Baldwin stated in addition to the packet that was mailed to Mr. Ngo to his proper address in Georgia, they also emailed him the WebEx link and requested for his driver's license but received no response. The State requested to move forward with the Hearing.

Ms. Mary League asked the Vice Chair, Ms. Laquita Clark Horton, is she satisfied that the respondent was timely and appropriately served with notice of this hearing and is the Vice Chair willing to go forward with his absence. Ms. Clark Horton agreed to proceed.

Ms. Erin Baldwin presented the findings of the case.

Ms. Patricia Walters made a motion to accept the hearing officer's recommendation. Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson seconded the motion and it carried.

9. Board Member Reports

No reports given at this time.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Ashley Tucker Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. Ms. Patricia Walters seconded the motion and it carried.