

**South Carolina Board of Cosmetology  
Board Meeting**

**9:00 a.m., March 11, 2024  
Synergy Business Park  
Kingstree Building  
110 Centerview Drive, Lowcountry 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 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. Members of the public who wish to attend may do so by livestream <https://llr.sc.gov/cosmo/videos.aspx>.

b. Rules of the Meeting

**2. Introduction of Board Members**

Chairperson Laquita Clark Horton called the meeting of the S.C. Board of Cosmetology to order at 9:20 a.m. Other board members participating in the meeting were:

- ❖ Patricia Walters
- ❖ Ashley Tucker Johnson

**LLR staff present included:** Mary League, Advice Counsel; Tracy Adams, Board Executive; Meredith Buttler, Business Boards Program Director; Lakin Raulerson, Staff; Jennifer Stillwell, OIE; Sheila Hawkins, OIE; Robert Dean OIE; LeAnna McMenamin, ODC; and Allen Gay DOTS

**Others in attendance:** Chesley Paige Phillips; Peyton Finch; Betty Daniels-Peterson; Joe Peterson; Terry Frick; Louise Frick; George Simpson; Scott Harris; Gloria Smith; Kayela Williams; Tonda Hall; Tierra Polite; Christy Winchester; April Schneider; Jayson Lacy; Amber Lacy; SaRanda Prince; Tovah Lewis; Connie Tate; and Marilyn Montgomery.

**3. Approval of Absences:**

**Motion:** To excuse Melanie Thompson  
Johnson-Tucker/Walters/Approved

**4. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** To approve the agenda  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

**5. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** To approve the Board meeting minutes of January 8, 2024  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

**6. Chair Remarks – Laquita Clark Horton**

None at this time

**7. Legislation Updates – Holly Beeson**

Mrs. Beeson with Office of Communications and Governmental Affairs, reported before the Board and gave a brief overview of Bills S.857 and S.1132. Ms. Beeson reported one bill pertained to deregulation of blow dry styling, makeup artistry and hair braiding. The second bill pertained to mobile cosmetology salons and increasing the hours to become an esthetician from 450 to 600.

**8. Administrative Reports – Tracy Adams**

**a. Budget/Drawdowns – For Information**

Mrs. Adams reported the number of licensees: Cosmetologist – 23,104; Nail Technicians – 7,003; Estheticians – 5,997. The budget is currently at \$1,367,201.21

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Mrs. Adams reported that the Board has received numerous complaints regarding PSI. On February 28, 2024, Mrs. Stillwell and Mrs. Adams completed a pop-up visit at the PSI Practical examination site and observed students examining for an average of about 1 hour. Following the observation, a meeting occurred with Shawn Conder from PSI. The following concerns were addressed: decline of Practical exam scores, the physical table space between each tester, and the security of the tables (shifting and sliding during testing). Mrs. Adams informed the Board that Ms. Tonda Hall from PSI was present to provide further information.

**b. OIE Report –For Information Only Robert Dean**

From 2023 to present, they received a total of 638 complaints; there are 82 active investigations and 398 complaints that have been closed.

**c. IRC Report – For Approval – Robert Dean –**

**Motion:** To accept: 1 formal complaint, 1 cease and desist, 2 letter of cautions and 33 for dismissal.  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

**d. Inspection Report/Citation Report – For Approval – Jennifer Stillwell**

For the month of January: A total of 1,041 salon inspections and 4 school inspection. For the month of February, a total of 1,000 salon inspections and 6 school inspections. Total inspections for 2024 year: 2,041 salons and 10 schools.

**Motion:** To accept Inspection/Citation Report:  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

**e. ODC Report – For Information – LeAnna McMenamin**

As of February 26, 2024; 20 open cases, 16 are pending hearings and agreements of which are scheduled for hearings, 8 cases closed since the last report, and 8 total were closed in 2024.

**9. Appointment of Task Force Members**

**Motion:** Request to go into Executive Session for Legal Advice regarding appointment of task force members  
Request for Mrs. Adams to remain during Executive Session  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

**Motion:** To come out of Executive Session  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

**Motion:** To select the following individuals for the Task Force:  
Courtney Sykes, Don Kerr, Nikki Byrum, and Steven Dawson  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

Mrs. Clark-Horton thanked everyone for their interest and sending in their applications for the task force.

**10. PSI – Tonda Hall**

Ms. Hall informed the Board that PSI is currently addressing the concerns brought forth by Ms. Adams. Ms. Hall reported to the Board that PSI has seen repetitive actions taken by test takers that has caused the decrease in pass/fail rate and gave a detailed list of items. Ms. Adams informed the Board that she has scheduled a WebEx meeting with PSI and NIC to address areas of concern. Ms. Adams also reported that the Board would be conducting additional pop-ups at PSI sites. Ms. Hall informed the Board of new CIB's being released by PSI soon. Once released, the Board's website would be updated to reflect links to the updated CIB's.

**11. New Business**

**a. Consideration of Licensure through Endorsement**

i. Grover George Simpson Jr.

Mr. Simpson sought endorsement licensure without having taken the NIC practical examination.

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**Motion:** To deny endorsement licensure as applicant has not taken the NIC Examination as required in regulation  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

**b. Consideration for New Schools**

i. Exquisite Nail Academy LLC

**Motion:** To approve school pending preliminary and final inspection  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

ii. The Academy of Esthetics

**Motion:** To approve school pending preliminary and final inspection  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

**c. Consideration for School Changes**

i. Bella Beauty School

**Motion:** To approve school's Methods of Teaching program and 750hr Instructor's Program  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

ii. Carolina School of Esthetics – Application Withdrawn

iii. Epiphany Beauty Institute

**Motion:** To approve school's new student contract  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

iv. Kenneth Shuler School of Cosmetology

**Motion:** To approve school's new student contract  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

v. Virtuous School of Nails and Esthetics

**Motion:** To approve school's new student contract  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

**d. Ratification of CE Provider Classes**

i. SC Esthetics & Cosmetology

**Motion:** To ratify approval of the CE provider's classes  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

ii. Iconcepts Cosmetology Association

**Motion:** To ratify approval of the CE provider's classes  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

**e. Final Order Hearing**

i. 2023-201 (Closed Session)

**Motion:** To accept the HOR and issue a Letter of Caution  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

ii. 2023-306 (Closed Session)

**Motion:** To accept the HOR affirming the citation  
Walters/Tucker-Johnson/Approved

**12. NIC Conference 2024 – For Approval**

**Motion:** To approve travel for 3 staff members and 3 board members

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Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved

**13. Public Comments**

Ms. Chesley Paige Phillips expressed her concern with deregulation, licensees with disciplinary classes, unlicensed practice, inspections, and the process of filing complaints.

Mr. Terry Frick inquired about Sanitation Laws and Regulations being updated.

**14. Board Member Reports – none**

**15. Adjournment**

**Motion:** To adjourn meeting at 12:30pm  
Tucker-Johnson/Walters/Approved