

**MINUTES**  
**South Carolina State Board of Funeral Service**  
**Board Meeting**

10:00 a.m., October 11, 2023  
Synergy Business Park  
110 Centerview Drive, Kingstree Building  
Lowcountry Conference Room  
Columbia, South Carolina

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023**

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Thoma L. Williams, President, of Anderson, called the meeting of the South Carolina State Board of Funeral Service to order on October 11, 2023, at 10:11 a.m.

**A. Public Notice**

Mrs. Williams announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the South Carolina State Board of Funeral Service 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. Pledge of Allegiance**

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

Mrs. Williams called for a motion to approve the agenda.

**MOTION:** Mr. Price made the motion, seconded by Mr. Dickerson, which carried unanimously that the Board approves today's agenda.

**3. Introduction of Board Members and Staff Attending the Meeting**

The board members and staff introduced themselves.

**Board Members Present:**

Thoma L. Williams, President, of Sumter  
Gregory E. Evans, Vice-President, of Newberry  
Thomas J. Wright, Secretary/Treasurer, of Beaufort  
James Hodge, of Anderson  
Michele A. Cooper, of Moncks Corner  
Darryl Dickerson, of Goose Creek  
Dr. D'Michelle P. DuPre, Chapin  
Wayne K. Pratt, Sr., of Newberry  
Landis D. Price, II, of Leesville  
Stoney W. Bachman, of Norway

**SCDLLR Staff Present:**

Alexis Bell, Disciplinary Counsel, Office of Disciplinary Counsel  
Kyle Tennis, Advice Counsel, Office of Advice Counsel  
Amy Holleman, Board Executive  
Norma McAllister, Program Coordinator  
Shamone Breazeale, Administrative Assistant  
Tori Smith, OIE

Rosa McKoy, OIE  
Beverly Gould, ODC

**Members of the Public:**

Adam Birr, Consumer Affairs  
Brian Myers, Columbia

**4. Approval of Excused Absences**

All Board members were present.

**Disciplinary Hearings**

These proceedings were recorded by a court reporter in order to produce a verbatim transcript should one be necessary.

(Due to technical issues, the Board moved forward with considering the consent agreements ahead of the evidentiary hearing).

**5. B. Consent Agreement**

1. Case No. 2022-131

Ms. Alexis Bell, Disciplinary Counsel, presented the Consent Agreement.

Mrs. Williams called for questions. The Board sought clarification regarding what is meant by “pending apprentice license.” Ms. Bell explained that the timing for approval of the license and quarterly report submission did not follow the law, as the unlicensed individual working under respondent submitted the quarterly report contemporaneously with the apprentice application.

**MOTION:** Mr. Price made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cooper, to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice.

**Executive Session**

**Return to Public Session**

**MOTION:** Ms. Cooper made a motion that the Board come out of Executive Session. Dr. DuPre seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mrs. Williams noted, for the record, that no votes were taken during Executive Session

**MOTION:** Mr. Price made a motion, seconded by Ms. Cooper, to approve the Consent Agreement, which carried unanimously.

2. Case No.: 2023-4

Ms. Alexis Bell, Disciplinary Counsel, presented the Consent Agreement.

Mrs. Williams called for questions. The Board had no questions; therefore Mrs. Williams called for a disposition in this matter.

**MOTION:** Ms. Cooper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Taylor, which carried unanimously, to approve the Consent Agreement.

## **Break**

### **5. A. Evidentiary Hearings**

#### **1. Case Nos: 2021-59 and 2021-60**

Both the State and Respondent Brian L. Myers made opening statements with regards to the cases. Ms. Bell, representing the State, presented its case before the Board, with Ms. Nefertari Council and Ms. Rosa McKoy serving as witnesses for the State. Mr. Myers cross-examined witnesses, testified and presented his defense. He called no witnesses. The Board questioned both the witnesses and the Respondent.

#### **Executive Session**

**Motion:** Dr. DuPre made a motion to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice.  
Mr. Price seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### **Return to Public Session**

**Motion:** Dr. DuPre made a motion that the Board come out of Executive Session where no votes were taken. Mr. Hodge seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Both the Respondent and the State made closing arguments. Mrs. Williams called for motion to go into executive session to receive legal advice.

#### **Executive Session**

**Motion:** Ms. Cooper made a motion to go into Executive Session to receive legal advice.  
Mr. Taylor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

#### **Return to Public Session**

**Motion:** Ms. Taylor made a motion that the board come out of Executive Session.  
Dr. DuPre seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mrs. Williams noted, for the record no votes were taken during Executive Session and called for a disposition in this matter.

**Motion:** Ms. Cooper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hodge, which carried unanimously that the Board finds that the State has proven Respondents violated S.C. Code Ann. § 40-19-110(14) by failing to have a signed statement of goods and services as required by S.C. Code Ann. § 40-19-290(D). In light of these violations, the Board imposed the following: both Mr. Myers and Myers Mortuary & Cremation Services LLC are publicly reprimanded; both must pay a file \$250 each; and Myers Mortuary & Cremation Services LLC must pay a fine of \$200 in investigative costs, for a total of \$700 to be paid within 60 days of the date of the Final Order.

#### **Executive Session**

**Motion:** Mr. Price made a motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70(a)(1) and asked Ms. Holleman to remain with the Board during the executive session.  
Mr. Wright seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## **Return to Public Session**

**Motion:** Mr. Price made a motion that the Board exit Executive Session, during which time no votes were taken.

**Ms. Cooper seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

## **6. Adjournment**

Mrs. Williams called for a motion to adjourn the October 11, 2023 Funeral Board meeting.

**MOTION:** Mr. Dickerson made a motion, seconded Mr. Price, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Williams, after ensuring there being no further business to discuss, adjourned the October 11, 2023 meeting for the South Carolina State Board of Funeral Service at 2:43 p.m.

The next scheduled Board meeting for the South Carolina State Board of Funeral Service is December 6, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.