

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

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 10:00 am  
110 Centerview Dr., Kingstree Building, Lowcountry Conference Room  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Gregory Evans, Vice President, called the meeting of the South Carolina State Board of Funeral Service to order on June 26, 2024, at 10:00am.

**Public Notice**

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S.C. State Board of Funeral Service office, Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building, Commission website, 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. Pledge of Allegiance**

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion**: To approve the agenda with any necessary amendments. Motion was made by Mr. Price and seconded by Mr. Hodge. The motion passed.

**4. Introductions of Board Members and Persons Attending the Meeting:**

**Board Members Present**

Gregory E. Evans, Vice President, of Newberry  
William E. Taylor, Chesterfield  
Michelle A. Cooper, of Moncks Corner  
Darryl Dickerson, of Goose Creek  
Landis D. Price, II, of Leesville  
Stoney W. Bachman, of Norway  
James P. Hodge, of Anderson  
Wayne Pratt, Sr of Newberry

**SCLLR Staff Present:**

Emily Farr, Agency Director  
Brittany Hammond, Chief Financial Officer  
Hardwick Stuart, Office of Advice Counsel  
Alexis Bell, Office of Disciplinary Counsel  
Matalie Mickens, Board Executive  
Robert Dean, Lead Investigator, Office of Investigations  
Byron Ray, Office of Investigations  
Jennifer Stillwell, Office of Inspections  
Shamone Breazeale, Administrative Assistant  
Tori Smith, Office of Investigations  
Meredith Buttler, Program Manager  
Virginia Wetzel, Director of Governmental Affairs  
Carolyn Sutherland, Office of Advice Counsel

## **Public Present**

Tina Behles, Court Reporter  
Adam Birr  
Allison Herndon-Campbell  
Anthony Herndon  
Matt Williams  
Darlene Berry  
Robert Berry  
Sandra Robert  
Matt Williams

## **5. Approval of Excused Absences**

**Motion:** To approve the excused absences of Thomas Wright, IV and Thoma L. Williams. Motion was made by Mr. Dickerson and second by Mr. Pratt. The motion passed.

## **6. Discussion regarding Licensure Fees- Emily Farr, Agency Director, and Brittany Hammond, Chief Financial Officer**

Director Emily Farr presented an overview of current and projected financials. She advised the Board that due to the recurring deficit the licensing fees for the Board may increase. The Board asked questions and discussed the possible licensure fee changes. Director Farr will address the Board at the August meeting with recommendations regarding the Board's fees.

## **7. Disciplinary Hearings**

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

### **A. Evidentiary Hearing**

1. Case No.: 2023-107

Ms. Bell, disciplinary counsel for the State, presented the case before the Board. The State called Darlene Barry, Sandra Roberts, Robert Berry, and Investigator Byron Ray as witnesses.

Ms. Allison Herndon-Campbell, Respondent, testified regarding the matter.

The Board questioned all of the witnesses and Respondent. Both Respondent and the State made closing arguments.

## **Executive Session**

**Motion:** To go into executive session for legal advice, with Carolyn Sutherland, an additional attorney with the Office of Advice Counsel, being asked to remain. Motion was made by Ms. Cooper and seconded by Mr. Price. The motion passed.

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

**Motion:** Ms. Cooper made a motion that the State met its burden of proof for the first alleged violation in that the family did not sign or receive a statement of funeral goods and services prior to the rendering of services. Ms. Cooper's motion also provided that the State met its burden of proof for the second alleged violation in that Respondent committed a dishonorable, unethical, or

unprofessional act that is likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the public by not providing the family with the general price list when making arrangements. Her motion included a public reprimand and that Board imposes a five-hundred-dollar (\$500.00) fine per violation for a total fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) and investigational costs (\$120.00) payable within sixty (60) days of the date of the signed Final Order. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dickerson. The motion passed.

## **8. Adjournment**

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Price and seconded by Mr. Dickerson. The motion passed.

The next scheduled Board meeting for the South Carolina State Board of Funeral Service is June 27, 2024.