1	MINUTES
2	South Carolina Real Estate Commission
3	Synergy Business Park, Kingstree Building,
4	110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210
5	Wednesday, March 17, 2021, 10:00 a.m.
6	Video/ Teleconference Meeting
7	
8	Meeting Called to Order
9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	Chair Lee called the meeting of the South Carolina Real Estate Commission to Order at 10:00 a.m. and announced the Public Notice of this Meeting had been properly posted at the S.C. Real Estate 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. And in accordance with the Governors directive of Social Distancing; whereby, this Meeting being held via Video/Teleconferencing.
17	Roll Call of Commission Members and Staff
18 19 20 21	Board members and Staff participating in the Video/Teleconference Meeting via WebEx Platform included:
21 22 23	Commission Members
24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	Andy Lee – Chair - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Congressional District David C. Lockwood, III –Vice Chair - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Candace Pratt - 1 <sup>st</sup> Congressional District David Burnett - 4 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District John Rinehart - 5 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District Janelle Mitchell - 6 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District W. Brown Bethune - 7 <sup>th</sup> Congressional District Wayne Poplin - At-Large Member
33 24	Approval of Excused Absences
34 35 36 37	On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in favor to excuse the absence of Mr. Stackhouse.
38 39	Staff Members
40 41 42 43 44	Staff members participating during the meeting included Roderick Atkinson, Board Administrator; Gina Sams, Administrative Assistant; Rodney Pigford, Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Christa Bell, Deputy Director of Office of Investigation and Enforcement; Rowland Alston, Office of Disciplinary Counsel; Mary League, and Kyle Tennis with the Office of Advice Counsel.

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# 46 <u>Approval of Agenda</u>47

## 48 <u>MOTION</u>

On the motion of Mr. Burnett, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted unanimously in
favor to approve the February 17, 2021, Agenda with the revision of moving the item one "1.
Commission Input Regarding Potential Disclosure Form Legislation" from "Administrator's
Remarks" and placing the topic as item five under "New Business".

53

#### 54 <u>Approval of Minutes</u> – January 20, 2021

# 5556 MOTION

57 On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Mr. Rinehart, the Commission voted unanimously 58 in favor to approve the Commission's February 17, 2021, meeting minutes. The motion passed.

# 59

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## 60 <u>Chair's Remarks</u>- (Andy Lee)

62 Chair Lee forwent providing remarks.

## 64 Administrator's Remarks – (Rod Atkinson)

66 Mr. Atkinson recognized Mr. Rodney Pigford with the Office of Investigations and 67 Enforcement for the purpose of providing time for Mr. Pigford to present the following 68 report:

69

## 70 IRC Report - 3/9/2021 - (Rodney Pigford)

71

For the Commission's consideration of approval, Mr. Rodney Pigford with the Office of
Investigations and Enforcement presented the IRC Report from its March 9, 2021, meeting. Mr.
Pigford reported the IRC's recommendations were for 32 cases, which consisted of 23
Dismissals, 6 Letters of Caution, and 3 Formal Complaints

# 77 <u>MOTION</u>

78 On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted unanimously in 79 favor to approve all categories of the March 9, 2021, IRC recommendations. The motion passed.

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# 81 IRC EXPLANATION

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83 Mr. Atkinson provided a brief explanation of the IRC and its role. He explained the IRC 84 (Investigative Review Committee) as being part of the investigative process, where it 85 presents the conclusions of investigations. He explained, once the investigator(s) 86 complete an investigation where all documents and evidence have been gathered, an 87 investigation summary is generated and reviewed by the committee. The committee then 88 reviews all documents, and a summary of their findings and recommendations are then 89 presented to the South Carolina Real Estate Commission. Their recommendation(s) 90 include formal complaints, dismissals or letters of caution.

91

92 Mr. Atkinson stated the IRC consists of professional members selected by the 93 Commission and the Commission has the ability to appoint members as it determines necessary. The provision of law under which the IRC is formed is S.C. Code of Laws 40-1-90.

- 95 96
- 97 <u>Disciplinary Hearings</u> 98

## 99 Joan Hazelton (MOA)

100

101 Chair Lee opened the hearing and confirmed the presence of the Respondent, Ms. Joan
102 Hazelton. The hearing was held to consider the charges in the Memorandum of
103 Agreement and Stipulation of Facts.

104

The identities of Ms. Hazelton and her witness, Ms. Leslie Turner, and the Respondent's
legal counsel, Mr. G. Hamlin O'Kelley III with Buist Byers & Taylor, LLC in Mt.
Pleasant, South Carolina were affirmed by the Court Reporter via Government Issued
IDs; and thereafter, Ms. Hazelton and Ms. Turner were sworn in.

109

Mr. Rowland Alston, representative of the State with the Office of Disciplinary Counsel,
presented the State's case, and reported the allegation of violation of S.C. Ann 40-57-710 (A)
(24) (2017 Supp.) as presented in the Memorandum of Agreement And Stipulation of Facts, and
asked for a public reprimand, accordingly.

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Mr. O'Kelley, legal counsel for the Respondent, presented their case explaining timelines and the common practices of the area. He stated, he along with Ms. Hazelton, and Ms. Turner were present to answer questions the Commission would have concerning this case.

118

Both representatives concluded their presentations to the Commission; and upon discussions the
following actions were taken:

## 122 Executive Session- Convened 10:48 a.m.

123

# 124 <u>MOTION</u>

125 On the motion of Mr. Bethune, seconded by Mr. Burnett, the Commission voted 126 unanimously in favor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal 127 advice.

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- 129 Executive Session- Reconvened 11:17 a.m.
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# 131 <u>MOTION</u>

132 On the motion of Mr. Lockwood, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted
133 unanimously in favor to exit from Executive Session where legal advice was received,
134 and no actions were taken.

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# 136 <u>MOTION</u>

137 Mr. Rinehart motioned to accept the Memorandum of Agreement and Stipulation of

138 Facts, and to approve a public reprimand be issued due to Ms. Hazelton violation of the

139 South Carolina Real Estate Practice Act, S.C. Code Ann 40-57-710 (A) (24) (2017 Sup.).

140 Mr. Burnett seconded the motion, and the Commission voted unanimously in favor to the

- 141 motion. The motion passed.
- 142 For the Record:

143 Mr. Rinehart stated an Association had a form that was misleading; however, this does

not change the fact of the action of the Respondent was in violation of the South CarolinaReal Estate Licensing Law.

146

147 New Business

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# 1. Remote Proctoring PSI

Mr. Atkinson reported that PSI reached out regarding offering the new option of remote proctoring for licensing exams. Mr. Atkinson explained the procedures and precautions taken by PSI to provide this option. Mr. Atkinson addressed the various concerns related to virtual proctoring, and inquired on the Commissions position on the new option of Remote Proctoring by PSI.

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## 2. Extension of Virtual Classroom Education Requests

Mr. Atkinson addressed the requests received by classroom providers for an extension to
offer their courses by virtual webinars beyond the previously approved date of June 30,
2021.

162

163 Instructors Melissa Sprouse-Brown and Vonnie Judge spoke regarding their experiences164 with virtual classroom education during the past year.

165

166 Discussions were held on the above referenced items, and the following actions were167 taken:

#### 168 169 <u>MOTION</u>

170 On the motion of Mr. Rinehart, seconded by Mr. Poplin, the Commission voted
171 unanimously in favor to extend the virtual classroom education until December 31, 2021.
172 The motion passed.
173

# 174 <u>MOTION</u>

175 On the motion of Mr. Burnett, seconded by Ms. Pratt, the Commission voted
176 unanimously in favor to not allow Remote Proctoring by PSI for Exams. The motioned
177 passed.

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- 179 180

# 3. SC Residential Property Condition Disclosure Form- Roofing Disclosure

181 Mr. Atkinson reported Commissioner Burnett's wish to address the subject matter of the
182 SC Residential Property Condition Disclosure Form concerning the issue of Roofing
183 Disclosure Section of the form.

184

185 Mr. Burnett recommended changing the language for said form for better clarification of 186 reporting and disclosing information concerning the subject of roofing system repairs or 187 modifications. Mr. Burnett's recommendation was to change the wording of the below 188 referenced section by removing the word "*modified*" from Section II 7.A.; and, add the

189 wording "and modification with date(s)" to Section II 7.B, as referenced below:

190

191 Foundation, slab, fireplaces, chimneys, wood stoves, floors, basement, 7. 192 windows, driveway, storm windows/screens, doors, ceilings, interior walls, exterior walls, sheds, attached garage, carport, patio, deck, walkways, fencing, or 193 194 other structural components including modifications. 195

- A. Approximate year that current roof covering was installed or modified: . Approximate year structure was built:
- B. During your ownership, describe any known roof system leaks, and repairs and/or modifications with date(s):

#### 201 202 **MOTION**

203 On the motion of Mr. Burnett, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, the Commission voted 204 unanimously in favor to update the SC Residential Property Condition Disclosure Form 205 and for said changes to be completed by May 1, 2021. The motion passed

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#### 4. Property Managers and CE

209 Mr. Atkinson addressed the matter of Property Managers and CE, whereby Property 210 Managers are not required to obtain continuing education courses. Mr. Atkinson reported 211 Commissioner Burnett had requested to review this matter with the Commission.

212

213 Upon discussions on the above reference subject, Mr. Smallwood with the South Carolina 214 Association of Realtors, agreed to take this matter to their Legislative Committee and 215 report their remarks to the Commission by the next meeting. Mr. Atkinson 216 recommended inviting another stakeholder, Capital Consultant, to be included in on the 217 discussion of this matter, and agreed to place this subject on a meeting agenda in the near 218 future.

219

#### 220 **Unfinished Business** 221

#### 1. 2021 Pending Legislation

222 223 224 Mr. Atkinson provided a brief update on pending legislative items; and upon discussions, no 225 actions were taken. 226

#### 2. Renewal Background Checks/Fingerprinting Update

227 228 229 Mr. Atkinson provided an update on the internal and external requirements for the 230 implementation of the required background check with fingerprinting for the upcoming renewal 231 cycle. Discussions were held and the following actions were taken.

232 233

#### 234 **Executive Session**

#### 235 Executive Session- Convened 12:22 p.m.

#### 236 237 MOTION

238 On the motion of Mr. Burnett, seconded by Ms. Rinehart, the Commission voted 239 unanimously in favor to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal

240 advice.

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# Executive Session- Reconvened 12:57 p.m.

#### 246 <u>MOTION</u>

On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Burnett, the Commission voted
unanimously in favor to exit from Executive Session where legal advice was received,
and no actions were taken.

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# 252 <u>New Business (continued)</u> 253 **5.** Commission Input

## 5. Commission Input Regarding Potential Disclosure Form Legislation:

Ms. Katie Phillips with the LLR Governmental Affairs Office came before the Commission to receive the Commission's input to a constituent inquiry for a legislative change regarding agricultural use of adjacent properties being disclosed in the SC Residential Property Condition Disclosure Statement.

258

Discussions were held on the subject. Commissioners expressed concerns about adding disclosure regarding adjacent properties to the disclosure form. No formal action was taken.

262

# 263 <u>Public Comments</u>264

-Mr. Preston Young a local real estate licensee addressed the Commission on a wording
issue with the South Carolina Property Condition Disclosure Form. He reported line item
number twenty *"20. Problems caused by fire, smoke, or water to the property during your ownership"*. Mr. Young requested for the Commission to consider modifying the
language "during your ownership".

270

Chair Lee suggested reviewing this time and perhaps to place this this matter on a futureagenda and no actions were taken.

273

Mr. Austin Smallwood with the South Carolina Association of Realtors came before the
Commission to clarify a few items from previously discussed items as well as regarding
the renewal process.

277

Mr. Smallwood also requested for the Commission to consideration including Fair housing Education into the SC Real Estate Commission's Education Regulations.

- 280
- 281 Discussion were held and no actions were taken.
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## 283 <u>Adjournment</u>

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## 285 <u>MOTION</u>

286 On the motion of Ms. Pratt, seconded by Mr. Lockwood, the Commission voted 287 unanimously in favor to adjourn. Time of Adjournment was at 1:34 p.m.