

**South Carolina Real Estate Commission
Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 10:00 am
110 Centerview Dr. Kingstree Building, Room 105
Columbia, South Carolina

Public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S.C. Real Estate Commission 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.

Commission Members Present:

William “Andy” Lee, Chair – 3rd Congressional District
David C. Lockwood, III, Vice Chair – 2nd Congressional District
Candace Pratt – 1st Congressional District
David Burnett – 4th Congressional District
John Rinehart – 5th Congressional District
Janelle Mitchell – 6th Congressional District
W. Brown Bethune – 7th Congressional District
Gary A. Pickren – At-Large Member
Johnathan Stackhouse – Public Member

SCLLR STAFF PRESENT:

Kyle Tennis, Esq., Office of Advice Counsel
Robbie Boland, LLR Assistant Deputy Director
Meredith Buttler, Administrator
Shaun Strother, Administrative Assistant
Rowland Alston, Esq., Office of Disciplinary Counsel
Rodney Pigford, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Chuck Waters, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
James Kemfort, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Michael “Doc” Smith, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Rosa McCoy, Office of Investigations and Enforcement
Wattie Wharton, Office of Investigations and Enforcement

PRESENT:

Katherine Boone, Court Reporter
Ronnell Gray-Bey
Austin James Sarte
LaShanda Alexander
Ronald A. Murray, Jr.
Kaylyn Grace Mercer
Will Rice
Barbara Humphrey-Ashby
Steve P. McIntosh
Warren Crenshaw

Quanita Williams
Austin Smallwood

CALLED TO ORDER: Mr. Lee, Chair called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

INVOCATION

Mr. Rinehart gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF

Commission members and staff introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF EXCUSED ABSENCES

No members were absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: To approve the agenda with the amendment that Ms. Elmore's application hearing be removed from today's agenda as she has requested to appear before the Commission at a later date.

Pratt/Rinehart/Approved.

CHAIR'S REMARKS

Mr. Lee elected to forgo remarks.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

Introduction of New Commission Administrator

Mr. Boland introduced Ms. Buttler, who will officially become the Commission Administrator on October 3, 2022. Ms. Buttler has been with LLR since 2016 and is currently the Board Administrator for six healthcare-related professional licensing boards.

Investigative Review Committee (IRC) Report

Mr. Kemfort reported the IRC met on September 7, 2022, and recommends the following: nineteen (19) cases for dismissals, two (2) cases for Letters of Caution, one (1) case for dismissal with a cease and desist being issued, and eight (8) formal complaints.

Motion: To accept IRC recommendations as presented.

Stackhouse/Bethune/Approved.

Office of Disciplinary Counsel (ODC) Report

Mr. Alston reported as of September 12, 2022, there are 34 open cases of which 22 are pending, 0 pending closure, and 27 closed since January 1, 2022.

Finance Report

Mr. Boland presented the financial report.

APPLICATION HEARINGS

1. Ronnell Gray-Bey

Mr. Gray-Bey appeared before the Commission for a salesperson application hearing. He was not represented by counsel and sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To enter into closed session.
Pratt/Lockwood/Approved.

Motion: To approve Mr. Gray-Bey to sit for the salesperson exam.
Bethune/Lockwood/Approved.

Motion: To return to open session.
Pratt/Lockwood/Approved.

3. Austin James Sarte

Mr. Sarte appeared before the Board for a salesperson application hearing. He was not represented by counsel and sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To approve Mr. Sarte to sit for the salesperson exam.
Bethune/Pratt/Approved.

4. LaShanda Alexander

Ms. Alexander appeared before the Board for a salesperson application hearing. She was not represented by counsel and sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To approve Ms. Alexander to sit for the salesperson exam.
Pickren/Rinehart
Opposed: 1 member
Motion Passes.

5. Ronald A. Murray, Jr.

Mr. Murray appeared before the Board for a salesperson application hearing. He was not represented by counsel and sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To approve Mr. Murray to sit for the salesperson exam.
Bethune/Stackhouse

Opposed: 1 Member
Motion Passes.

6. Kaylyn Grace Mercer

Ms. Mercer appeared before the Board for a property manager application hearing. She was not represented by counsel. Mr. Christopher Sweet served as witness and all parties were sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To enter into closed session.
Rinehart/Pratt/Approved.

Motion: To approve Ms. Mercer to sit for the property manager exam.
Pickren/Lockwood/Approved.

Motion: To return to open session.
Lockwood/Pratt/Approved.

7. Will Rice

Mr. Rice appeared before the Board for a salesperson application hearing. He was not represented by counsel and sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To enter into executive session for legal advice.
Burnett/Pratt/Approved.

Motion: To return to public session.
Pratt/Lockwood/Approved.

Motion: Due to the recency and severity of the convictions as well as the non-disclosure of the conviction on the application form, the Commission denies the application for licensure.
Rinehart/Mitchell/Approved.

8. Barbara Humphrey-Ashby.

Ms. Humphrey-Ashby appeared before the Board for a salesperson application hearing. She was not represented by counsel and sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To enter into executive session for legal advice.
Rinehart/Mitchell/Approved.

Motion: To return to public session.
Stackhouse/Lockwood/Approved.

Motion: To approve Ms. Humphrey-Ashby to sit for the salesperson exam. If she passes the exam, a salesperson license may be issued. Ms. Humphrey-Ashby may not upgrade the salesperson license for a period of three (3) years from the date of issuance. After the three (3) years, Ms. Humphrey-Ashby must come before the Commission if she wishes to request a license upgrade.

Lockwood/Pratt

Opposed: 1 member

Motion passes.

9. Steve P. McIntosh

Mr. McIntosh appeared before the Board for a salesperson application hearing. He was not represented by counsel. Mr. John Chazen served as witness and all parties were sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To approve Mr. McIntosh to sit for the salesperson exam. If he passes the exam, a salesperson license may be issued. Mr. McIntosh may not upgrade the salesperson license for a period of three (3) years from the date of issuance. After the three (3) years, Mr. McIntosh must come before the Commission if he wishes to request a license upgrade.

Lockwood/Bethune

Opposed: two members

Motion Passes.

Mr. Lockwood left the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

10. Warren Crenshaw

Mr. Crenshaw appeared before the Board for a salesperson application hearing. He was not represented by counsel and sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To enter into closed session.
Stackhouse/Pickren/Approved.

Motion: To approve Mr. Crenshaw to sit for the salesperson exam.
Bethune/Mitchell
Opposed: three members
Motion Passes.

Motion: To return to open session.
Stackhouse/Pratt/Approved.

11. Quanita Williams

Ms. Williams appeared before the Board for a salesperson application hearing. She was not represented by counsel and sworn in by the court reporter. Application hearings are recorded by a certified reporter in the event a verbatim transcript is necessary.

Motion: To enter into closed session.
Pickren/Pratt/Approved.

Motion: To approve Ms. Williams to sit for the salesperson exam.
Pickren/Bethune/Approved.

Motion: To return to open session.
Stackhouse/Pratt/Approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session was not needed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn.
Bethune/Pratt/Approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.