

The Office of Secretary of State

Securities, Charities and Cemeteries Division
Georgia State Board of Cemeterians

Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2020 – 10:06 A.M.

Members Present:

- Richard Parker, Chairman
- William "Mickey" Couey
- Mike Lawrence
- Cassius Butts
- Mark Anderson
- Clift Dempsey
- Tom Lord

Others Present:

- Noula Zaharis, Division Director
- Charles Jarrett, Sr. Enforcement Attorney
- Nicholas Vretakis, Enforcement Attorney
- Lynn Mckeel, Enforcement Attorney
- April Yoo, Enforcement Attorney
- Dan Walsh, Senior Assistant Attorney General
- Jeff Stump, Senior Assistant Attorney General
- Cheryl Parker, Paralegal, Attorney General's Office

Members Absent:

Cathelynn Tio, Assistant Attorney General

Approval of the Agenda:

Chairman Parker moved, Mark Anderson seconded, and the Board voted to approve the December 15, 2020 agenda.

Board Appointments

Division Director Noula Zaharis announced the appointment of Lawton Thomas Lord of Oconee County as a new member of the Board. Chairman Parker welcomed Mr. Lord to the Board. Zaharis announced that Daniel Greene's term on the Board had come to completion and that he is no longer serving on the Board.

Minutes:

Chairman Parker moved, Cassius Butts seconded, and the Board voted to approve the October 27, 2020 Open Session and Executive Session minutes.

Executive Session:

The Board voted to enter into the Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-19(h), and 43-8B, for the purpose of discussing complaint cases and to hear the Attorney General's report.

Adjournment:

Meeting Closed at 10:50 a.m.

Minutes recorded by: Noula Zaharis, Division Director

Minutes reviewed and edited by: Noula Zaharis, Division Director

Minutes were approved on: February 14, 2021


Richard Parker, Chairman


Noula Zaharis, Division Director

The Office of Secretary of State
Securities, Charities and Cemeteries Division
Georgia State Board of Cemeterians
Teleconference Board Meeting – December 15, 2020 – 10:00 A.M.

Executive Session Minutes

Georgia State Board of Cemeterians voted to enter into the Executive Session on Tuesday August 18, 2020, at 10:10 a.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. 43-1-19(h), and 43-8B, for the purpose of discussing complaint cases, and to hear the Attorney General's report.

Attorney General's Report:

Assistant Attorney General Dan Walsh reported on Cedar Ridge, including the upcoming filing of the complaint which will include the appointment of a receiver.

Enforcement Actions: Failure to Renew

Division Senior Enforcement Attorney Charlie Jarrett reported on status of the 10 cemeteries that had failed to renew and after caution letters were sent out in October to the entities that did not meet the renewal deadline. Ten of those did not respond to the caution letters, resulting in Proposed Order to Cease and Desist with \$500 civil fine, \$500 cost of investigation, registration fees and late fees.

Complaints: Care and Maintenance

1. **ENCE – 0307 – Georgia Memorial Park Funeral Home**
Division made recommendation to close matter; matter closed.
2. **ENCE – 0312 – Lincoln Cemetery, Inc.**
Division will request a follow up inspection.
3. **ENCE – 0334 – Resthaven Garden of Memory**
The matter will remain open for further investigation.
4. **ENCE – 0340 – Greenlawn Cemetery**
Division made recommendation to close matter; matter closed.
5. **ENCE – 0341 – Greenlawn Cemetery and Mausoleum**
Working with Investigations to find result of Inspection. Division will have update next meeting.
6. **ENCE – 0355 – Forest Lawn Operations, LLC**
Division made recommendation to close matter; matter closed.
7. **ENCE – 0357 – Hollywood Cemetery (Lincoln Cemetery, Inc)**
Division waiting on inspection report to confirm if matter involves perpetual care or non perpetual care area.
8. **ENCE – 0358 – Parkhill Cemetery, Inc.**
Division reported that it is working on coordinating reaching out to complainant and cemetery.
9. **ENCE – 0360 – Middle Georgia Memory Gardens**
Division reported that the care and maintenance issues have not changed and Division staff will look into the financial side.

Complaints: General

1. ENCE – 0030 – [REDACTED]

2. ENCE – 0343 – [REDACTED]