

GEORGIA BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE
Board Meeting Minutes – April 2, 2019
Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217

Members Present:

- W.T. Edmondson, Chair
- Joe Westbury, Vice Chair
- Thomas Lord
- William Bowen
- Nancy Kennedy

Members Absent:

- Darryl Bentley
- Bryant Hightower

Others Present:

- Brad Coman, Executive Director
- Carla Murray, Licensing Supervisor
- Melanie Foster, Licensing Analyst
- *Kirsten Daughdril, Senior Assistant Attorney General – Section Chief
- Alexis Hardy, Board Support Specialist

*via teleconference

Note: Visitors are excused during Executive Session unless scheduled for a personal appearance.

W.T. Edmondson, Chair, noted that a quorum was present, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§50-14-1 et seq.

OPEN SESSION

Agenda

Joe Westbury moved, William Bowen seconded, and the Board voted to approve the April 2, 2019 agenda as amended.

Minutes

Joe Westbury moved, Bryant Hightower seconded, and the Board voted to approve the March 12, 2019 Open Meeting minutes and Executive Session minutes.

Ratification List

Licenses Issued 3-8-2019 through 3-31-2019 (Total – 8): Joe Westbury moved, Thomas Lord seconded, and the Board voted to ratify the licenses issued between meetings by application and reinstatement in accordance with Board Rules and Policies.

License #	Licensee
EMB005230	James A. Sircy
EMB005231	Julius Maurice Moore
EMB005232	Raquel Teresa Riffas
FD005630	James A. Sircy

License #	Licensee
FD005631	Julius Maurice Moore
FD005632	Raquel Teresa Riffas
FEST002030	Howard Mortuary-Warner Robins
FSA006436	Quinterris Jacobia Topping

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Joe Westbury moved, Nancy Kennedy seconded, and the board voted to enter into Executive Session at 10:01 a.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19(h) and 43-18, for the purpose of conducting applicant appointments, discussing and reviewing applications and complaints, and to hear the Attorney General’s report.

At the conclusion of Executive Session, W.T. Edmonson, Chair declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq., at 11:27 a.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

OPEN SESSION

W.T. Edmondson moved, Bryant Hightower seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously by the Board to ratify the following recommendations made during Executive Session:

Appointments

Appearance # 2879492 – Marshalls Family Mortuary: Appointment of FDFCC, Thelma Sinletary - approved.

Appearance # 2787003 – HM Patterson and Son Spring Hill Chapel: change of FDFCC from David BOWENS to Brittany Godfrey – Approved.

Appearance # 2789567 – Baxley Funeral Home: Appointment of new FDFCC, Charles Davis - Approved

Appearance # 2761417 – Ferguson Brothers Funeral Home.: Cognizant interview with AG, ED, and cognizant member Thomas Lord. Licensee signed a voluntary Cease and Desist Order.

Appearance # 2790173 – Anderson and Marchell Funeral Home: Change of FDFCC from Willie Henry Lee to Sidney Bedell III – Approved.

Appearance # 2791180 – Hall Jones & Brown Funeral Home: rescheduled for May 14, 2019 – Approved.

Appearance # 2794696 Elliott Sons Funeral Home: Change of FDFCC from John Ansley to Tabitha Grimes – Approved.

Applications

Application # 2790518 / 2790521 Kimberly Kimbrough - Funeral Director and Funeral Director licenses – approved by endorsement to take Laws and Rules exam.

Application # 2787162 Deal Funeral Directors, LLC – Change of name and FDFCC from Hodges-Moore Funeral Home to Deal Funeral Directors, LLC and Curtis Deal appointed new FDFCC – Approved.

Application # 2793031 Johnson Funeral and Cremation Service – Christopher Lee Johnson appointed new FDFCC – Approved.

Application # 2792837 / 2792839 Steven Alan Stone – Funeral Director and Embalmer licenses approved – Approved.

Complaints

FUN190106– Tabled – refer to Inspections to obtain statement from FDFCC and Owner.

FUN190108 – Tabled – refer to Inspections to obtain statement from owner/ FDFCC.

FUN190015 – Tabled – refer to Attorney General for indefinite suspension until balance is paid in full.

FUN180104 – Closed – Fine paid.

FUN190111 – Tabled – refer to Investigations. Obtain statements from complainant, respondent, county coroner, as well as obtain report from local law enforcement.

FUN190068 – Tabled – Complaint left open pending GBI report.

Attorney General’s Report

The Board reviewed and accepted the Attorney General’s recommendations.

FUN190092 – Signed Consent Order has been docketed

FUN190073 – Consent Order has been sent to respondent.

OTHER BUSINESS

Continuing Education

Joe Westbury moved, William Bowan seconded, and the motion carried by the Board to accept the Continuing Education Committee’s recommendations to approve the following continuing education courses as presented:

Provider	Course	Points
Gupton-Jones College of Funeral Service	Communicating in todays world. (Can you hear me now?)	2.0
Kates Boylston Publications	Funeral Service Business Plan Conference	10.0
The dodge Company/The Dodge Institute for Advanced Mortuary Studies	The 2019 Dodge Technical Seminar	9.0

Docketed Orders

Joe Westbury moved, Thomas Lord seconded, and the Board voted to accept the docketed orders as presented:

Type	Licensee	License #	Docket #	City
OAFM	Hopkins Mortuary	FEST001799	2019-0457	Thomasville, Ga
OAFM	Wards Funeral Home	FEST000595	2019-0467	Dawson, Ga
OAFM	Cloud Funeral Home	FEST001800	2019-0546	Cairo, Ga
OAFM	Canton Funeral Home and Cemetary at Macedonia	FEST001947	2019-0544	Canton, Ga
OAFM	Owen Funeral Home Inc.	FEST001514	2019-0545	Catersville, Ga
Public Consent Order	Richmond Hill Funeral Home	FEST001514	2019-0535	Richmond Hill, Ga
Public Consent Order	William R. Cox Jr.	FD004607 EMB004199	2019-0536	Richmond Hill, Ga

Request to Lift Probation

Board reviewed and approved to lift probation from Carl D. Richardson (FD004095).

Licensee Question

Licensee presented questions to the Board regarding opening an alkaline hydrolysis crematory. Staff to research the laws and rules addressing alkaline hydrolysis in other states.

Executive Director's Report

The Board reviewed the Executive Director's report, which provided the Board with statistical data relevant to the processing of applications and complaints/compliance matters.

The next meeting of the Georgia Board of Funeral Service will be held Tuesday, May 14, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

There being no further business, W.T. Edmonson, Chair, declared the meeting adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Alexis Hardy, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by: Brad Coman, Executive Director

Minutes approved on: May 14, 2019



W.T. Edmondson, Chair



Brad Coman, Executive Director

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A 50-14-1 et seq., requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specified exemptions relied upon. O.C.G. A. 50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meetings in question.

Comes Willie Edmondson, the Chairman identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia State Board of Funeral Service
2. I am over the age of 18 and in other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and subject to penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On May 14, 2019 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of members present voted to close the meeting or a portion hereof of the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for closure of this meeting was: O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k).
5. The subjects discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are as follows:

Applications and other personal information submitted by the applicants; information, Favorable or unfavorable, submitted by a reference source concerning an applicant; and Deliberations of the Board with respect to an application, an examination, a complaint, an Investigation, or a disciplinary proceeding.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

W.T. Edmondson

PRESIDING OFFICER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th

Day of May 2019

Rene L. Gray
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: JUNE 1 2019

