

GEORGIA BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE
Board Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2020
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
- William Bowen
- Thomas Lord
- Darryl Bentley
- Nancy Kennedy

Others Present:

- Brad Coman, Executive Director
- Carla Murray, Licensing Supervisor
- Melanie Foster, Licensing Analyst
- Alexis Hardy, Board Support Specialist
- Bryon Thernes, Senior Assistant Attorney General
- Tommy McNulty, Assistant Attorney General

Members Absent:

- Bryant Hightower

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 10:01 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, Tom Lord seconded, and the Board voted to approve the February 11, 2020 agenda.

Minutes

Tom Lord moved, Joe Westbury seconded, and the Board voted to approve the January 14, 2020 Open Session minutes and Executive Session minutes.

Ratification List

Licenses Issued 1/8/2020 through 2/5/2020 (Total – 22): Joe Westbury moved, William Bowen 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
EMB005276	O'Neal McRunells, Jr.
EMB005277	Ashley Tyretta Thomas
EMB005278	Maci Jewel Kiker
EMB005279	Mark Gilvern Pittman
FD005675	O'Neal McRunells, Jr.
FD005676	Ashley Tyretta Thomas
FD005677	Maci Jewel Kiker
FD005678	Mark Gilvern Pittman
FEST002054	Richard R. Robinson Funeral Home & Cremation Services
FEST002055	Way-Watson Funeral Home
FEST002056	Way-Watson Funeral Home

License #	Licensee
FEST002057	Sylvain Funeral Home
FSA006519	Joette Rogers Harvey
FSA006520	Akesha Gaffney
FSA006521	Maya Veronica George
FSA006522	Avery Demetrius Niles
FSA006523	Roger Harrison Booker
FSA006524	Brooke Danielle Dill
FSA006525	Tara D Bynes-Jackson
FSA006526	Ariel Quinteja Collins
FSA006527	Farris Christine Watkins
FSA006528	Kendall Brooke Rollins

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Joe Westbury moved, Nancy Kennedy seconded, and the board voted to enter into Executive Session at 10:02 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. Edmondson, 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 2:37 p.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

OPEN SESSION

Joe Westbury moved, Tom Lord seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously by the Board to ratify the following recommendations made during Executive Session:

Appointments

Appearance # 2842307 – Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors – Change of FDFCC from Julius Curry to Faith Vedder – Approved.

Appearance # 2845987 – E.J.S. – Funeral Service Apprentice – Refer to Attorney General's office for public Consent Order to include probation tracking criminal probation – Approved.

Appearance # FUN200047 – H.S.M. – Did not appear. Refer to Inspections to obtain statement from owner and any related documents.

Appearance # FUN200042 – Cognizant interview conducted with Bryon Thernes, and Tom Lord, Cognizant. Table – Refer to Inspections to offer voluntary Cease and Desist.

Appearance # FUN200045 – Did not appear. Table – Refer to Inspections to conduct closing inspection.

Appearance # 2843246 – Wheeler's Funeral Home – Change of FDFCC from Vanessa Bailey to James Jones – Approved.

Appearance # 2840509 – Southwest Georgia Crematory – New establishment. Harry Bryant appointed FDFCC – Approved.

Appearance # 2852745 – Manry Jordan Hodges Funeral Home – Change of FDFCC from Steven Manry Jr. to Matthew Woods – Approved.

Appearance # 2849383 – Peoples Community Funeral Home – Change of FDFCC from Rodney Godfrey to Joshua Barnes – Approved.

Appearance # 2845491 – C.S.G. – Change of FDFCC – Refer to Attorney General's office for public Consent Order to include \$500 fine for failure to disclose arrests – Approved.

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Appearance # 2853375 – Adams Funeral Home – Change of FDFCC from Senetra Knight to Sean Mayes – Approved, pending receipt of proof of residency.

Appearance # 2852143 – Roselane Crematory – New establishment. Sherry Whitlock appoint FDFCC. – Approved.

Applications

Application # 2851372 – Collins Family Funeral Home, LLC – Change of name from Collins Funeral Home to Collins Family Funeral Home, LLC – Approved.

Application # 2849040 – The Promise Land Funeral Home, LLC – New establishment – Approved.

Complaints

FUN200049 – Close – Letter of Concern for unprofessional conduct.

FUN190126 – Close – No jurisdiction. Refer to Secretary of State.

FUN190147 – William Bowen recused. Table – To March 10, 2020 Board meeting.

FUN200043 – Close – No jurisdiction.

FUN200067 – Table – Refer to Inspections to obtain statement from respondent.

FUN200048 – Table – Refer to Inspections to obtain statement from respondent.

FUN200062 – Table – Schedule cognizant interview for March 10, 2020 Board meeting.

FUN200068 – Close – Matter resolved.

FUN200046 – Close – No violation.

Attorney General's Report

The Board reviewed and accepted the Attorney General's report, which included information on any cases referred for action and requests for advice.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OTHER BUSINESS

Renewal CE Audit

Application # 446407 – Approved.

Crematory Inspection

Facility # 904964 – Table – Retort inspection is incomplete.

OTHER BUSINESS

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

Provider	Course	Points
Elite Professional Education	Training New Embalmers	2
Elite Professional Education	Opioids: Contributing to Both Health and Death	2
Elite Professional Education	Mass Fatalities and Funeral Service	2
Elite Professional Education	Advanced Funeral Planning	4
FuneralCE	Bloodborne Pathogens	3
FuneralCE	Communicating Effectively with Seniors	2
FuneralCE	Conflict Resolution for Funeral Director	3
FuneralCE	Cremation Best Practices	4
FuneralCE	Prearrangement Conference Best Practices	2
FuneralCE	Ethical Business Practices for Funeral Directors	2
FuneralCE	Final Expense Insurance	3
FuneralCE	Funeral Customs with Military Honors	3
FuneralCE	Funeral Personalization and Family Engagement	3
FuneralCE	High Risk Direct Disposal: Lessons Learned from Ebola Outbreak	2
FuneralCE	Intercultural Burials	5
FuneralCE	Managing Grief: A Guide for the Funeral Professional	5
FuneralCE	OSHA Emergency Action Plans for Funeral Homes	2
FuneralCE	OSHA Practice Standards for Funeral Professionals	4
FuneralCE	OSHA Workplace Rights	2
FuneralCE	Pre-Need Planning	4
FuneralCE	Public Speaking for Funeral Directors	5
FuneralCE	Top 5 Things They Didn't Teach in Mortuary School	2
FuneralCE	Understanding Social Security: Case Studies for Funeral Directors	4
FuneralCE	When Disaster Strikes: Mass Fatalities and Community Impact	2
FuneralCE	Working Ethically with Seniors	2
International Order of the Golden Rule	2020 Annual Conference & Solution Center	9
Kate-Boylston Publications	Cremation Innovators Summit	5.5

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NFDA	Cremation Litigation: How to Avoid the Courthouse and What to do When You Can't	1
NFDA	A Funeral Home Facelift for Today's Modern Family	1
NFDA	Prospecting to Women influencers	1.5
NFDA	The Millennia! Funeral Director	1
NFDA	Inside the Courthouse	1.5
NFDA	Obituaries with More Love Than Money	1.5
NFDA	Helpful Embalming Tips	1.5
NFDA	What Holds Us Back at Work: How to Communicate with Colleagues, Managers and Clients	1.5
NFDA	Online Reviews: Getting Good Ones and Fixing Bad Ones	1
NFDA	Traffic is Pointless if Your Website Doesn't Convert	1
NFDA	What Will and Will Not Work in 2020 for Getting More Cases	1
NFDMA	Social Media! The Do's & Don'ts	1
NFDMA	Wrongful Death	1
NFDMA	A Funeral Director's Grief	1
NFDMA	Your Funeral Home Brand & Image	1
NFDMA	Georgia Funeral Practitioners Day At Capitol	2
SCFDA	SC State Board of Funeral Service	1
SCFDA	The Death Registration	0.5
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Preservation & Burial Practices	1
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Telephone Inquiry Manuel	2
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Funeral Service Ethics	2
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Working With Difficult People	3
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Green Burial 101	2
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	The Funeral Director and Organ and Tissue Donation	2
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	After Suicide: Support Survivors	2
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Preneed Planning: What's Funeral Directors Need	4
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Are You Stressed?	4
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Understanding Grief	4

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Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Infant Embalming Techniques	3
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Restoration of a Tissue Donor	3
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Funeral Rituals and Mental Health	4
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Sexual Harassment in the Workplace	4
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	Funeral Rule of the FTC	4
Apex Continuing Education Solutions	OSHA Essentials: An Overview	4
Selected Independent Funeral Homes	2020 NextGen Seminar	8.5

Docketed Orders – Joe Westbury moved, Tom Lord seconded, and the Board voted to accept the docketed orders as presented:

Type	Licensee	License #	Docket #	City
OAFM	Wyche's Funeral Home Inc.	FEST000493	2020-0161	Dublin
OAFM	Southview Mortuary Inc.	FEST001960	2020-0160	Tifton
OAFM	Lofton Funeral Home & Cremation Services LLC	FEST001863	2020-0190	Newton

Continuing Education Requirements

Joe Westbury moved, Tom Lord seconded, and the Board voted to hold a Rules Review in March to consider changes to the continuing education requirements.

Second 90 Day Grace Period Requests

Joe Westbury moved, Tom Lord seconded, and the Board voted unanimously on the following 2nd 90-day grace period requests:

Name	Licensee #	City	Expiration
Kennedy Funeral Homes	FEST000647	Cobbtown	May 7, 2020
Durden-Hudson Funeral Directors	FEST001675	Swainsboro	March 24, 2020
Canton Funeral Home and Crematory at Macedonia Memorial Park	FEST001947	Canton	Denied

The Conference

The Board reviewed the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Board's Model Application, which will be presented for adoption at the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Board's annual meeting on February 19, 2020.

Correspondence

The Board reviewed an inquiry regarding storing unclaimed cremains in an ossuary. Tom Lord moved, Joe Westbury seconded, and the Board voted to refer the questioner to Georgia statute § 43-18-80(d) which, in certain situations, allows the funeral establishment or entity in possession of the cremains to dispose of the cremated remains in a dignified and humane manner by entombing such cremains in a crypt or underground in accordance with local and state law or by storage in the funeral establishment. The statute requires that the final resting place of the cremains be clearly marked and recorded by the

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funeral establishment entombing the cremains, and any costs or fees incurred to entomb, inter, or disinter the cremains shall be the responsibility of the authorizing agent, not to exceed \$100.00.

Closing Inspections

Table to March 10, 2020 Board meeting. Joe Westbury moved, Tom Lord seconded, and the motion carried.

Legislation Discussion

The Board discussed any proposed legislation that would impact the Board or licensee's.

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, March 10, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

There being no further business, W.T. Edmondson, Chair, declared the meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.
Minutes recorded by: Alexis Hardy, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed and edited by: Brad Coman, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: March 10, 2020


W.T. Edmondson, Chair


Brad Coman, Executive Director