

GEORGIA BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE
Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2020
Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217

Members Present:

- Joe Westbury, President
- William Bowen, Vice President
- Thomas Lord
- Bryant Hightower
- Darryl Bentley
- W.T. Edmondson
- Nancy Kennedy

Others Present:

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

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

Joe Westbury, President, noted that a quorum was present, called the meeting to order at 10:04 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

William Bowen moved, Bryant Hightower seconded, and the Board voted to approve the July 14, 2020 agenda.

Minutes

Tom Lord moved, William Bowen seconded, and the Board voted to approve the June 11, 2020 Open Session minutes and Executive Session minutes.

Ratification List

Licenses Issued 6/4/2020 through 7/8/2020 (Total – 20): William Bowen moved, Bryant Hightower 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
EMB005288	Gloria Ann Justice
EMB005289	John Peyton Ivie
EMB005290	Troy Vaughn Chaney
EMB005291	Robert B Fox
EMB005292	Anais Solance Pierre
FD005687	Gloria Ann Justice
FD005688	John Peyton Ivie
FD005689	Troy Vaughn Chaney
FD005690	Robert B Fox
FD005691	Anais Solance Pierre

License #	Licensee
FSA006584	James Michael Freeman, III
FSA006585	Roderick C Tate
FSA006586	Brian Patrick Jones
FSA006587	Power Avery Evans
FSA006588	Maitavia Brown Heard
FSA006589	Daniel Fredrick Reece
FSA006590	Brittney Joyce Brewer
FSA006591	Crystal Demora Giles
FSA006592	Matthew James Turner
FSA006593	Allyson Gwen O'Hare

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Tom Lord moved, William Bowen seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session at 10:05 a.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19(h) and 43-18, for the purpose of discussing and reviewing applications and complaints, and to hear the Attorney General’s report.

GEORGIA BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE
Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2020
Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217

At the conclusion of Executive Session, Joe Westbury, President, declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq., at 1:19 p.m. No votes were taken during Executive Session.

OPEN SESSION

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

Applications

Application # 2864620 – H.M. Patterson and Son – Change of FDFCC from Justin Alford to Brittany Godfrey – Approved.

Application # 2874069 – S.F.H. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2874755 – Tom M. Wages Funeral Home – Change of FDFCC from Richard Johnson to Tom Wages Jr. – Approved.

Application # 2875800 – B.F.H. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2874028 – C.B.F.H.C.B.C. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application #2874765 – E.R.F.H. – Reinstatement – Approve, pending reinstatement of FDFCC’s Funeral Director and Embalmer licenses, with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2876096 – P.C.J.C.C. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2847443 – Sconiers Funeral Home – Change of FDFCC from Katrina Chester to John Sconiers – Approved.

Application # 2874768 – W.F.H. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2874023 – D.L.F.H. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2876282 – Cremation Services of Hartwell – Change of name from Strickland Cremation Service to Cremation Services of Hartwell – Approved.

Application # 2874020 – P.F.H – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2874022 – S.H.W.F.H. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2876952 – W.M. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

GEORGIA BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE
Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2020
Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217

Application # 2878344 – M.T.F.H. – Reinstatement – Approved with public Consent Order for FDFCC to include 2 years’ probation and \$250 fine for unlicensed practice, and public Consent Order for the facility to include 2 years’ probation and \$250 fine for unlicensed practice. Refer to Attorney General’s office.

Application # 2873819 – K.F.H. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2874025 – G.M.M. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2874761 / 2874763 – C.C.C. – Endorsement – Approved with Letter of Concern for failure to disclose action in another jurisdiction.

Application # 2874071 – H.H.F. – Reinstatement – Approved with Letter of Concern for unlicensed practice and failure to renew.

Application # 2872170 – D.M.M. – Funeral Service Apprentice – Table – Schedule applicant interview for August 11, 2020 Board meeting.

Complaints

FUN200102 – Table – Refer to Inspections to obtain signed copies of Statement of Funeral Goods and Services Selected from complainant and respondent.

FUN200093 – Table – Refer to Investigations to obtain statement from respondent.

FUN200041 – Tom Lord rescued – Table – Refer to Attorney General’s office for public Consent Order for aiding and abetting unlicensed practice: Respondent #6 - \$7,000 fine and 4 years’ probation.

FUN200119 – Table – Refer to Inspections to obtain statement from respondents.

FUN200121 – Close – Letter of Concern of unlicensed practice.

FUN200105 – Close – No violation.

FUN210001 – Table – Refer to Inspections to obtain statement from respondent.

FUN200092 – Table – Cognizant interview scheduled with Bryon Thernes and Tom Lord between meetings – did not appear. Refer to Attorney General’s office for revocation hearing.

FUN210003 – Table – Refer to Investigations to obtain additional information from Vital Records and to obtain a statement from respondent.

FUN200047 – Table – Refer to Attorney General’s office for public Consent Order to include \$500 fine and 2 years’ probation for failure to file death certificate.

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.

Application # 2866299 – Rescind previous motion. Approve with Letter of Concern for failure to disclose.

GEORGIA BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE
Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2020
Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217

OTHER BUSINESS

Continuing Education – Nancy Kennedy 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 course as presented:

Provider	Course	Points
CRAKN LLC	Paper to Cloud: Technology for Funeral Home Management	2
NFDA	Breakout by Office	1.5
NFDA	Associations: A Plan for Recovery Part 1	1
NFDA	Why I Walked 444 Miles to Make a Memory	1
NFDA	Associations: A Plan for Recovery Part 2	1
NFDA	Finding Success in an Age of Uncertainty	1
NFDA	Connecting with the LGBTQ Community	1
NFDA	The New Customer Satisfaction Paradigm: What Customers Expect From You Right Now	1
NFDA	Optimizing the Customer Journey: How to Create Memorable Experiences Inside Your Funeral Home	1
NFDA	Building a Brand for Your Business: How to Distinguish Your Funeral Home from the Competition	1
Selected Independent Funeral Homes	2020 Annual Meeting	10
WebCE	Death Care Trends That Are Changing Tradition	2
CANA	CANA 102nd Virtual Convention	4

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

Type	Licensee	License #	Docket #	City
Notice of Hearing	Lonnie McGee Jr.	FD004625 & EMB004217	2020-0744	Conyers
Notice of Hearing	Wrightsville Memorial Funeral Home	FEST002025	2020-0782	Wrightsville
Consent Order	Thomas L Scroggs Funeral Directors, Inc.	FEST001626	2020-0726	Morrow
Consent Order	Adams Funeral Home	FEST001941	2020-0724	Jackson
Consent Order	Rodney Turner	FD004720 & EMB004311	2020-0725	Rome
Consent Order	Canton Funeral Home and Cemetery at Macedonia Memorial Park	FEST001947	2020-0743	Canton

Baxley Funeral Home

The Board reviewed correspondence from Baxley Funeral Home regarding completion of repairs to the facility. William Bowen moved, Tom Lord seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to accept.

Request to Lift Probation

Board reviewed and approved a request to lift the probation of Terry Family Funeral Home (FEST001328). Facility has complied with all Board requirements. William Bowen moved, Bryant Hightower seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to approve the request.

GEORGIA BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICE
Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes – July 14, 2020
Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State
237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217

Correspondence

The Board reviewed correspondence regarding the reinstatement of a surrendered Funeral Director license. The Board noted they are unable to comment on whether or not an application would be approved without an application on file. William Bowen moved, Tom Lord seconded, and the motion carried.

Second 90 Day Grace Period Requests

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

Name	Decision	Licensee #	City	Expiration
Tara Garden Chapel	Approved	FEST001776	Jonesboro	August 28, 2020
Henry-Cochran Funeral Home	Approved	FEST001282	Blue Ridge	September 26, 2020
Vining Ivy Hill Chapel Inc.	Denied	FEST001499	Eatonton	N/A

Meadows Funeral Home

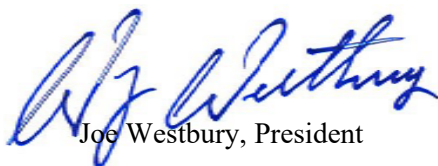
The Board reviewed Correspondence from the attorney for Meadows Funeral Home, Inc., advising of fraudulent use of the establishment's name and logo in advertisement for insurance and preneed products and services without the knowledge of the licensee. William Bowen moved, Tom Lord seconded, and the Board voted to refer this matter to the Insurance Commission.

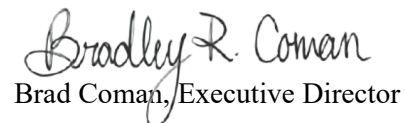
Executive Director's Report

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 Thursday, August 11, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

There being no further business, Joe Westbury, President, declared the meeting adjourned at 1:43 p.m.
Minutes recorded by: Alexis Hardy, Board Support Specialist
Minutes reviewed and edited by: Brad Coman, Executive Director
Minutes approved on: August 11, 2020


Joe Westbury, President


Brad Coman, Executive Director