

Louisiana State Board of Embalmers And Funeral Directors

Minutes of the Meeting

For
August 4, 2020

Board Members present:

Edward Muhleisen, President
Duplain W. Rhodes, III, Secretary
Rodney McFarland, Vice President
Willie P. Davis, Jr., Treasurer
Terry Luneau
S. J. Brasseaux
Rev. Shelton C. Dixon, Consumer Representative

The meeting was called to order by the Board's President, Mr. Muhleisen at 9:00 AM, at the Board's office, located at 3500 N. Causeway Blvd. Ste. 1232 Metairie, Louisiana and via Zoom virtual meeting. Also present was Kim W. Michel, Executive Director, and Jude Daigle, Inspector. Mr. Southall, Ms. Aquillard and Ms. Penouilh was not present for today's meeting.

Meeting of the Board via Zoom and office with limited attendance

Topic: LSBEFD Board Meeting

Time: Aug 4, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7525366094?pwd=aTBQSHcxNkxOeXNsdllOOE1rRGdYdz09>

Meeting ID: 752 536 6094

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PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments made at today's meeting.

PRESENTATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE and/or REQUESTS:
COMPLIANCE, HEARING and/or ADMISSION AND CONSENT

Thaddeus Richardson was present as requested while Ms. Michel addressed the Board with regard to his satisfactory completion of the requirements for his license reinstatement.

Carl Sonnier was present to address the board with regard to his license reinstatement.

Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, seconded by Mr. McFarland and passed in order for Mr. Sonnier to move forward with the reinstatement of his license once he has completed an abbreviated internship and the successful completion of the LRR.

For the Record, Mr. Brasseaux voted against the motion.

Eddie Heard submitted a request for review prior to beginning an internship.

Motion was made by Mr. Dixon, seconded by Mr. Luneau and unanimously passed that Mr. Heard be invited to the next board meeting in order to address the board in person.

HCR71 was presented to the Board by Ms. Michel. Ms. Michel was advised that this board would not be exempt from HCR71 and therefore Ms. Michel sent out an email regarding the renewals that would be suspended for the current renewal year per HCR71. Ms. Michel was subsequently contacted by the Legislative Auditor concerning the Board and was then advised that the board would be exempt from requirements of HCR71. Ms. Michel notified the Board re the miscommunication and another notification was sent out via email alerting licensees of the exemption from HCR71 and that renewals would not be suspended for the current renewal year.

Randy Chenevert submitted a request for the suspension of renewal fees and continuing education due to the pandemic.

Mr. Chenevert was informed that the renewal fees would not be suspended per the regulations of the board as well as the exemption from HCR71. Mr. Chenevert was also informed that continuing education would not be suspended due to the regulations of the board requiring only 4 hours and that the 4 hours could be attained virtually.

Legislation and ACT 389 of the 2020 session was presented to the Board for review.

An overview of the rule hearing which was held on June 29, 2020 was presented to the Board.

Ms. Michel stated that there were quite a few viable assertions made for disagreement during the rule hearing by the public comments and that the board should reconsider the rules after some discussion by the board and associations.

A transcript was submitted by an individual with regard to military training credits and could those credits be applied towards a funeral director license.

After a lengthy discussion re the military credits, the date acquired and the type of training, it was decided that the transcript would not be considered for acceptance toward a funeral director license.

The Complaint Review Committee's report was presented to the Board by Ms. Chanel Debose, Prosecuting Attorney.

Ms. Debose reiterated that complaints are presented to the Board summarily by facts only. Names, funeral

establishments and licensees remain anonymous during the summary presentation in an open meeting and remain anonymous while a complaint is pending further investigation and/or until such time as the complaint file has been closed.

Ms. Debose began outlining the summary of facts of thirteen (13) complaints presented during today's meeting.

It was decided that the virtual/zoom connection was not working as planned and therefore the meeting was concluded.

It was decided that the meeting will be continued at the next scheduled date on September 1, 2020.

There being no further business, the meeting was concluded at 1:00 PM.



Duplain W. Rhodes, Secretary



Edward L. Muhleisen, President

