

OKLAHOMA FUNERAL BOARD
3700 North Classen Blvd, Suite 175
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118

NOTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MEETING PLACE: **Videoconference at**

<https://oklahomafuneralboard.my.webex.com/meet/Funeralboard>

We ask that only the Respondents in a complaint use the video camera function. If calling in by telephone please call 1-408-418-9388; Access Code 1260612143. If attending in person at the physical location: Office of Chief Medical Examiner OKC, 921 N.E. 23rd Street Conference Room 1st Floor Oklahoma City, OK 73105.

Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-20 7th Amended version, commencing November 17, 2020, all Funeral Board Members, Funeral Board Staff, and visitors who wish to attend the Funeral Board's monthly Board meetings must wear a facial covering or mask over the mouth and nose at all times.

DATE & TIME: March 11, 2021 10:00AM

ORDER OF BUSINESS: The Board may discuss, vote to approve, vote to disapprove, vote to table, change the sequence of any agenda item, or decide not to discuss any item on the agenda.

1. Roll Call-Cooper, Highberger, Matherly, Roberts, and Vice attended the meeting. Coble was absent.

2. Reading of the Oklahoma Funeral Board mission statement

The mission of the Oklahoma Funeral Board is to act in the public interest and for the protection of the public within the powers vested in the Board by the State of Oklahoma for the regulation and education of the funeral service profession.

3. Approval of the February 18, 2021 Special Board meeting minutes-Approved

4. Review complaints with possible vote for probable cause or other action

21-29- Not Paying Vendor Issues-Dismiss with a letter of concern

21-33- FTC Issues/FDIC not within 60 Miles- Found Probable Cause

21-39- Death Certificate Issues- Found Probable Cause

5. Vote to affirm or disaffirm the issuance of the following licenses, registrations, certificates, dissolution or other action

A. Apprenticeship (Original)-All Approved

1. Troy D. Wells, Sand Springs, Dillon FS, Sand Springs
2. Leah Calaway, Ada, Estes-Phillips FH, Ada
3. Peri Moore, Norman, Tribute Memorial Care, Norman
4. Lewis Robinson III, Guthrie, Pollard FH, Guthrie
5. Michael Turner, Blair, Kincannon FH, Altus

B. Apprenticeship (2nd extension)-Approved

1. Tammy Marshall, Cordell, Ray and Martha's FH, Cordell (enrolled at Dallas)

C. Apprenticeship (2nd extension) -Approved

1. Nathan Rice, Pryor, Rice FS, Claremore (enrolled at UCO)

D. Apprenticeship (3rd extension) -Approved

1. Daniel Collier, Claremore, Rice FS, Claremore (enrolled at North Texas)

E. Apprenticeship (FD only) (Original) –Number one approved, number two was tabled

1. Kari Harrell, Sallisaw, Forever Memories FS, Sallisaw
2. Alan Hedden, Tulsa, Butler-Stumpff & Dyer FH, Tulsa (Grad of Dallas)

F. Apprenticeship (FD only) (1st extension)-Approved

1. Kimberly Clark, Tishomingo, DeArman-Clark FH, Tishomingo (enrolled at Dallas)

G. Funeral Director and/or Embalmer (Reciprocal)-All tabled

1. Chester Beavers, Texas (FD only)
2. Joseph Campbell, Missouri

H. Funeral Director and/or Embalmer (Original)-**Number one, two, and three were approved, number four was tabled.**

1. Robert L. Stevens, Wheatland (FD only)
2. Patricia Gonzalez-Carter, Macomb
3. Lea Mikala, Shawnee
4. Staci Hartwell-Helm, Ardmore

I. Establishments-**All Approved**

1. Neptune Society, Edmond, New Establishment, Neptune Management Corp., Owner; Angela Bynum, FDIC
2. Bixby FS, Bixby, request to change name from Bixby FS to Bixby-South Tulsa Funeral Service and Crematory

6. New Business. Any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting the agenda or any revised agenda. 25 O.S. Section 311.9.-**No New Business was discussed.**

7. Legal Update

- A. Possible vote to enter into executive session pursuant to 25 O.S. Section 307(B)(4) for confidential communication between the Funeral Board and its attorney concerning pending litigation in Garfield County District Court, Case Number CJ-2020-284, *Amy Stittsworth Funeral Svc. & Cremation Directors, Inc., et al. v. State of Okla., ex rel. Oklahoma Funeral Board, et al.*, when with the advice of its attorney, the Funeral Board determines that disclosure would seriously impair the ability of the Funeral Board to process or conduct or defend its claim in the pending litigation-**No Action**
- B. Vote to exit executive session.
- C. Possible vote on matters discussed in executive session.
- D. Possible vote to enter into executive session pursuant to 25 O.S. Section 307(B)(4) for confidential communication between the Funeral Board and its attorney concerning pending litigation in Oklahoma County District Court, Case Number CV-2020-2297, *Neptune Management Corp. v. State of Okla., ex rel. Oklahoma Funeral Board, et al.*, when with the advice of its attorney, the Funeral Board determines that disclosure would

seriously impair the ability of the Funeral Board to process or conduct or defend its claim in the pending litigation.-**No Action**

E. Vote to exit executive session.

F. Possible vote on matters discussed in executive session.

8. Review, discussion by the Board members, and possible action regarding the proposed permanent Oklahoma Funeral Board Rules.-Approved

9. Administrative Assistant Report

A. Thentia Computer Software Project Update Mrs. Shepherd updated the Board that she is currently in the process of development and implementation of a regulatory database with Thentia and that she is in the questionnaire and analysis process. In addition, she is researching payment processor companies to choose which will be the best fit for the Board.

10. Deputy Director's Report

A. 2021 Legislative Update; HB1638; HB1742; HB2009; HB2072; HB2528; SB301, SB354, and SB970 **Mr. Stiles updated the Board that board staff are currently tracking the following Bills: Here is a brief summary of legislation that we are tracking at this time that could impact the funeral industry.**

HB1638 Rep. Lepak- Related to Death Certificates. Felony to knowingly provide false data or misrepresent any person's relationship to the decedent. This Bill passed the House 91-0 and has been sent to the Senate.

HB1742 Rep. Dills- Funeral Board Bill-Related to Alkaline Hydrolysis. This Bill has been passed the House 93-1 and is on its way to the Senate.

HB2009 Rep. Townley- Related to advance practice registered nurses signing DC's. This Bill passed the House 93-0 and was sent to the Senate.

HB2072 Rep. McCall- Related to a temporary funeral director and embalm license. Passed with Emergency

HB2528 Rep. Kannady- Funeral Service Licensing Act shell bill. This Bill is dormant due to rules.

SB301 Sen. Bergstrom- Related to recommendations to the legislature for the need for out of state permits from the Medical Examiner's Office. This Bill is dormant due to rules.

SB354 **Sen. Bergstrom-** Related to the elimination of the out of state permit from the Medical Examiner's Office for boarding counties to other states. This Bill was amended to include all counties and not the outlying counties in Oklahoma. This Bill was received in the House.

SB970 **Sen. Floyd-** Related to Open Records Act- redacting personal identifiers on licensing applications. This Bill requires redaction of email addresses, physical address, phone numbers and other identifiers on license applications that are requested from an Open Records Request. This Bill was received in the House.

11. Executive Director's Report

- A. Agency Financial update- **Mr. Ferguson reported gross receipts for February 2021 to be \$8,267.75 with \$336.27 going to the State of Oklahoma general fund. The expenses for the same timeframe totaled \$30,624.53 and net income after expenses totaled -\$22,693.05**

12. Adjournment

Chris Ferguson
Executive Director

The next regular meeting of the Oklahoma Funeral Board will be held: **April 8, 2021. Office of Chief Medical Examiner –OKC 921 N.E. 23rd Street Conference Room – 1st Floor Oklahoma City, OK 73105.**