



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

OKLAHOMA FUNERAL BOARD
3700 N. Classen, Suite 175
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118

January 12, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS

Tom Coble
Darin Corbett
Joe Highberger
Brent Matherly
Jim Roberts
Mike Sanders
Chad Vice

STAFF

Rochelle Covington
Tyler Stiles
Dustin Watters
Kylie Cooper, AAG
Liz Stevens, AAG

MEETING PLACE: MEETING PLACE:

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.

A copy of this notice of meeting and agenda has been posted in a prominent location at the office of the Oklahoma Funeral Board, 3700 North Classen Blvd Suite 175, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on January 9, 2023 at 1:30PM. A copy of this agenda is available on the Funeral Board website at www.ok.gov/funeral

Continuing Education credit was not provided for this meeting if attended via videoconference or telephone.

President Roberts called the meeting to order at 10:00AM. Members Corbett, Highberger, Matherly, Roberts, Sanders, and Vice were present. Member Coble was absent. A quorum was always present

Motion by Vice second by Corbett to approve the December 8, 2022 Regular Board meeting minutes. The motion passed with members Highberger abstaining.

Dustin Pierce with OKFDA provided the following update: OKFDA District meetings are Jan. 24 in OKC, Jan. 26 in Chouteau, Jan 31 in Enid, Feb 2 in Marlow, Feb 7 in Ardmore, and Feb 9 in Krebs. The OKFDA convention will be April 23- 25.

OID did not provide an update.

Motion by Vice second by Highberger to dismiss complaint 22-40 with a letter of concern regarding Not Paying Vendor. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Vice second by Sanders to find probable cause on complaint 23-24 regarding Body Intake Log Issues. The motion passed unanimously.

Regarding the matters for consideration: Consent Order or Scheduling Order: Complaint 19-36 Amy Stittsworth Funeral Serv. & Cremation Directors, Inc., Establishment, Enid; Amy Stittsworth Funeral Serv. & Cremation Directors, Inc, Owner, Enid; William Stittsworth Jr. , FDIC, Enid. Complaint 20-39 Amy Stittsworth Funeral Serv. & Cremation Directors, Inc., Establishment, Enid; Amy Stittsworth Funeral Serv. & Cremation Directors, Inc, Owner, Enid; William Stittsworth Jr., FDIC, Enid. Complaint 21-55 Amy Stittsworth Funeral Serv. & Cremation Directors, Inc., Establishment, Enid; Amy Stittsworth Funeral Serv. & Cremation Directors, Inc, Owner, Enid; William Stittsworth Jr. , FDIC, Enid. Respondent did not appear. The prosecution was represented by Kylie Cooper, AAG. Liz Stevens, AAG, was the Board's legal advisor. Members Corbett, Matherly, Roberts, and Sanders heard the case. Member Vice was recused from the case and he left the room. Member Highberger also left the room.

After the presentation of the agreed upon Consent Order, motion by Highberger second by Sanders to accept the Consent Order for Complaints 19-36, 20-39, and 21-55. The consent order consisted of the following: The terms consisted of the following: Administrative Penalty of \$1,500, Costs of \$1,000, respondent may not advertise a location that is not licensed by the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

Member Vice reentered the room.

Regarding the matters for consideration: Consent Order or Scheduling Order: Complaint 23-08 People's Cooperative Funeral Home, Establishment, Lone Wolf; People's Cooperative Funeral Home, Inc., Owner; Essie Smith, FDIC. The prosecution was represented by Kylie Cooper, AAG. Liz Stevens, AAG, was the Board's legal advisor. Members Corbett, Matherly, Roberts, Sanders, and Vice heard the case. Member Highberger was recused from the case and he was already out of the room.

After the presentation of the agreed upon Consent Order, motion by Sanders second by Vice to accept the consent order. The consent order consisted of the following: The agreed violations were: failure to have a completed Body Intake Log, violation of the Funeral Service Licensing Act, and Rules of the Board. The terms consisted of the following: Administrative Penalty of \$250, Costs of \$250. The motion passed unanimously.

Member Highberger reentered the room.

Regarding the matters for consideration: Consent Order or Scheduling Order: Complaint 23-14 Wharton Funeral Chapel LLC, Establishment, Alva; Wharton Funeral Chapel LLC, Owner; Robert Wharton, FDIC. The prosecution was represented by Kylie Cooper, AAG. Liz Stevens, AAG, was the Board's legal advisor. Members Corbett, Highberger, Roberts, Sanders, and Vice heard the case. Member Matherly was recused from the case and he left the room.

After the presentation of the agreed upon Consent Order, motion by Highberger second by Sanders to accept the consent order. The consent order consisted of the following: The agreed violations were: failure to have caskets priced, violation of the Funeral Service Licensing Act, and Rules of the Board. The terms consisted of the following: Administrative Penalty of \$2,000, Costs of \$500. The motion passed unanimously.

Member Matherly reentered the room.

Motion by Matherly second by Roberts to approve the following: Apprenticeship (Original) Philip Seeley, Stillwater, Strode FH, Stillwater; Kimberly Lucas, Choctaw, Barnes Friederich FH, MWC; Harlea Walker, Broken Arrow, Rice FS, Claremore; Tara Cook, Tulsa, Dillon FS, Sand Springs (FD Only); Aidan Parker, OKC, Chapel Hill, OKC; Kyla Searcy, Tahlequah, Reed Culver FH, Tahlequah; Edward Eschiti, Walters, Southern Plains Mortuary, Walters (EM Only). The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matherly second by Highberger to approve the following: Apprenticeship (1st Extension). Raymond Rogers, Miami, Paul Thomas FH,

Miami; Hellen Yosef, OKC, Crawford, Edmond (FD Only). The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matherly second by Highberger to approve the following: Apprenticeship (2nd Extension). Ashley King, Edmond, Chapel Hill, OKC. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matherly second by Highberger to approve the following: Apprenticeship (3rd Extension). William Swanson, Yukon, Crawford, Edmond. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Vice second by Sanders to table the following: Funeral Director and/or Embalmer (Reciprocal), Kyle Dungan, Texas; Stuart Thompson, Texas; Desirae Davis, Iowa (EM Only); April Bellotte, Texas . The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matherly second by Highberger to table the following: Funeral Director and/or Embalmer (Original), Paige Goodman, OKC. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matherly second by Highberger to approve the following: Funeral Director and/or Embalmer (Original) Rulon Davis Sr, Edmond (FD Only); Jennifer Pointer, Durant (FD Only). The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matherly second by Highberger to table the following: Funeral Director and/or Embalmer (Original), Haley Ireland, Moore (FD Only); Isaac Brown, Wellston (FD Only); Chantal Hernandez, Yukon. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matherly second by Highberger to approve the following: Establishments, Estes-Phillips Funeral Home, Ada, request to change name to Smith-Phillips Funeral Home; Lanman Funeral Home Inc., Okeene, request to change FDIC from Irene Lanman to John Decker; Lanman Funeral Home Inc., Cherokee, request to change FDIC from Irene Lanman to John Decker; Knight-Swearingen Funeral Home, Inc., Maud, request to change name to Swearingen Funeral Home-Maud; Adamscrest Funeral Service, Tulsa, request to change name to Reynolds + Adamscrest Funeral Service; Kiesau-Lee FH, Clinton, request to change FDIC from Troy Lee to Brandon Lee; Park Brothers FS, Chandler, request to change FDIC from Erin Bradley to Patti Gonzalez-Carter; Roberts-Reed-Culver FH, Stilwell, request to change FDIC from Gabrielle Gray to Ashley Armstrong; Roberts & Hart FH, Westville, request to change FDIC from Gabrielle Gray to Ashley Armstrong; Dighton Moore, Owasso, request to change FDIC from Preston McCurtain to Deena

Nickerson; Mt. Olive FH, Hugo, request to close establishment; Prater-Lampton-Mills & Coffey FH, Hugo, request to close establishment; Holmes-Coffey-Murray FH, Durant, request to close establishment; Affordable Cremation, OKC, request to close establishment; Community FH, Guthrie, request to close establishment; Smith FH, Sapulpa, request to close establishment; Rice FS & CremationCare+, Catoosa, request to close establishment; Rice FS & Cremation Care, Claremore, request to close establishment; Mt. Olive FH, Hugo, New Establishment, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Alan Cowley, FDIC; Prater-Lampton-Mills & Coffey FH, Hugo, New Establishment, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Alan Cowley, FDIC; Holmes-Coffey-Murray FH, Durant, New Establishment, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Merle Soltis, FDIC; Affordable Cremation, OKC, New Establishment, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Lyndel Hamilton, FDIC; Community FH, Guthrie, New Establishment, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Lyndel Hamilton, FDIC; Smith FH, Sapulpa, New Establishment, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner Danilo Gatón, FDIC; Rice FS & CremationCare+, Catoosa, New Establishment, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Daniel Collier, FDIC; Rice FS & Cremation Care, Claremore, New Establishment, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Daniel Collier, FDIC; Ray and Martha's FH, Anadarko, request to change FDIC from Nelson Dougherty to Tammy Marshall; Ray and Martha's FH, Carnegie, request to change FDIC from Nelson Dougherty to Tammy Marshall; Ray and Martha's FH, Mountain View, request to change FDIC from Nelson Dougherty to Tammy Marshall; Green Country FH, Tahlequah, request to change name to Green Country Funeral Home LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Matherly second by Highberger to approve the following: Crematories, S.P.S Crematory, Hugo, request to close crematory; Green Country Cremation Center, Sapulpa, request to close crematory; S.P.S Crematory, Hugo, New Crematory, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Alan Cowley, FDIC
Green Country Cremation Center, Sapulpa, New Crematory, Beacon Funeral Partners (Oklahoma)LLC, Owner, Danilo Gatón, FDIC. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stiles reported the following new business: Mike Brown passed away unexpectedly after the agenda was posted. Mr. Brown was FDIC of Forever Memories in Sallisaw, OK. Kari Harrell requested to be temporary FDIC with an exemption of FDIC requirements. She is FD only. Motion by Corbett second by Sanders to allow Kari Harrell to serve as temporary FDIC for 90 days. The motion passed unanimously.

Agency Financial update- Mr. Stiles reported gross receipts for December 2022 to be \$298,913.50 with \$29,891.35 going to the State of Oklahoma general fund. The expenses for the same timeframe totaled \$38,715.27 and net income after expenses totaled \$230,306.88. Renewals for 2023 have ended and most individuals are able to renew online without any issues. Some establishments are still being processed and hopefully establishments will be able to renew online for 2024.

The rule interpretation committee met and has agreed on answers for recommendation. This will be typed and distributed to the committee members for approval prior to submission to the Board.

Motion by Highberger second by Sanders to adjourn the meeting at 10:25AM. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim Roberts
Oklahoma Funeral Board President