



OKLAHOMA Funeral Board

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

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

April 11, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS

Tom Coble
Darin Corbett
Glenn Dunn
John Davenport
Joe Highberger
Brent Matherly
Jim Roberts

STAFF

Rochelle Covington
Tyler Stiles
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 April 8, 2024 at 9:00AM. A copy of this agenda is available on the Funeral Board website at www.ok.gov/funeral

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

Motion by Highberger second by Corbett to approve the March 14, 2024 Regular Board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously with member Coble abstaining.

Ronnie Dighton with OKFDA provided the following update: SB1602, merchandising bill, will not move forward this year and has been defeated.

OID did not provide an update

Dawn Plumb and Christen Johnston with the OSDH provided the following update: ROVER NextGen is anticipated to go live in 2024. It was initially anticipated to go live in May but that is no longer the case. A new vendor is building the system. The OSDH is offering training for the new system that includes videos and an environment for practicing with the new system. President Roberts informed others that Kansas has a Death Certificate system that Oklahoma Funeral Directors are eligible to enroll with to file Kansas Certificates. Those instructions follow the Board meeting notes.

Motion by Highberger second by Roberts to dismiss complaint 24-24 regarding Pre-need Issues due to lack of jurisdiction. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Highberger second by Roberts to find probable cause on complaint 24-32 regarding Vendor Payment Issues. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Highberger second by Roberts to dismiss complaint 24-34 regarding Holding a Body for Payment with a letter of concern. The motion passed unanimously with member Corbett abstaining.

Regarding the matters for consideration: Administrative Hearing, Consent Order, or Scheduling Order: Complaints 23-16, 23-72, 24-08, and 24-20 Christopher Harrison, Funeral Director and Embalmer. Motion by Highberger second by Dunn to follow the previous Scheduling Order and move the matter to May. The motion passed unanimously with Member Roberts Abstaining.

Motion by Roberts second by Highberger to approve the following: Apprenticeship (Original) NeKiesha Flowers, OKC, Howard Harris, OKC; Caris Vick, Edmond, Smith & Kernke, OKC; Nicole Haynie, Tulsa, Floral Haven, Broken Arrow; Robert Glanville, (FD Only), McAlester, Bishop, McAlester; Rylee Estes, Locust Grove, Locust Grove, Locust Grove; Joshua Cruz, Purcell, Cruz Family FH, OKC; Ty Astle, OKC, OMS-OKC, Mercer-Adams, Bethany. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Roberts second by Highberger to approve the following: Apprenticeship (1st extension) Christopher Lowe, Duncan, Whitt FH, Duncan; Ruth Ewing, MWC, Barnes & Friederich, MWC; Natalee Pryor, Edmond, Matthews, Edmond; Dena Cassell, Chattanooga, Lawton Ritter Gray, Lawton. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Roberts second by Highberger to approve the following: Apprenticeship (2nd Extension). Tara Cook, Claremore, Dillon, Sand Springs; Jessica Brewer, Holdenville, Williamson-Spradlin, Wetumka. The motion passed unanimously

Motion by Roberts second by Highberger to table the following: Funeral Director and/or Embalmer (Reciprocal), Brad Pingel, Texas (FD Only). The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Roberts second by Highberger to approve the following: Funeral Director and/or Embalmer (Original, Breanne Strawn, Piedmont, (FD Only); Deanna; Evans, Dewey (FD Only); Lily Johnson, OKC. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Roberts second by Highberger to approve the following: Establishments, Kirk Funeral Home, Ardmore, request to close establishment; Kirk Funeral Home, Ardmore, New Establishment, Kirk Funeral Home LLC, Ardmore, Brandon Reid, FDIC. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no new business

Agency Financial update- Mr. Stiles reported gross receipts for March 2024 to be \$6,990.00 with \$699.00 going to the State of Oklahoma general fund. The expenses for the same timeframe totaled \$33,427.07 and net income after expenses totaled -\$27,136.07.

2024 Legislative Session Bills- HB2959 this is the bill to extend the sunset of the Funeral Board for 3 years and it passed the Senate Committee and now waiting for it to be placed on the Senate Floor agenda

SB1602 - this is the funeral service merchandise bill that allows anyone to sell a casket without a license if they are not selling any other funeral services and has not been placed on the House Committee Agenda at this time.

Strategic Planning: Discussion and possible action regarding change of Board Statutes or Board Rules: Board discussion for Updating Cremation Statutes and Rules. Darin Corbett and John Davenport would like to continue discussions, build more of a framework, and is still looking at various cremation statutes and rules and compiling a list.

The Board discussed removing the supervision of apprentices after a certain time frame as long as other requirements have been met and taking the law exam prior to being allowed to be removed from personal supervision.

Matters for consideration: Executive Director. Motion by Highberger second by Dunn to enter executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Highberger second by Roberts to exit executive session. No votes were taken and no other matters were discussed while in executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Highberger second by Coble to adjourn the meeting at 11:46AM. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim Roberts
Oklahoma Funeral Board President