

Arkansas State Board of Embalmers, Funeral Directors, Cemeteries, and Burial Services
Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 21, 2018
1200 West Third Street
1st Floor Hearing Room
Little Rock, AR
1 p.m. – 1: 30 p.m.

Chairman Bill Booker called the meeting to order. Members present: Billy Curl, Professional Member, Chuck Dearman, Professional Member, Rausch Hodges, Professional Member, Commissioner, Allen Kerr, Stephanie Neipling, Consumer Member, Josephine Perry, Senior Citizens Member, and Steve Whitwell, Professional Member and Vice-Chair. Member(s) absent: Bruce Smithson, Professional Member. Staff Present: Robert Akers, Director, Funeral Services Division, Amy Goode, Executive Secretary, Lorin Hillery, Auditor, Leslie Stokes, Inspector, Amelia Vestal, Senior Securities Examiner, Ryan James, Public Information Officer, Arkansas Insurance Department, and Amanda Gibson, Arkansas Insurance Department, Associate Counsel.

I. Call to Order – Introduction of Board members and staff.

II. Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Booker inquired if there were any requests for changes or additions to the agenda. Hearing none, the Board preceded with the agenda as prepared by staff.

III. Establishments Seeking Approval

- a. Aaron Beasley Embalming and Cremation Service NWA, LLC. - Board ID No. 25032.** Requests a Type B establishment license located at 181 S. 40th Street, Suite B, Springdale, Arkansas. Inspector Stokes inspected the Type B Mortuary establishment, owned by Aaron Beasley, on Tuesday, August 7, 2018. Wayne Brown is the manager and embalmer of record. All required documentation submitted is pending Board approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Kerr to approve the Type B establishment license for Aaron Beasley Embalming and Cremation Service NWA, LLC., Board ID No. 25032, seconded by Whitwell, all in favor. Motion carried.

- b. Robinson Mortuary-South – Board ID No. 25011.** Requests a Type A establishment license located at 6400 Mabelvale Pike, Little Rock, Arkansas. Inspector Stokes inspected the Type A Full Service establishment, owned by Kenneth Robinson, on Wednesday, July 11, 2018. The manager of record will be Kenneth Robinson and Robinson Mortuary, Little Rock, is to be performing the embalming, under the direction of Samuel Mitchell. D E Cremator Company in

England will perform cremations. All required documentation submitted is pending Board approval.

Motion made by Whitwell to approve the Type A establishment license for Robinson Mortuary-South, Board ID No. 25011, seconded by Commissioner Kerr, all in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Akers stated that the laws changed, effective July 1, 2018. The law now requires any multi-unit funeral establishment enterprise to maintain at least one (1) refrigeration unit within the state. Mr. Akers also noted that Robinson did have an application in process prior to July 1st and suggested that the Board have a phase-in stage to meet this new requirement. Commissioner Kerr inquired how long it would take to have refrigeration set-up. Mr. Robinson stated that if the Board gave him a timeline, he would work with it. Mr. Robinson further stated he currently uses Arkansas Central Mortuary Service, if he should need access to refrigeration. Commissioner Kerr questioned if ninety (90) days would be sufficient time to have refrigeration and to notify staff when it was ready for inspection. Mr. Robinson indicated that would be adequate.

c. Wolfe Brothers Funeral Home and Cremations – Board ID No. 25014.

Requests a Type A establishment license located at 634 West Main, Blytheville, Arkansas. Inspector Stokes inspected the Type A Full Service establishment, owned by Larry and William Wolfe, on Monday, July 16, 2018. The manager of record will be Gary Wolfe and Wolfe Brothers Funeral Home in West Memphis is to be performing embalming, under the direction of Madeline Lyles and Marc Smith. Serenity Funeral Home & Cremation in Memphis, Tennessee will perform cremations. All required documentation submitted is pending Board approval.

Motion made by Curl to approve the Type A establishment license for Wolfe Brothers Funeral Home and Cremations, Board ID No. 25014, seconded by Commissioner Kerr, all in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Larry Wolfe indicated that they have refrigeration at their West Memphis location.

IV. Crematory Permit Application Approval – A. C. A §17-29-313

a. Diamond State Cremation - Crematory Permit Application – Requests a Crematory Construction Permit and will be located at 14980 Industrial Park Dr. – Lead Hill, Arkansas. All required documentation submitted is pending Board approval.

Motion made by Commissioner Kerr to approve Diamond State Cremation's requests for a crematory construction permit, seconded by Dearman, all in favor. Motion carried.

V. Meeting Dates

- a. September 25, 2018 – 9 a.m.**

VII. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Kerr to adjourn at 1:30 p. m., seconded by Hodges, all in favor. Motion carried.