

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

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

1 Commerce Way
Diamond Mine Room– 2nd Floor
Little Rock, AR
10:02 – 10:13 AM

Chairman Bill Booker, Professional Member called the meeting to order. Member(s) present: Commissioner Appointed Designee, Dan Honey, Compliance Attorney, Rausch Hodges, Professional Member, Josephine Perry, Senior Citizens Member, and Steve Whitwell, Professional Member and Vice-Chair.

Members absent, Commissioner Alan McClain, Billy Curl, Professional Member, Stephanie Neipling, Consumer Member, and Bruce Smithson, Professional Member.

Staff present: Amy Goode, Executive Secretary, Lorin Hillery, Auditor, Amelia Vestal, Senior Securities Examiner, Amanda Gibson, Arkansas Insurance Department, Associate Counsel and Eddie Davis, Director of Security.

1. **Call to Order** – Introduction of Board members and staff.
2. **Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Booker inquired if there was any desire to change or deviate from the proposed agenda. Hearing none, the Board preceded with the agenda as prepared by staff.

- a) **Proposed Rules 3 and 4 Approval** (*§23-61-1103 Powers and Duties*) Acts 725 and 746 of 2021 require all occupational licensing boards to promulgate rules to implement the legislation.
 - i. To consider proposed Rules 3 and 4 required by the 2021 legislation. Rule 3 is required by Act 746 of 2021. Rule 4 is required by Act 725 of 2021.

Ms. Gibson stated that the underlying legislation that required these rules is Act 746 and 725. Act 746 requires licensing boards and commissions to adopt rules that allows individuals that have a work permit be granted a license. They must still meet all the requirements of the license. The work permit does not substitute any of the requirements to obtain the license. This is proposed Rule 3.

Proposed Rule 4, which is required by Act 725, the legislation requires individuals who are covered under the Workforce Expansion Act of 2021, to be able to not only apply for an occupational license but allow the initial fees to be waived. All occupational licensing boards

must implement rules waving all initial licensing fees. Not all fees and not the background check, just the initial fee for license or registration.

These rules include model language provided the Arkansas Attorney General's office.

Motion by Honey, to approve Rule 3 and Rule 4, seconded by Whitwell, all in favor. Motion carried.

3. **Next Meeting Date(s)**
 - a) **Tuesday, September 21, 2021 (9:00 a.m.) Board Meeting and Hearings**
 - b) **Wednesday, September 29, 2021 (10:30 a.m.) Public Hearing Texarkana City Hall**

4. **Future Meeting Date(s):**
 - a) **Monday, October 18, 2021 (1:00 p.m.) Rules Sub-Committee**
 - b) **Tuesday, October 19, 2021 (9:00 a.m.) Board Meeting and Hearings**

5. **Adjournment**

Motion made by Hodges to adjourn at 10:13 AM, seconded by Honey, all in favor. Motion carried.