

North Dakota State Board of Funeral Service
Minutes of Meeting August 14, 2023

The North Dakota State Board of Funeral Service met electronically on August 14, 2023 at 8:30 A.M.

Those present were: Dale G. Niewoehner, James S. Ladbury, Dr. Nizar Wehbi, Michael Williams, Allyson M. Hicks, and Brittany Martinez.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 8:34 A.M.

The minutes of the July 31, 2023 meeting were approved by a motion from Dr. Wehbi and seconded by Niewoehner and carried.

The printed financial report as of August 9, 2023 was reviewed by the members of the Board and approved by a motion from Wehbi and seconded by Niewoehner and carried.

Old Business:

Board attorney Allyson Hicks reported that Administrative Rules Committee member Representative Mike Nathe had, after the last meeting of the Board, voiced strong opposition to seeking an Attorney General's opinion regarding the debate between 3 years or 5 years of licensure. It is unclear whether the Administrative Rules Committee can change a request for change in Rules and that this is not the first time that this authority has been questioned. Attorney Hicks informed the Board that it had two choices. One would be to appear before the committee again and debate the issue and the other choice would be to resolve to change the Rule to 3 years rather than 5 years of prior licensure and accept the motion made by the Administrative Rules Committee on June 6, 2023. After discussion, Dr. Wehbi moved to accept the motion made by the Administrative Rules Committee for 3 years of licensure in another state. The motion was seconded by Ladbury, who had joined the meeting at 8:45 A.M., and with a roll call vote with all members voting yes, the motion carried.

Niewoehner moved that the motion to seek an Attorney General opinion be withdrawn. The motion was seconded by Ladbury and a roll call vote was taken with all members voting yes.

New Business:

Niewoehner presented Micah D. Ludwig #1376 (10 August 2023) to be granted a funeral practitioner license. And Michael J. Kurtti # 650 (7 August 2023) as registered intern embalmer. Moved by Wehbi and Seconded by Ladbury to approve the license and registration. The motion passed with roll-call vote with all voting yes.

Niewoehner informed the Board that the 2024 license renewal program will begin in October and that a message will be sent to all license holders in mid September. He also expressed concern about the security of the required NDCC 43-50, Social Security numbers that will be needed for renewal of licenses. This item will be added to the application form.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale G. Niewoehner, Secretary

