

North Dakota State Board of Funeral Service
Minutes of Meeting February 8, 2022

The North Dakota State Board of Funeral Service met electronically on February 8, 2022 at 11:00 A.M.

Those present were Dale G. Niewoehner, Jeffrey Brose, Michael Williams, Attorney Allyson M. Hicks, Dr. Nizar Wehbi, and Miranda Oothoudt.

Chairman Brose called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. and called for a moment of reflection and memory of North Dakota Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, who had died unexpectedly on January 28th.

The minutes of the July 7, 2021 meeting were approved by a motion from Dr. Wehbi and seconded by Williams and carried.

The printed financial report as of June 30, 2021 was reviewed by the members of the Board and approved by a motion from Williams and seconded by Dr. Wehbi and carried.

Old Business:

Niewoehner reviewed the final license report for 2022. He noted that there are 318 license holders and 69 funeral establishments, 27 chapels, and 13 crematory licenses. There were 9 license drops. He gave updates on interns Liesinger, Kinnen and Dennis Newgard, who needs to pass the Conference exam.

New Business:

Niewoehner presented the names of Troy A. Zell #1355 (23 July 2021), Floyd Sickler #1356 (29 July, 2021), Nadine Privratsky #1357 (5 August 2021); Autumn Olson #1358 (28 August 2021); Eric Schley #1359 (20 September 2021); Hallie K. Anderson # 1360 (16 December 2021) and Allison M. Harrington #1361 (13 January 2022) to be granted funeral practitioner licenses and Whitney Demarais #635 (9 September 2021) Hannah Blazinski-Cuhel #636 (15 September 2021), Stephanie K. Schultz #637 (25 October 2021), and Brett Davis #638 (7 January 2022) as registered intern embalmers. He also presented the Springan-Stevenson Funeral Home and S & S Crematory for licensure. Moved by Niewoehner and Seconded by Dr. Wehbi to approve the licenses and registrations. The motion passed with all voting yes.

The next item of business was the consideration of the complaint filed against James Ladbury by Rhonda Kolling, in regards to the distribution of memorial cards. After significant discussion, Niewoehner moved that the complaint be dismissed on the grounds that no Codes or Laws were violated. The motion was seconded by Williams and with a roll call vote with all voting to pass the motion and dismiss the complaint. Attorney Hicks will send letters to both parties involved in the complaint.

The Board had authorized attorney Hicks to begin a draft to North Dakota Administrative Rules that would allow license by reciprocity for a certain amount of years of licensure and other requirements. A motion was made by Niewoehner to set the time period of five (5) years and seconded by Williams and carried.

Other discussion followed with discussion of a Century Code change for clarification of the separation of human and animal crematory retorts. Attorney Hicks will present a draft for the Board's review. There was also discussion of registration of the final disposition of cremated remains. Attorney Hicks will discuss the matter with Vital Records.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:42 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale G. Niewoehner, Secretary