

North Dakota State Board of Funeral Service
Minutes of Meeting January 27, 2023

The North Dakota State Board of Funeral Service met electronically on January 27, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

Those present were: Dale G. Niewoehner, Jeffrey Brose, Dr. Nizar Wehbi, Michael Williams, and Miranda Oothoudt.

Chairman Brose called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

The minutes of the May 6, 2022 meeting were approved by a motion from Dr. Wehbi and seconded by Williams and carried.

The printed financial report as of January 24, 2023 was reviewed by the members of the Board and approved by a motion from Wehbi and seconded by Niewoehner and carried.

Old Business:

The Board reviewed the Administrative Code changes regarding crematoriums and qualifications for licensure. Preliminary work has been done by the Attorney. The Board moved to hold the official hearing on the changes at the office of the NDSBFS in Rugby on February 15, 2023 or another date to comply with the required statutes. Moved by Williams and seconded by Dr. Wehbi and passed with a roll-call vote with all members voting yes.

New Business:

Niewoehner presented the names of Laura Vorhies #1364 (10 June 2022), Stephanie Kirchgesler # 1365 (31 August 2022), Zoe Fath # 1366 (14 October 2022), Whitney Barthel # 1367 (28 October 2022), Hannah Blazinski-Cuhel # 1368 (14 November 2022), Dustin Turner # 1369 (14 November 2022), Miranda Lavelle # 1370 (26 November 2022) and Shantel Jangula # 1371 (1 January 2023) to be granted funeral practitioner licenses and Zachary Martin # 640 (9 May 2022), Shanna Grumbles # 641 (16 May 2022), Jack Sannes # 642 (9 July 2022), Micah Ludwig # 643 (4 August 2022), Amanda Olson # 644 (15 September 2022), Madison Stokes # 645 (15 September 2022), and Brett C. Peterson # 646 (21 January 2023) as registered intern embalmers. Niewoehner also presented Riverside Cemetery (C-16), Thompson Funeral Home (185), Sannes-Feist Funeral Home (184), Carlsen Funeral Home/Chapel (B-25), Stakston-Martin Funeral Home (186), temporary special license for Price Funeral Chapel, and Dahlstrom & Sons Funeral Homes (187-187B) for licensure. Moved by Wehbi and Seconded by Williams to approve the licenses and registrations. The motion passed with roll-call vote with all voting yes.

The Board considered a request from the North Dakota Funeral Directors Association to sponsor a seminar at the annual convention in Fargo on April 5, 2023. It was noted that 43-10-06.3 allows the Board to conduct seminars. Niewoehner moved that the Board sponsor the seminar and was seconded by Wehbi and with a roll-call vote with all members voting yes. It was noted that this seminar must be open to all license holders and that Niewoehner will send a notice to all license holders.

The Board considered a request from Dennis Newgard. Mr. Newgard had entered into a settlement agreement on March 16, 2021 to obtain necessary college credits and to pass the science section of the Conference examination. He requested an extension of his two year agreement because of various personal reasons. After discussion, the Board moved to grant him another year to comply with his settlement agreement by a motion by Niewoehner and seconded by Wehbi and with a roll-call vote passed with all members voting yes. The attorney will draft and extend an amendment to Mr. Newgard for his signature.

Niewoehner made some comments about several applicants and their status and a review of the current license renewals. At this time there are 7 remaining to renew, 4 deaths, and 7 license drops.

It was noted that Niewoehner's brother Weyburn had died and that Miranda's brother had died. Words of sympathy were expressed by the Board.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:29 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale G. Niewoehner, Secretary