

These minutes have been approved by the Board on 7.27.2023

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTING AND EMBALMING**

May 4, 2023

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Board of Funeral Directing and Embalming was called to order by Leo Seger, Chair, at 8:30 a.m., in the Lower Level Goldenrod Room, Nebraska State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. In accordance with § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were 1) emailed to the Board members and other interested parties, and 2) posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx> and on the bulletin board in the Licensure Unit Lobby on 04.24.2023.

The following members answered roll call:

Members Present (4):

Steven Brunken, Member (in room)
Arvid Wiest, Secretary (in room)
Leo Seger, Chairperson (in room)
Lawrence Battaglia, Vice Chair (in room)

Members Absent (0):

Others Present (7):

TJ O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General (in room)
Ann Oertwich, Program Manager, Licensure Unit (in room)
Carrie Oldehoeft, Health Licensing Board Coordinator (in room)
Danielle Sund, DHHS Attorney (in room)
Juliann Lanphier-Willson (WebEx)
Public (in room and on phone)

A quorum was present and the meeting convened.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Brunken moved, seconded by Battaglia, to adopt the agenda. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye: Brunken, Wiest, Seger, Battaglia (4). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: None (0). Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (1.26.2023)

MOTION: Brunken moved, seconded by Battaglia, to approve the minutes of 1.26.2023 as corrected. A voice vote was taken. Voting aye: Brunken, Wiest, Seger, Battaglia (4). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: None (0). Motion carried.

4. UPDATES AND REPORTS

Updates and Reports

a. 2023 Legislation (LB 16, 261, other)

LB 16: occupational reform and changes to preliminary conviction review
https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=49705

An amendment was introduced to remove section 1 by Senator Briese and is currently in committee.

LB 261: Apprenticeship while attending mortuary school
https://nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/view_bill.php?DocumentID=50477

Individuals who intend on practicing mortuary science; including funeral directing and embalming, must complete a total of 12 months apprenticeship. Apprenticeships can either take place over one, consecutive twelve-month period OR over two six-month periods. If completed over two periods of six months, the first half

of the apprenticeship is currently required to take place prior to attendance of an accredited school of mortuary science, another requirement of accreditation. LB261 intends to change this current statute to allow application to complete the first-six months of the apprenticeship, while the individual is completing their education, rather than prior.

To change provisions of the Funeral Directing and Embalming Practice Act relating to apprenticeship. This was added to LB 227.

- b. Nebraska Funeral Directing Association (NEFDA) <http://www.nefda.org>
Public- Marvin Olson and Paul Seger updated Funeral Assistance Program, no additional discussion from legislation discussion.
- c. International Conference of Funeral Service Examination Board, Inc. (ICFSEB)
<http://www.theconferenceonline.org>

Brunken attended the conference.

Discussion on the Jurisprudence exam and CEU credit count the board will review the jurisprudence exam and review regulations for changing CEU credit of the jurisprudence exam not to be in addition to be part of the 12 hours.

9:15 am Wiehn, Cue -investigations entered room
9:18 am Harrison exited room

- d. Disciplinary and Non-Disciplinary Action Reports, Renewal, License and Examination Statistics (attached)

5. CANA Crematory Operations Certification Program (online version)

MOTION: Battaglia moved, seconded by Wiest, defer to the next meeting for discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Brunken, Seger, Wiest, Battaglia (4). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: None (0). Motion carried.

6. Comments

9:23am Public exited room and phone call

7. INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS & OTHER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: Seger moved, seconded by Wiest, to enter into closed session at 9:23 a.m. to hear discussions of an investigative/confidential nature, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Brunken repeated the motion purpose. A roll call vote was taken. Voting aye: Brunken, Seger, Wiest, Battaglia (4). Voting nay: None (0). Absent: None (0). Motion carried.

9:23 am Board break
9:33 am board return to close session
9:49 am Lindsay Braddock, Licensure Unit Administrator entered room
9:50 am Cue exited room
10:00 am Brunken exited room
10:06 am Brunken entered room
10:10 am Harrison exited room

8. REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS – OPEN SESSION

Board agreed to move to open session at 10:33 am

8. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for 7.27.2023. There being no further business, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

Arvid Wiest, Secretary
Board of Funeral Directing and Embalming

Summarized by: Carrie Oldehoeft, Health Licensing Coordinator, Licensure Unit