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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Crematory Operators Credentialing Review Meeting #4

Public Meeting

Minutes

This is a draft. Minutes have not been approved by the Technical Review Committee.

Thursday, November 12th, 2026, 1:00pm

MEMBERS: Gary Anthone, MD; Peter Hunt, PA-C; David Deemer, LNHA; Kyle McCartney, PharmD; Jeffrey Howorth; Michael O'Hara, J.D., Ph.D.; Mark Bertch, DPT
STAFF: Emma Davis, Emma Soukup

APPLICANT GROUP: Paul Seger, Jamie Dolan (both licensed funeral directors)

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1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
   The final meeting of the crematory operators credentialing review process was called to order at 1:00 PM on Thursday, November 12th. The following members were present: Gary Anthone, MD; Kyle McCartney, PharmD; Michael O'Hara, J.D., Ph.D.; Mark Bertch, DPT. There were three committee members who were not in attendance, Jeffrey Howorth; Peter Hunt, PA-C; David Deemer, LNHA. Quorum met.
   Staff and others in attendance: Emma Davis, Emma Soukup
   A copy of the Open Meetings Act was available online. This meeting was virtual.

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2. **Approval of agenda and last meeting's minutes**
   Bertch asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 5th meeting. Anthone made the motion; O'Hara seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. Minutes approved.

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3. **Discussion of TRC report draft**
   O'Hara made the following three suggestions for changes to the TRC report, which were incorporated after the meeting was adjourned:
   - On page 4, in paragraph 2, change "this act" to "this existing act."
   - On page 6, in paragraph 1, in line 7, change "revoking their license" to "revoking their credential."
   - Change his name from Michael O'Hara to Michael J. O'Hara throughout if possible. (Preferred name.)

   Bertch asked if anyone else had any edits. They did not.
   McCartney wanted to make sure the applicant group had an opportunity to view the TRC report. Seger mentioned he had been busy and hadn't read it. He said the applicant group trusts the TRC would write an accurate report and had no worries.

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4. **Approval of TRC Report**
   Bertch asked for a motion to approve the TRC report with O'Hara's proposed edits. Anthone made the motion; McCartney seconded the motion. Three members voted in favor of approval (Anthone, McCartney, O'Hara). One member abstained (Bertch, TRC chair).

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5. **Next steps**
   Bertch stated that the next step would be to introduce the TRC report to the Board of Health on Monday.

Contact Information: 402-471-3084 Emma.Soukup@nebraska.gov
Credentialing Review homepage: *dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Board-of-Health.aspx*

Bertch thanked everyone. The applicant group also thanked everyone.
Bertch checked for public members that may want to comment. There were none.

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6. **Meeting adjourned**
   Bertch adjourned the meeting. This concludes the TRC's involvement in this 407 process.

Note: *If you would like any attachments mentioned in these minutes, or have other questions, please contact Emma.Soukup@nebraska.gov.*

Updated: November 13, 2026