



MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF FUNERAL DIRECTING AND EMBALMING  
Posted 3/11/2026

State Office Building  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, NE  
Lower Level, Morrill Room

Thursday  
March 26, 2026  
9:00 a.m.

This meeting will be held by WebEx conference and in-person. The public is welcome to attend any Open Session discussion at the State Office Building Lower Level. This meeting will also be available to the public to participate by WEBEX using this link:

<https://sonvideo.webex.com/sonvideo/j.php?MTID=m0a51e0bbcf21500ec7e9f9aff09ee1da>

or call in information is **1-408-418-9388** using meeting number of **2497 644 0809**

Here is a link to the Open Meetings Act:

[https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/display\\_html.php?begin\\_section=84-1407&end\\_section=84-1414](https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/display_html.php?begin_section=84-1407&end_section=84-1414)

Here is a link to a copy of all the Open Session discussion items:

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Board-Meeting-Documents.aspx>

1. Roll Call & Announcement: *A current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available in the meeting room.*
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2026
4. **approximately 9:15 am** - Investigational Reports – **CLOSED SESSION** pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §38-1,105 (*The Board will go into closed session for the purpose of review and discussion of investigative reports, licensure applications, and other confidential information, and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals.*)
  - a. Investigation Cases
  - b. Applications
5. Application Review – **CLOSED SESSION** pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-1410 **approximately 10:00 am** - **OPEN SESSION**
6. Updates and Reports
  - a. Legislation and Regulations
  - b. Nebraska Funeral Directing Association (NEFDA) <http://www.nefda.org>
  - c. International Conference of Funeral Service Examination Board, Inc. (ICFSEB) <http://www.theconferenceonline.org>
  - d. Reports: Disciplinary and Non-Disciplinary Actions, License Statistics, and Examinations Statistics (Attached)
7. Board of Funeral Directing and Embalming 2026 Meeting Schedule – Next scheduled meeting is May 28, 2026
8. Public Comment
9. Adjournment

**Contact Information:** Heather Ord at 402-471-4926 or [Heather.Ord@nebraska.gov](mailto:Heather.Ord@nebraska.gov)

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All items known at time of distribution of this agenda are listed; a current agenda is available on the Bulletin Board, First Floor, State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska.

**Notice:** A tape recording of the meeting will be made for the purpose of preparing minutes of the meeting. Said tape will not be transcribed but will be available to the public until such time that the minutes of this meeting are approved by the Board. In accordance with the records retention schedule of the Licensure Unit as authorized by Nebraska Statute, the Division may dispose of the tapes ten (10) days after the meeting; however, staff shall retain the tapes until the Board has approved the minutes.

Auxiliary aids or reasonable accommodations needed to participate in a meeting can be requested by calling Heather Ord with the Licensure Unit at 402-471-2117 (voice). Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call DHHS via Nebraska Relay System at 711 or (800)833-7352 (TDD) at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

**Agenda Item 3:**

**These minutes have not been approved by the Board**

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

January 22, 2026

**1. ROLL CALL**

The Board of Funeral Directing and Embalming was called to order by the Chair, Steven Brunken, at 9:00 a.m., at the Nebraska State Office Building, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lower-Level Morrill Room, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was conducted In-Person and by WebEx. The following members answered roll call.

Steven Brunken, Chairperson  
Amy Blinston, Vice-Chairperson  
James Conner, Secretary  
Jamie Dolan – New Member

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened. Also present were: Sean Loving, Program Manager; Heather Ord, Health Licensing Coordinator; Ivette Lopez Quintana, Administrative Technician; Jennette Peterson, Compliance Monitor; Jessie Enfield, ITBSA; Katherine Amyot, Department Legal; T.J. O'Neill, Assistant Attorney General; Mark Meyerson, Investigator of the Investigations Unit.

Brunken announced that there is a copy of all the public documents being reviewed at this meeting available in the meeting room pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

In accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411 of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, copies of the agenda were e-mailed to the Board members and other interested parties, posted on the DHHS web site at <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx> and posted in the Licensure Unit on January 8, 2026.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Conner moved, seconded by Blinston, to approve the agenda as presented. Voting aye: Brunken, Blinston, Conner, and Dolan  
Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none Motion carried.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 30, 2025**

Blinston moved, seconded by Brunken, to approve the agenda as with the following corrections:

Page 1 Item 4: replaced “closed session at 10:44 a.m.” to “closed session at 9:15 a.m.”

Page 1 Item 4: deleted “Buckminster repeated the motion and purpose”

Voting aye: Brunken, Blinston, and Conner Voting nay: none. Abstain: Dolan Absent: none Motion carried.

**4. INVESTIGATIONAL REPORTS & OTHER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION – CLOSED SESSION**

Conner moved, seconded by Dolan, to enter into closed session at 9:06 a.m. for the purpose of hearing discussions of an investigative/confidential nature and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of the individuals. Voting aye: Brunken, Blinston, Conner, and Dolan Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none Motion carried.

**5. OPEN SESSION** Application review and recommendations (initial licensure, reinstatement, convictions, administrative penalties, and mail ballot reports)

The board returned to open session at 10:28 a.m.

**6. UPDATES AND REPORTS**

- a) **Legislation:**
- i) LB 961 – Introduction January 12, 2026 for changes in Neb. Rev. Stat 29-2264 and 29-3005 pertaining to convictions.
  - ii) Credentialing Review (407) Program – Crematory Operator License started for 2027.
- b) **Nebraska Funeral Directing Association (NEFDA):** <http://www.nefda.org>- Stefanie Gonzalez and Pual Seger explained certification for crematory operators to show education on crematory. Seger proposes to have the crematory certification be under DHHS. He also proposes there to be an inspector that inspects establishments that are affiliated and kept track under DHHS. Seger suggested that all crematories need to be informed of the standards since crematories aren't held to the same standards as others.
- c) **International Conference of Funeral Service Examination Board (ICFSEB):** <https://theconferenceonline.org/>
- Brunken will attend as a delegate to the 122<sup>nd</sup> International Conference of the Funeral Service Examination Board (ICFSEB) from February 24, 2026, to February 26, 2026.
- d) **Reports: Disciplinary and Non-Disciplinary Actions; License Statistics; and Examinations:** No discussion at this time

## **7. DESIGNATION OF THE METHOD BY WHICH THIS BODY GIVES PUBLIC NOTICE OF ITS MEETINGS**

Loving informed the Board that the Department currently sends notifications via email to interested parties, posts meeting agendas to the Department's Public website, and posts a paper agenda inside the State Office Building.

Conner moved, seconded by Dolan, to continue the current method of which this body gives public notice of its meetings. Voting aye: Brunken, Blinston, Conner, and Dolan Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none Motion carried.

## **8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Dolan moved, seconded by Conner, to keep Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary the same. The slate of officers is as follows: Brunken – Chairperson, Blinston – Vice-Chairperson, and Conner – Secretary. Voting aye: Brunken, Blinston, Conner, and Dolan Voting nay: none. Abstain: none Absent: none Motion carried.

## **9. MEETING SCHEDULE**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2026.

To see the list of meeting dates, agendas, and minutes, go to: <https://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Agendas-and-Minutes.aspx>

## **10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting date will be March 26, 2026. There being no further business, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

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Board of Funeral Directing and Embalming

Summarized by: Heather Ord, Health Licensing Coordinator, Licensure Unit

**Agenda Item 6d:**

**License Statistics:**

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, LICENSURE UNIT  
SUMMARY COUNT OF LICENSES BY LICENSE STATUS**



Funeral Directing

Report Date: 3/10/2026

	Active	Application File Closed	Closed	Deleted	Expired	Inactive	Lapsed	NonDisc Revocation	Null and Void	Pending	Reinstatement Pending	Revocation	Suspension	Voluntary Surrender	Withdrawn	Total
Apprentice-Full	8	6	0	0	5	0	0	0	205	1	0	0	0	0	1	224
Apprentice-Split 1	5	6	0	1	0	1	0	0	147	2	0	0	0	0	0	162
Apprentice-Split 2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
Branch Establishment	90	2	71	1	78	2	0	3	19	0	0	0	0	0	2	268
Embalmer	0	0	0	0	5	172	8	278	18	0	0	0	0	14	0	493
Funeral Director	1	0	0	0	4	113	12	202	39	0	0	1	0	13	0	385
Funeral Director and Embalmer	387	113	0	0	145	303	19	201	113	1	1	5	1	14	8	1,311
Funeral Establishment	157	3	171	2	72	2	0	29	50	1	0	1	0	2	6	496
<b>Total</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3,439</b>

**Licensee Summary By Status Report**

Run Date: 03/10/2026

Page No: 2

Profession: Crematory, Funeral Directing

License Type: Crematory - Crematory, Funeral Directing - Apprentice-Full, Funeral Directing - Apprentice-Split 1, Funeral Directing - Apprentice-Split 2, Funeral Directing - Branch Establishment, Funeral Directing - Embalmer, Funeral Directing - Funeral Director, Funeral Directing - Funeral Director and Embalmer, Funeral Directing - Funeral Establishment

Date Range: None

Profession	License Type	License Status	Total
<b>Crematory</b>			
	Crematory	Active	33
<b>Crematory Total:</b>			<b>33</b>
<b>Funeral Directing</b>			
	Apprentice-Full	Active	8
	Apprentice-Split 1	Active	5
	Apprentice-Split 2	Active	3
	Branch Establishment	Active	90
	Funeral Director	Active	1
	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	387
	Funeral Establishment	Active	157
<b>Funeral Directing Total:</b>			<b>651</b>
<b>Total Licenses :</b>			<b>684</b>

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, LICENSURE UNIT**



**EXAMINATION STATISTICS SUMMARY REPORT**

Profession: Funeral Directing

Date Range: 01/07/2026 to 03/10/2026

Exam Battery	Exam Name	Result	Number of Candidates
Funeral Directing and Embalming Exam	1-JURISPRUDENCE	Pass	2
Funeral Directing and Embalming Exam	2-VITAL STATISTICS	Pass	1
<b>Funeral Directing and Embalming Exam total:</b>			<b>3</b>
National Arts Exam Section	3-ARTS TOTAL	Pass	2
<b>National Arts Exam Section total:</b>			<b>2</b>
National Science Exam Section	4-SCIENCE TOTAL	Pass	2
<b>National Science Exam Section total:</b>			<b>2</b>
<b>Report total:</b>			<b>7</b>

Compliance Listing

Sort Name	License No	License Type	License Status	Sanction	Sanction Start	Sanction End
Kurtzhals Terry J	965	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Revocation	Civil Penalty	11/13/1995	11/13/1995
Thompson Harlan Martel	1082	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Expired	Civil Penalty	11/28/2001	12/07/2001
Jones, Keith A	1165	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Civil Penalty	07/29/2004	11/30/2004
Schmidt James L	921	Funeral Director	Expired	Civil Penalty	09/22/2004	03/22/2005
Schmidt James L	921	Funeral Director	Expired	Suspension	09/22/2004	03/22/2005
Rozanek, R A	1155	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Revocation	Civil Penalty	02/15/2005	05/16/2005
Kuncl, Jeffrey R	1200	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Civil Penalty	11/29/2004	05/29/2005
Rozanek, R A	1155	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Revocation	Suspension	03/17/2005	06/15/2005
Beckenhauer, Gerald Leonard	1080	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Expired	Civil Penalty	02/15/2005	08/15/2005
Cantrell Funeral Home	2073	Funeral Establishment	Active	Civil Penalty	09/22/2004	09/22/2005
Knott Funeral Home	2263	Funeral Establishment	Null and Void	Suspension	02/26/2006	03/28/2006
Thomas Funeral Home	887	Funeral Establishment	Expired	Civil Penalty	03/13/2007	06/13/2007
Roper & Sons, Inc	2182	Funeral Establishment	Active	Civil Penalty	04/06/2007	07/06/2007
Rozanek, R A	1155	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Revocation	Civil Penalty	09/25/2009	03/25/2010
Dubas, Steve R	1238	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Civil Penalty	03/31/2010	10/01/2010
Roby, Keith Leland	880	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Suspension	01/06/2013	02/05/2013
Solt, Leslie Mitchell	1398	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Civil Penalty	04/12/2013	10/12/2013
Roby, Keith Leland	880	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Civil Penalty	12/27/2012	12/27/2013
Lauber, William J	1097	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Null and Void	Civil Penalty	10/23/2013	04/23/2014
Rozanek, Rodney Adolph	666	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Civil Penalty	01/10/2014	07/10/2014
Westlawn-Hillcrest Memorial Park & Funeral Home Crematory	2295	Funeral Establishment	Null and Void	Civil Penalty	08/26/2016	02/26/2017
Rozanek, Rodney Adolph	666	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Civil Penalty	10/04/2017	04/04/2018
Braman Mortuary	2288	Funeral Establishment	Active	Civil Penalty	01/08/2019	07/08/2019
Fischer, Kara Michelle	1198	Funeral Director and Embalmer	Active	Civil Penalty	11/20/2024	05/30/2025