

## **Alabama State Board of Auctioneers**

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## MINUTES Board Meeting January 21, 2014

The Alabama State Board of Auctioneers met on Tuesday, January 21, 2014, at the Board offices in Montgomery. Those in attendance were as follows: Mr. Ken Garner (Chair), Mr. Bryant Wood, (Vice Chair), Mr. Bryan Knox, Mr. Michael Langford, Mr. Pete Horton, Ms. Christie Ray and Mr. Erskine Valrie. Board member not in attendance was Mr. Keith Baldwin. The Board, consisting of a quorum, continued with a voting meeting. Also present were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Ms. Dana Billingsley (Board Counsel) and Ms. Hope Paulene (Executive Assistant), Mr. Mike James (Investigatory) and Ms. Renee' Reames (Executive Secretary to Mr. Warren).

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

The regularly scheduled meeting was advertised on the Board's web site, <a href="https://www.auctioneer.alabama.gov">www.auctioneer.alabama.gov</a>, and the Secretary of State's website, <a href="https://www.sos.state.al.us">www.sos.state.al.us</a>, in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act. Mr. Garner welcomed members present at the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by attendees and a word of prayer was given at the opening of the meeting. Mr. Warren gave the opening statement concerning Roberts Rules of Order and the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

The copy of the October 8, 2013 minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting was submitted to the Board prior to the meeting for their review. Mr. Knox made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to accept the October meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Valrie and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director's Report to include financial activities and fund balance as of December 31, 2013 (report is available for viewing in the Board's official Book of

Minutes). Also included in his report were the total number of licensees and number of complaints received and closed. A list of expired licenses for auctioneers and companies was provided to the Board members to review. Ms. Paulene reported that several reminder notices had been sent to these individuals. The Board discussed rule violations if auctions were being conducted without a license and discussed establishing a licensing grace period before disciplinary action was taken regarding expired company licenses.

Mr. Warren reported on the proposed Legislative Bill concerning reciprocity licensing fees. He also reported that he had recently participated in a NALLOA conference call, along with representatives from other state auctioneer licensing boards.

Mr. Warren reported that a State database was available to post Request for Proposals (RFP) for contracted services. He explained that these proposals would be evaluated based on the merit of the specifications in the RFP, rather than lowest bid. He recommended that the Board consider releasing a RFP to obtain proposals for the Administrative Management Services, at the time when the contract expired, rather than requesting bids.

Mr. Warren reported that the 2014 Spring publication of the Board's newsletter was being prepared and would be mailed to licensees. He requested that the Board members submit articles by the end of February for this newsletter.

Ms. Billingsley presented the Legal Counsel Report and reported on three complaint cases that required follow-up. Ms. Billingsley reported that the Final Order to Mr. Tom Wieck was unclaimed and that the Tennessee licensing board would notified of disciplinary action taken by the Board. She also reported that Mr. Conrad Green had paid half of his fine and the remainder was outstanding. She reported was the fine assessed Mr. Paul White was outstanding and had not been paid. Ms. Billingsley recommended that reminder letters be sent to these individuals, with a time period to comply and that she be authorized to petition the circuit court in their county of residence if they do not comply. Mr. Wood made a motion to authorize the Board Counsel to send out reminder letters and to petition the circuit courts if Messrs. Wieck, Green and White do not comply. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horton and unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Billingsley reported that she would be a speaker at the Alabama auctioneer association conference and reviewed the topics that would be covered in her presentation. The Board suggested company licensing requirements and the Stockyard & Packers Act, as it relates to the Auctioneer Board, be included in her presentation. She reported that the Board Investigator was also scheduled to speak about typical complaint issues and the investigative process, and Mr. Knox was scheduled to speak on Ethics.

Ms. Billingsley reported that she had been contacted by a representative of the regional division of US Department of Agriculture to discuss the Board's jurisdiction in the matter of the Clay County Goat and Poultry Auction complaint. She reported that she discussed with them the type of items that had been auctioned and explained the Board's jurisdiction. She indicated that she and Board had not heard anything further from the USDA concerning this matter.

There were no additional reports from the Board's committees.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is April 15, 2014.

There was no further business of the Board and Mr. Wood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Langford and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Garner adjourned the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith E. Warren Executive Director