



Alabama State Board of Auctioneers

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MINUTES Board Meeting March 5, 2025

The Alabama State Board of Auctioneers met on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m., at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery. The meeting was advertised on the Board's website, www.auctioneer.alabama.gov, and the Secretary of State's website, www.sos.alabama.gov, in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Members in attendance were Mr. Chad Curvin (Board Vice Chair), Ms. Angella Morgan (member), Mr. Randall Grissett (member), Mr. Scott Barnes (member) and Mr. Russ Wood (new member), Mr. Keith McDaniel (member) and Mr. Chip Pearce (member). Member absent was Mr. Mike Fisher (Board Chair). Also in attendance were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Mr. Cameron Elkins (Assistant Attorney General and Board Counsel), Mr. Brannon Littleton (Chief Financial Officer), Ms. Hope Childers (Board Administrator), Ms. Karen Entriken (Investigator), and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary).

Vice Chairman Curvin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Mr. Warren called the Board member roll and indicated that a quorum of the members was present to conduct business. A word of prayer was given and the pledge of allegiance was recited by attendees. Mr. Warren read aloud the opening statement concerning Robert's Rules of Order and the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: Vice Chairman Curvin presented a copy of the agenda for the March 5, 2025 Board meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Grissett made a motion to approve the March meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pearce and unanimously approved by the Board. It was noted that the presiding Chairman would not vote on matters except in case of a tie vote.

Approval of Minutes: Vice Chairman Curvin reported that a copy of the minutes from November 12, 2024, regular meeting was distributed to the members prior to the meeting for their review.

MOTION: Ms. Morgan made a motion to approve the November meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grissett and unanimously approved by the Board.

Executive Director Report: Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director's Report. A copy of the report was provided to the members prior to the meeting (report available in the Board's official Book

of Minutes). Mr. Warren reported on the active number of licensees (#685) comprised of auctioneers, apprentices and auction companies. He reviewed the list of new licenses issued since the last Board meeting held in November. He indicated that he was working on developing the new firm application for online submission, with the end of year goal of having all applications submitted online. He reported that the State's deposit procedures had changed from 14 days to requiring deposits to be made within 7 days from receipt. He explained that online applications would reduce the number of checks received in the mail, as well as reduce processing time. A list of expired licenses as of November 30, 2024, was presented to the Board.

MOTION: Ms. Morgan made the motion to ratify the approval of new licenses issued by the Executive Director. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wood and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Warren also presented the complaint activities for the current fiscal year, along with the status of complaints for fiscal years 2021 through 2025, and reviewed other licensing statistics and activities performed by the staff since the last Board meeting held in November.

Financial Report: Mr. Littleton presented the financial activities of the Board for the period of October 1, 2024 through January 31, 2025. He reviewed the revenue and expenses for this reporting period and reported a positive cash balance. Further information regarding expenditures was reported, as compared to the budget, along with projected expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. A summary of income and expenses for FY 2020 through FY 2024, and projected FY 2025 finances was presented (report available in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

Mr. Littleton commented on the positive cash balance and the potential use of Board funds to benefit licensees, such as the public relations and public awareness campaign being pursued by the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Pearce made the motion to accept the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Morgan and unanimously approved by the Board.

Legal Counsel Report: Mr. Elkins presented the recommendations from the Investigative Committee (IC), with a summary of three complaints cases (report available in the Board's official Book of Minutes).

- Cases 2024-001 and 2024-009: the IC recommended the cases be administratively closed.
- Case 2025-002: the IC recommended the case be closed with no probable cause.

MOTION: Ms. Morgan made the motion to accept the recommendations of the Investigative Committee as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pearce and unanimously approved by the Board.

Update on Association Activities: Mr. Pearce reported on the activities of the Alabama Auctioneers Association to include the mid-year continuing education program held and plans to hold another continuing education program in August in conjunction with the annual association meeting. The Board discussed the use of artificial intelligence (AI) and various applications used in the auction industry.

OLD BUSINESS

Public Relations Committee to Review RFP Responses for PR Project: Mr. Wood reported that the Board's Public Relations Committee had met and considered two proposals that had been received in response to the RFP specifications for the PR campaign concerning awareness of auction company licensing. He reported that the proposals had been rated by the Committee and after consideration of experience in the auction profession, the Committee recommended the award to the Alabama Auctioneers Association.

MOTION: Mr. Wood made the motion to award the public relations campaign contract to the Alabama Auctioneers Association. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pearce and unanimously approved by the Board.

Apprentice Auctioneer 4th quarter new license/renewal: Mr. Warren reminded the Board about discussions at the November meeting about time between an apprentice applicant graduating from auction school and the Board's licensing renewal cycle. He recommended that the Board consider advancing the license expiration date into a new licensing year for apprentice-graduate applicants apply in the last quarter of the licensure cycle.

MOTION: Mr. Pearce made the motion to authorize the Executive Director and the Board's Legal Counsel to work on amending the Board's rule for advancing the expiration date for an apprentice license for applicants graduating from auction school and applying in the 4th quarter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grissett and unanimously approved by the Board.

Board Newsletter: Mr. Warren asked the members to submit articles for the newsletter by March 15, 2025 and reviewed with the Board the contents proposed for the new newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

License Renewal Request: Mr. Warren presented a letter by a former licensee requesting the re-examination be waived. He reported that the former licensee had a lapsed license in 2021-2022 and missed the inactive rule notification when the rule was created. It was the consensus of the Board that the Legal Counsel review the matter and recommend action to the Board.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Renewal of Administrative Services Contract: Mr. Grissett reported that he had attended the Contract Review Committee meeting in February on behalf of the Board. He indicated that the renewal contract for Administrative Services contract with Smith Warren was approved by the Committee and there was a short time period to obtain Governor Ivey's approval before the existing contract expired.

Update on SB193: Mr. Warren reported that SB193 concerning the consolidation of Alabama occupational licensing boards was out of committee and was up for Senate approval before going to the House chambers for consideration.

Submission of Board Travel and Compensation: Compensation requests and travel expense reports were submitted by the members and accepted by the Board.

Next Board Meeting: Vice Chairman Curvin reminded the Board that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled May 13, 2025 at the Board's office.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business by the Board and Vice Chairman Curvin called for a motion to adjourn. MOTION: Mr. Pearce made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Mr. Grissett and unanimously approved by the Board. Vice Chairman Curvin adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chad Curvin
Board Vice Chair

Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

Minutes approved on _____/rr_____