



# District Meeting Minutes (Districts 4, 8, & 9)

Thursday, February 25, 2016 - 10:30 a.m.  
Newport Beach, California

## **Present:**

*Donna Amaro, MT Board of Funeral Service*

*Lisa Bos, Funeral & Cremation Services Council of SK*

*Glenn Bower, Cypress College*

*Bart Burton, District 9 Director, NV State Funeral Board*

*Pete Cameron, WA State Funeral/Cemetery Board*

*Mark Evely, Wayne State University*

*Craig Geary, ID Board of Morticians*

*Jolena Grande, Cypress College*

*Jennifer Kandt, NV Funeral Board*

*Nancy Kirk, Funeral & Cremation Services Council of SK*

*Natalie Liquori-Phill, ICFSEB Exam Committee*

*Sandy Mahon, ICFSEB President, District 8 Director, Funeral & Cremation Services Council of SK*

*Marilyn McPherson, AB Funeral Services Regulatory Board*

*Ron Messenger, WA State Funeral/Cemetery Board*

*Lisa M. Moore, CA Cemetery and Funeral Bureau*

*Vanessa Niekamp, OH Funeral Board*

*Mark Ransford, District 4 Director, MI Board of Examiners in Mortuary Science*

*JoAnn Reid, WY State Board of Funeral Service Practitioners*

*Tom Sanderson, ICFSEB Exam Committee*

*Gregory Searls, WY State Board of Funeral Service Practitioners*

*Todd Shifflett, WA State Funeral/Cemetery Board*

*Elise-Marie Surucu, Cypress College*

*Laura Zabel, ICFSEB Exam Committee*

## **I. Call to Order and Introductions**

District Director, Mark Ransford, called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. PST. The meeting began with introductions of The Conference District Directors and representatives from District 4, 8, and 9.

## **II. Update on Conference Initiatives**

District Director, Mark Ransford, provided an update on the recently passed Model Application and reminded the attendees of the reports available within the Annual Meeting materials.

## **III. Current Regulatory Issues**

### **A. Recent Legislation Updates**

Representatives from several jurisdictions shared their experiences of going through the Sunset Review process.

### **B. Reciprocal/Endorsement Agreements**

The differences between courtesy cards and reciprocal licenses were discussed among the various jurisdictions that offer them. Conference President Sandy Mahon noted that Canadian provinces have reduced restrictions on reciprocal licenses, which has led to enhanced trade.

### **C. Update on Membership Polls**

Throughout the year, member boards can request The Conference to poll other jurisdictions on various regulatory and licensure items. The recent topics included: funeral assistants, inspection reports, mandatory reporting, ethics, stacking of human remains in minimal containers, preneed shortages, "Traveling Embalmers," a crematory

operator license, and funeral consulting firms/individuals. A representative from Nevada further shared with the group their positive experience of inspectors using an app for mobile reporting. The group continued the discussion on ethics from the general session presentation and discussed schools sharing conduct concerns with regulatory boards.

#### **D. NC Dental Board vs. FTC**

Attendees discussed several facets of this case and how it may pertain to the field of funeral service.

#### **E. Conference Next Global Project**

A representative from Ohio stated it would be helpful to have a pre-need model with recommendations.

#### **IV. Open Forum**

In the open forum segment, the attendees discussed if licensing boards would accept only pass/fail information for National Board Exam candidates, instead of the actual scaled score. While there was no overall concern, Ohio law states that a 75 must be achieved for licensure and a representative from California inquired if they could still request the scores if needed.

#### **V. District 9 Election to Board of Directors**

Bart Burton was re-elected as District 9 Director of the Board of Directors.

#### **VI. Adjournment**

The meetings of districts 4, 8, and 9 adjourned at 12:00 p.m. PST.