



District Meeting Minutes (Districts 3, 5, & 9)

Thursday, March 2, 2017 - 10:30 a.m.
Hilton Head, South Carolina

Present:

Ernest Adams, ICFSEB Exam Committee
Bobby Burns, AR State Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors
Christina Cress, NC Board of Funeral Service
Jolena Grande, Cypress College
Charles Graves, NC Board of Funeral Service
Charvis Gray, SC Board of Funeral Service
E. Denise Grogan, AL Board of Funeral Service
Amy Holleman, SC Board of Funeral Service
Patty S. Hutcheson, Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice
Jennifer Kandt, NV State Funeral & Cemetery Board
Calvin J. Meadows, CFSP, AL Board of Funeral Service
Victoria Monforte, ICFSEB Exam Committee
Lisa Moore, ICFSEB Past President, CA Cemetery & Funeral Bureau
Craig Olive, NC Board of Funeral Service
Charles Perine, District 3 Director, AL Board of Funeral Service
John C. Rudder, AL Board of Funeral Service
Tom Sanderson, ICFSEB Exam Committee
Sandy Sebastian, District 5 Director, MO State Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors
David Shehdan, NC Board of Funeral Service
Ellen Simon, FL Division of Funeral, Cemetery, & Consumer Services
James Terry Woodard, ICFSEB Past President, AR State Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors
Laura Zabel, ICFSEB Exam Committee

I. Call to Order and Introductions

District 3 Director, Charles Perine, called the meeting to order at 10:38 a.m. EST. The meeting began with introductions of The Conference District Directors and representatives from Districts 3, 5, and 9.

II. Update on Conference Initiatives

Mr. Perine updated attendees on the rollout of a new system which will allow The Conference to securely transfer exam results electronically to state boards. The goal of converting to the system by the end of 2017 was also shared. Ms. Sebastian mentioned that Missouri is one of the testing states and that the system has been working well with its ease of use.

Mr. Perine briefly touched on The Conference strategic plan and some of the Board discussions, including the potential of a disciplinary database. He also updated attendees on the Model Practice Act review process and emphasized its purpose as a model document. Lisa Moore, chair of the MPA Review committee, shared a little about the work that went into developing the document and reiterated that it is forever evolving.

III. Current Regulatory Issues

A. Legislative Happenings

The group discussed legislation in their jurisdictions and a representative from South Carolina shared that they had several bills in the house, including a bill regarding the transfer of bodies between funeral homes. The group discussed third party funeral providers and how they are handled in their jurisdictions. The discussion then turned to the combining of boards, including in Arkansas where the legislature is looking into consolidating the cemetery,

embalming and burial boards. Mr. Perine encouraged the group to utilize The Conference as a resource and the organizations ability to quickly poll other jurisdictions.

B. Technology and social media at your agency – what are you using?

The group briefly discussed the use of social media. All the boards present were not allowed to use social media at the board level, but some of the boards governing agencies utilize twitter. The attendees all agreed that they use their websites to post relevant information.

C. Updates on Membership Polls

Mr. Perine shared the questions and responses submitted through membership polls via The Conference. The group discussed verbal embalming exams, tattoo removal, and the physical structure of establishments at length. This led the group to touch on the dangers of establishments in poor condition and the importance of inspections for public safety.

D. NC Dental Board vs. FTC

Mr. Perine recapped the NC Dental Board vs. the FTC case and polled attendees on how it has affected their states. Representatives from NC noted parameters that will be put on what boards can do in regards to issuing cease and desist letters.

E. Relationships with Your State Associations

A few attendees spoke on how their boards have professional and cooperative relationships with their state associations.

IV. Open Forum

In the open forum segment, the attendees discussed the issue of corporate change of ownership when a corporation owns an establishment. The group discussed the importance of educating the public on the value of regulatory boards, how “bad actors” show the value, and the importance of posting actions on websites.

V. District 3 Election to Board of Directors

Charles Perine, Executive Secretary of the Alabama Board of Funeral Service, was elected to serve as District 3 Director.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting of districts 3, 5, and 9 adjourned at 11:50 a.m. EST.