



District Meeting Minutes (Districts 4, 8, 9)

Thursday, February 28, 2019 – 10:30 a.m.
San Diego, CA

Present:

Bart Burton, ICFSEB District 9 Director, NV Funeral & Cemetery Services Board
Pete Cameron, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board
Karen Carruthers, AB Funeral Services Regulatory Board
Brevin Clifford, ICFSEB Exam Committee
Chad Dresselhaus, Oregon Mortuary & Cemetery Board
Mark Evely, Wayne State University
Steve Gordon, ID Board of Morticians
Jolena Grande, Cypress College
Dicsie Gullick, ID Board of Morticians
Dustin Hall, Funeral & Cremation Services Council of SK
Davis Hess, Salt Lake Community College
David Ingram, OH Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors
David Ittner, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board
Jennifer Kandt, NV Funeral & Cemetery Services Board
Richard Little, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board
Sandy Mahon, ICFSEB District 8 Director, Funeral & Cremation Services Council of SK
Chris Naylor, NV Funeral & Cemetery Services Board
Sandra Patterson, CA Cemetery & Funeral Bureau
Jill Pugh, OH Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors
Mark Ransford, ICFSEB President, MI Board of Examiners in Mortuary Science
Brian Rebman, NV Funeral & Cemetery Services Board
Jon Rettig, OH Board of Embalmers & Funeral Directors
Lucy Richards, MT Board of Funeral Service
Jill Short, WA Funeral & Cemetery Board
Rudee Slavik, ICFSEB Exam Committee
Judith Stapley, AZ Funeral Board
Laura Zabel, ICFSEB Exam Committee

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Conference President, Mark Ransford, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. PST. The meeting began with introductions of The Conference District Directors and representatives from District 4, 8, & 9.

II. Update on Conference Initiatives

A brief overview of Conference initiatives was given by Mr. Ransford, Mr. Burton, and Conference Member Services Manager, Lauren Thomas, including a summary of the Annual Report, Candidate Handbook, and Annual Meeting Justification Toolkit. It was noted that all three publications are available on The Conference website.

III. Current Regulatory Issues

A. Licensure Obstacles & B. Issues Facing Your Board

Mr. Ransford opened the discussion by asking participants what issues or challenges their boards are currently facing. In home funerals as well as death doulas were briefly discussed noting the

organization/authority over these individuals. A new bill proposing the removal of an extra 30 credit hours (in addition to an associate's degree) for a licensed mortician was shared by one participant. Participants engaged in a large discussion regarding Continuing Education (CE) and the variations of in-person hours versus on-line credit hours as well as the overall quality of on-line CE programs. As a component of CE, one participant shared their board's approach to outlining core competencies for licensees to reference while acquiring credits. The responsibility to explain or justify how it contributes to their license was further detailed as a requirement. Moving on, felony convictions were also discussed as a licensure obstacle and participants shared their board's direct policies in dealing with convictions, while others shared their assessment on a case by case basis. The potential emergence of a funeral arranger license, by way of an internship, was discussed as an entryway into the profession with attendees highlighting the pros and cons of this track.

C. Unlicensed Practice/Third Party Providers

Representatives from a few jurisdictions briefly shared their experiences with unlicensed practice. Attendees also discussed low cost cremations and how owners are dealing with this obstacle as well as its relation to regulation and third party providers.

D. Updates on Membership Polls

Due to time constraints, an update was not provided on membership polls. Attendees were encouraged to review the polls in the meeting app.

IV. District 8 Election to Board of Directors

Sandy Mahon, Registrar of the Funeral & Cremation Services Council of SK, was elected as District 8 Director and Jennifer Kandt, Executive Director of the NV Funeral and Cemetery Services Board, was elected as the District 9 Director.

V. Adjournment

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