



District Meeting Minutes (Districts 7 & 9)

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.
Chandler, AZ

Present:

Jolena Grande, Cypress College
Cody Lopasky, Commonwealth Institute
Brian Mullins, Dallas Institute
Wayne Cavender, Dallas Institute
Natasha Culbertson, AZ Board
Marisa Zavala, AZ Board
Nancy Jenner, Guest
Rodney McFarland, LA Board/ICFSEB
Laura Sussman, NV Board
Dustin Pierce, OK Board
Dale Atkinson, ICFSEB Counsel
Lori Collins, Cypress College
Shivon Ozinga, Cypress College
Barbara Trites, UT Board
John Rice, ICFSEB Committee
Brevin Clifford, ICFSEB Committee
Rick Little, WA Board
Dante Gutierrez-Zamora, WA Board
Pete Cameron, WA Board
Mary Mena, San Antonio College
Adam Garcia, NV Board
Jennifer Kandt, NV Board/ICFSEB
Dr. Donald Chaney, NV Board
Christina Villa, Cypress

I. Call to Order and Introductions

Conference President and District 9 Director, Jennifer Kandt, called the meeting to order at 1:24 p.m. MST. Ms. Kandt welcomed those in attendance and the meeting began with introductions.

II. Professional Standards in Funeral Service

District attendees discussed the wide range of requirements across board that can hurt portability for reciprocity. State regulators shared that they think more should be done to work toward creating similar standards from state to state. Everyone agreed on the obvious labor shortage that the field is experiencing. They agreed that it is not the exam, education or experience; it is the schedule and work/life balance that is deferring people from the field. Regulators suggested that funeral home owners get creative with employee benefits to help combat this issue.

III. Current Regulatory Issues Facing Membership

When discussing the trend of composting, states all agree that this is coming and should have a degree of regulation. The idea of dual licensure was brought up when addressing concerns of labor shortages. Educators communicated that even having dual licenses has not solved their labor shortage. Regulators agreed that overall dual licenses are beneficial. They agreed that when the topic of deregulation comes

up it could cause a large public protection issue if it is not addressed. Regulators made the argument that there shouldn't have to be common sense regulations, but when looking at Colorado's body brokering case, they are reminded that common sense regulations may be necessary.

IV. Open Discussion

There were no items discussed in the open forum.

V. District Elections

Mr. Rodney McFarland was elected District 7 Director.

VI. Adjournment

The meetings of district 7 and 9 adjourned at 3:12 p.m. MST.