



STATE OF NEVADA
FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES BOARD

3740 Lakeside Drive, Suite 201, Reno, Nevada 89509

Phone (775) 825-5535 * Fax (775) 507-4102

Email: nvfuneralboard@fb.nv.gov * Website: <http://funeral.nv.gov/>

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Video Conference and Teleconference Via Zoom Meetings

1. Call to order, roll call, establish quorum.

The Board meeting commenced at 9:03 am and a quorum was established.

Board Members Present

Dr. Randy Sharp, Chairman
Bart Burton, Secretary
Kim Kandaras, Treasurer
Laura Sussman
Dr. Raymond Giddens

Board Staff Present

Jennifer Kandt, Executive Director
Marie Paakkari, Administrative Assistant

Board Counsel Present

Joel Bekker, Deputy Attorney General

Board Members Absent

Adam Garcia

2. Public comment

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

There was no public comment.

3. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding review and approval of minutes of meetings (For possible action)

a. February 8, 2022

MOTION: KIM KANDARAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 8, 2022, MINUTES. DR. RANDY SHARP SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding consent decree for case numbers FB21-04, FB21-11, FB21-14, FB21-15, FB21-33, FB21-54, and FB21-55 Hites Funeral Home EST51, Hites Crematory CRE17 and Eric Jamison Lee FD611 (For possible action)

Jenifer Kandt stated that the Board reviewed this matter at the last Board meeting and came up with revised terms. She stated that the revised terms were presented to respondents, and they agreed to them.

MOTION: DR. RANDY SHARP MOVED TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT DECREE FOR CASE NOS. FB21-04, FB21-11, FB21-14, FB21-15, FB21-33, FB21-54, AND FB21-55 REGARDING HITES FUNERAL HOME EST51, HITES CREMATORY CRE17 AND ERIC JAMISON LEE FD611 AS WRITTEN. LAURA SUSSMAN SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding consent decree for case number FB21-22, Palm Mortuary EST17 and Jenna Daunt FD881 (For possible action)

Jennifer Kandt stated that often when complaints are submitted, they contain multiple allegations. She stated that in this case, there were multiple allegations, but only one substantiated violation, which was not initiating the record timely in EDRS. She stated that there was a six-day delay in initiating the record.

Kim Kandaras asked why the filing was delayed.

Celena DiLullo, representing Palm Mortuary stated that the arranger felt that she did not have the necessary information in order for her to enter it into the system and that is why it was delayed.

Jennifer Kandt stated that this was not about completing the record, but initiating it, which only requires a few pieces of information.

MOTION: LAURA SUSSMAN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT DECREE FOR CASE NO. FB21-22 REGARDING PALM MORTUARY EST17 AND JENNA DAUNT FD881 AS WRITTEN. DR. RANDY SHARP SECONDED THE MOTION WITH BART BURTON RECUSING AS THEY WORK FOR THE SAME COMPANY AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding direct cremation facility permit application for Tulip Cremation, 3975 South Durango Drive, Suite 108, Las Vegas, NV 89147 (For possible action)

Jennifer Kandt stated that everything was in order and temporary approval had been granted.

MOTION: BART BURTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE DIRECT CREMATION FACILITY PERMIT APPLICATION FOR TULIP CREMATION. KIM KANDARAS SECONDED THE MOTION WITH LAURA SUSSMAN RECUSING AS SHE IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SAME COMPANY AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding direct cremation facility permit application for Inspired Life Cremations, 3145 Saint Rose Parkway, Suite 131, Henderson, NV 89052 (For possible action)

Jennifer Kandt stated that everything was in order and temporary approval had been granted.

MOTION: BART BURTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE DIRECT CREMATION FACILITY PERMIT APPLICATION FOR TULIP CREMATION. DR. RAYMOND GIDDENS SECONDED THE MOTION WITH AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding managing funeral director requests (For possible action)
 - a. Aaron Robert Forgey FD877-Kraft-Sussman Funeral and Cremation Services EST130

Jennifer Kandt stated that everything was in order and temporary approval had been granted.

MOTION: BART BURTON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MANAGING FUNERAL DIRECTOR REQUEST FOR AARON ROBERT FORGEY FD877 FOR KRAFT-SUSMAN FUNERAL AND CREMATION SERVICES EST130. DR. RANDY SHARP SECONDED THE MOTION WITH LAURA SUSSMAN RECUSING AS SHE IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SAME COMPANY AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Kristin Elizabeth Mulhall FD979-Vegas Valley Cremation DC97L
- c. Kristin Elizabeth Mulhall FD979-Vegas Valley Cremation DC98L

Jennifer Kandt stated that everything was in order and temporary approval had been granted.

MOTION: DR. RAYMOND GIDDENS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MANAGING FUNERAL DIRECTOR REQUEST FOR KRISTIN ELIZABETH MULHALL FD979 FOR VEGAS VALLEY CREMATION DC97L AND VEGAS VALLEY CREMATION DC98L. DR. RANDY SHARP SECONDED THE MOTION WITH LAURA SUSSMAN RECUSING AS SHE IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SAME COMPANY AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- d. Shannon Elizabeth Nordyke FD888-Palm Eastern Mortuary EST27

Jennifer Kandt stated that everything was in order and temporary approval had been granted.

MOTION: DR. RAYMOND GIDDENS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MANAGING FUNERAL DIRECTOR REQUEST FOR SHANNON ELIZABETH NORDYKE FD888 FOR PALM EASTERN MORTUARY EST127. LAURA SUSSMAN SECONDED THE MOTION WITH BART BURTON RECUSING AS THEY WORK FOR THE SAME COMPANY AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- e. Abraham Peralta Espinosa FD956-Affordable Cremation & Burial EST55

Jennifer Kandt stated that everything was in order and temporary approval had been granted.

MOTION: LAURA SUSSMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MANAGING FUNERAL DIRECTOR REQUEST FOR ABRAHAM PERALTA ESPINOSA FD956 FOR AFFORDABLE CREMATION & BURIAL EST55. KIM KANDARAS SECONDED THE MOTION WITH BART BURTON RECUSING AS THEY WORK FOR THE SAME COMPANY AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Jennifer Kandt stated that there was another request for approval of managing funeral director for Cheryl Lynn Jones FD986 for Neptune Society DC64L, but it inadvertently did not make it onto the Agenda. Ms. Kandt stated that this issue is not urgent as a temporary approval has been granted and it will be heard at the next Board meeting.

9. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding LCB file number R001-22 (For possible action)

Jennifer Kandt stated that the Board has looked at these previously and a hearing will be held at the next meeting.

There were no comments regarding the proposed changes presented.

MOTION: DR. RANDY SHARP MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGULATORY CHANGES REGARDING LCB FILE NUMBER R001-22 AS WRITTEN. KIM KANDARAS SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding COLA adjustment for FY2023 (For possible action)

Jennifer Kandt stated that the Board decided that they would vote on COLA adjustments every year. The information researched suggests that Social Security is going to provide 8.6% COLA for next year, last year they did 5.9%. The Board gave 3% last year. Ms. Kandt stated that she was not requesting a raise this year as she has announced that she will be leaving the Board within the next year. The requested COLA percentage applies to all of the Board employees, including Marie Paakkari, Wayne Fazzino and Jennifer Kandt.

Jennifer Kandt stated that she asked Kim Kandaras, the Board treasurer and who is also a CPA to research and provide her recommendations for COLA adjustments.

Kim Kandaras stated that she has done some research and stated that she would support at least a 10% COLA adjustment pursuant to the facts that she has compiled. Ms. Kandaras stated that the Board gave a 3% COLA to the Board employees last year and Social Security suggested a 5.9% COLA increase last year as Ms. Kandt stated. Ms. Kandaras stated that pursuant to USA Today article that was published May 13, 2022, the Social Security COLA raises were 5.9% last year, the Consumer Price Index increased by 8.3%, therefore, the 5.9% that the Social Security gave last year was underestimated. The actual CPI increased by nearly 3% more. Ms. Kandaras stated that based upon her research, she would recommend at least a 10% COLA increase for the Board employees for this year. Ms. Kandaras also stated that the cost of living in Reno is also typically 4% higher than national average.

Laura Sussman stated that in looking at the next item, which is the budget, it appears that the Board would be able to absorb the COLA increase and she would fully support the increase.

Dr. Randy Sharp stated that it is definitely unprecedented times with inflation.

MOTION: LAURA SUSSMAN MOVED TO APPROVE A TEN (10%) COLA ADJUSTMENT FOR ALL BOARD EMPLOYEES FOR FY2023. DR. RAYMOND GIDDENS SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. Discussion, recommendation, and possible action regarding approval of FY2023 budget (For possible action)

Jennifer Kandt presented a summary of the budget for FY2023 to the Board. Ms. Kandt stated that the personnel was kept the same as last year, but now that the Board has approved the 10% COLA adjustment, those amounts will change.

MOTION: KIM KANDARAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUDGET FOR FY2023. DR. RAYMOND GIDDENS SECONDED THE MOTION AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. Financial Reports

- a. Regulatory Fee Collection
- b. Financial Reports

Jennifer Kandt presented a summary of the Board financial reports.

13. Overview of current complaint status

Jennifer Kandt presented a summary of the current complaint status to the Board.

14. Report from Executive Director, Jennifer Kandt

Jennifer Kandt presented a written report, and the Board reviewed the information provided.

15. Discussion regarding future agenda items and future meeting dates

Thursday August 25, 2022, at 9:00 am

Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 9:00 am

16. Public comment

Note: No vote may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. (NRS 241.020)

There was no public comment.

17. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 10:00 am.