



ALABAMA BOARD OF FUNERAL SERVICES

FUNERAL MEETING MINUTES

April 14, 2026

Prior Notice

Prior notice of the April 14, 2026, third quarterly board meeting of fiscal year 2026 was posted to the Secretary of State website on January 08, 2026. Meeting information was distributed to licensees via the quarterly newsletter on March 15, 2026. The meeting was held at 9:00 AM in the Board's office located at 4276 Lomac Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36106.

Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and Call to Order

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

At 9:04 AM, Mr. J. Douglas Williams, Presiding Officer, called to order the third quarterly funeral division business meeting for fiscal year 2026, and asked Mr. Bobby Burt to bring an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mr. Kenneth Bishop.

Roll Call of the Board

Mr. Williams asked Ms. Laura Sullivan for a roll call to establish a quorum. The following members were present: Kenneth Bishop, Terry Sorrells, James Martin, Jr., J. Douglas Williams, Karen Jones Smith, Cody Caldwell, Christal Whitfield, and Bobby Burt.

The following members were absent: Mrs. Sandra Hill.

Staff present: Charles M. Perine, Executive Director; Laura Sullivan, Associate Executive Director—recording; Courtney Smith, Financial Specialist and Licensing Coordinator; Latricia Harris, Licensing and Regulatory Compliance Field Officer; and Brenton Smith, Legal Counsel.

Welcome/Remarks by Chair

With a quorum established, Mr. Williams welcomed all present at the funeral division business meeting.

Conflict of Interest/Motion to Set the Agenda

Mr. Williams requested that the board members review the agenda for the April 14, 2026, meeting. Mr. Williams asked if any member had any conflict of interest with any items on the agenda. Being none, Mr. Burt made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Jones Smith, to set the agenda as presented. Being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Business

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Williams asked the members to review the minutes of the January 6, 2026, board meeting. After review, Mr. Sorrells made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Whitfield, to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2026, board meeting. Being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval/Denial of Licenses

New Licenses

Having passed the state law exam, and having met the passing criteria on the licensure exam or having met the requirements for licensure by reciprocity, Mr. Perine asked the board to consider the following individuals to be approved for licensing as a funeral director, embalmer, or cremationist: Allison Susette White, Aubrey L. Larkin, Billy Kendall Glover, Cetera Church, Brittany N. Benson, Charlene E. Boykin, Charles H. Atchinson, Clay E. Grissom, Cloie L. Miller, David Anthony Love, Cynthia J. Miller, Emily Grace Loggins, Emily Faith Veal, Emily Elizabeth Simpson, D. Kris Cagle, Davis L. Bowen, De'Anthony L. Powell, Eric D. Davis, G. Tommy Bowen, Haisten Lane

Murphree, Johnathon D. Johnson, Raymond A. Campbell, Renarkus Miller, Jessica L. Bell, Lance R. Sherrod, Larry E. Pearson, Maurice L. Woodard, Moshu T. Knox, Kari J. Minyard, Jon Thomas Carpenter, Kennedy Tysjai Sullivan, Lashonda Denise Cox, Rogery Perine, Savannah L. McCormick, Steven Dewayne Ingram, Tanner E. Faulkner, Sabrina W. Gholston, Sharon H. McCray, Shatoria C. Hughes, Timothy Kilpatrick, William Gary Craft, and Willie George Shelby. Mr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Jones Smith, to approve the licensure of the individuals listed above as a funeral director, embalmer, or cremationist. Being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Permanent License Reactivation

Having met the requirements for reactivation of a permanent license, Mr. Perine asked the board to consider the following individuals to be approved for reactivation of a permanent licensure for funeral director, embalmer, or cremationist: Joseph Reginald Jacobs, John Grant Garrison. And Kerry L. Sorrells. Mrs. Whitfield made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bishop, to approve the reactivation of permanent licensure for funeral director, embalmer, or cremationist for the individuals listed above. Being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Establishment

Having met the requirements for a new establishment via Change of Ownership, Mr. Perine asked the board to consider the following entities to be approved for an establishment license change of ownership: Harmony Funeral Home and Cremation, LLC, Wyatt Funeral Home, and Southside Funeral Home. Mr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Caldwell, to approve the new establishments listed above. Being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Following the motion, Mr. Perine informed the board of a verbal addition of two other establishments that met the requirements for licensure as a change of ownership and asked the board to consider their approval for an establishment license as well. The two entities were Forest Lawn Funeral Home and Crematory and Ascension Funeral Services. Mr. Burt made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Whitfield, to approve the two additional establishments for licensure. Being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Crematory Registrations

Having met the requirements for crematory registration, Mr. Perine asked the board to consider the following entities to be approved for crematory registration: Valley Point Funeral Home and Cremation, Glover Funeral Home and Crematory, Bowen Funeral Home, and Forest Lawn Funeral Home and Crematory (change of ownership). Mr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Whitfield, to approve the crematory registration of the establishments listed above. Being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Establishment Closures

Mr. Perine informed the board of the following voluntary permanent establishment closures and asked the board to consider approval of the establishment closures: Kirk Funeral Home (Greensboro), Freeman Hood Funeral Services, and Atmore Memorial Chapel. Mr. Perine also informed the board of the following voluntary temporary establishment closures and asked the board to consider the approval of the temporary establishment closures: Kirk Funeral Home (Demopolis) and Kirk Funeral Home (Marion). Mr. Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Burt, to approve the closure of the establishments listed above. Being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Licensure Exam Stats

Mr. Perine informed the board of the following exam statistics for January - March of the fiscal year 2026:

	Exam Type	Total Exams Given	Total Pass	Total Fail	Pass Percentage	Average
	ALFD	19	17	2	89.5%	80.1%
	ALEM	11	9	2	81.8%	80.8%
	LRR FD/EM	20	20	0	100.00%	
	LRR CR	2	2	0	100.00%	
TOTALS		52	48	4	92.83%	80.45%

Continuing Education Provider Request/Course Request

Mr. Perine presented the board with a list of 10 continuing education providers and 83 continuing education courses for consideration and approval, totaling 114.25 hours; and with 10 of the courses being given interim approval by Mr. Perine due to the date the courses were offered to licensees, pursuant to Alabama Code 395-X-1-.04. Mr. Perine informed the board that there was one course that includes questionable content from the International Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Association (ICCFA) that potentially involves unlicensed practice. After a brief discussion, Mr. Burt made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Jones Smith, to approve all hours of continuing education courses, excluding the 14 hours that include the celebrant training from ICCFA as presented. Being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Statement of Economic Interest

Mr. Perine informed the board that all board members are required to complete a Statement of Economic Interest by the Ethics Commission each year by April 30, 2026. Mr. Perine presented the board with a link to the website to complete the Statement and asked that board members complete the Statement by April 28, 2026, to ensure compliance. Mr. Perine also informed the board that Ms. Sullivan will be following up to make sure the board members complete the Statement.

4th Quarter Board Meeting

Mr. Perine informed the board that he will begin writing a clean-up bill for next session for our current law. The clean-up bill will aim to fix inconsistencies within the funeral law and the preneed law. Mr. Perine asked that board members submit any suggestions for clean-up bill to him beginning immediately. Mr. Perine also informed the board that SB107 did pass through legislation so the board will need to file administrative rules to accompany that bill, which takes effect on June 1st. The board is unable to file those rules until June, at which point they will have to undergo a 35-day public commenting period. After the commenting period concludes, the board will have a public hearing to address the comments from the commenting period and adopt the rules. Because of these procedures, Mr. Perine proposed to change the date of the 4th quarter board meeting to August 11, 2026, to accommodate for the commenting period, so that the board can have the public hearing the same day as board meeting. Mr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Burt, to move the 4th quarter board meeting from July 14, 2026, to August 11, 2026. Being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

The Board's legal counsel declared that the discussion of the good name and character of an applicant warrants an executive session. Mr. Perine recommended that the Board enter into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss the good name and character of an applicant. Mrs. Whitfield made a motion, seconded by Mr. Caldwell, to enter into executive session for 30 minutes to discuss the good name and character of an applicant. The motion passed unanimously. At 9:31 AM, the Board entered executive session. At 9:59 AM, Mr. Williams called the business meeting back to order. A motion was made by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Sorrells, to approve the application for apprentice funeral director and embalmer license for Antonio Anderson with a 60-month probation period. Being no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business/Adjournment

Questions, Comments, Concerns, Adjournment

Mr. Williams addressed the board and asked for any further questions, comments, or concerns. Being none, Mr. Martin made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Whitfield, to adjourn the business meeting and reconvene on August 11, 2026, at 9:00 AM. Being no discussion, the motion passed unanimously. The business meeting adjourned at 10:01 AM.

Minutes submitted by: Laura Sullivan.

Presiding Officer

Charles M. Perine, Executive Director