

MINUTES
South Carolina Auctioneers' Commission Meeting
10:00 A.M., May 19, 2014
Synergy Business Park
110 Centerview Drive, Kingtree Building, Room 108
Columbia, South Carolina

Meeting Called to Order

Vice-Chair, Victor Avendano, of Walterboro, called the regular meeting of the Auctioneers' Commission to order at 10:00 a.m. Other members participating in the meeting included: Joe Burns, of Swansea; Matthew Holiday, of Spartanburg; Jamison Marchant, of Spartanburg; and Michelle Pinkney, of Irmo.

Staff members participating in the meeting included: Molly Price, Administrator; Georgia Lewis, Office of General Counsel; Zubin Billimoria, Office of Disciplinary Counsel; Sharon Wolfe, Chief Investigator for OIE; and Theresa Garner, Program Assistant.

Members of the public attending the meeting included: Ivan Broadwell.

Public Notice

Mr. Avendano announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S.C. Auctioneers' Commission Office, Synergy Business Park, Kingtree Building, and provided to all requesting persons, organizations, and news media in compliance with Section 30-4-80 of the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act.

Pledge of Allegiance

All Present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Burns delivered the invocation.

Approval of the February 24, 2014 Meeting Minutes

MOTION

Mr. Holiday made a motion the Commission approve the February 24, 2014 meeting minutes as presented. Ms. Pinkney seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman's Remarks-Victor Avendano

Mr. Avendano welcomed new board member, Jamison Marchant.

Administrator's Remarks-Molly Price

Ms. Price reported there are currently 959 auctioneers, and 153 firms licensed in South Carolina.

March 21, 2014 Examination Results

Of the seven auctioneer candidates; four passed the exam. The average score of those who passed was 83. The next exam is scheduled for June 20, 2014.

The next board meeting is scheduled for August 18, 2014.

The cash balance report for April 2014 showed a balance of \$104,090.00. The Recovery Fund Balance was \$132,906.24.

She informed board members that LLR has started the process of reviewing all auctioneer applications for licensure and insuring that the applications are up to date. It is our goal to soon have the applications in a format where they can be filled out online. She said she will keep them updated as the process continues; the hope is this will help make the application process more efficient for both applicants and staff.

Advisory Opinions, If Needed, Office of General Counsel

No advisory opinions were given during this meeting.

Legislative Updates, If Needed, Legislative Liaison Office

No legislative updates were given during this meeting.

OGC Report-Office of Disciplinary Counsel

Zubin Billimoria, OGC, reported the Office of Disciplinary Counsel currently has 3 open cases, and one closed case.

OIE Report-Office of Investigations and Enforcement

Sharon Wolfe, OIE, reported between January 1, and May 6, 2014, the Office of Investigations and Enforcement (IOE) had 11 active cases, one Do Not Open, one pending board action, and one pending IRC, totaling 15 cases. Twelve cases were closed, and they had one Do Not Open Case.

New Business

a. Investigative Review Committee (IRC) Report-May 1, 2014

Ms. Wolfe reported the IRC met on May 1, 2014 during which time three cases were discussed. Of the three, one case was recommended for dismissal, one case was recommended for a formal complaint, and one case was recommended for a letter of Caution.

MOTION

Mr. Holiday made a motion to accept the IRC as presented. Mr. Burns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

b. Matt Faile-Manager Information Technology

I. LLR On-Line Exams—Matt Faile, Office of Information Services, discussed a proposal for developing an online exam for the Auctioneers. The discussion included, but was not limited to security of the online exam, and possibility of randomizing the questions.

Molly Price, Administrator, stated that she thought this would be a good time to review and update the current exams. She said that she would check with third party exam providers, regarding costs, security, etc., and will forward this information to board members.

Election of Officers

Matt Holiday nominated Victor Avendano as Chairman. Jamison Marchant seconded the nomination, which carried unanimously.

Victor Avendano nominated Matthew Holiday as Vice-Chair. Jamison Marchant seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Ivan Broadwell, IRC representative, stated that he had served on the exam review committee in 1998, and thought it would be a good idea to review the questions, and make necessary changes as needed.

Executive Session

MOTION

Mr. Holiday made a motion the Commission enter into executive session to seek legal advice. Mr. Burns seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Return to Public Session

MOTION

Mr. Burns made a motion the Commission return to public session. Mr. Marchant seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Avendano noted for the record that no votes or actions were taken while in executive session.

Adjournment

MOTION

There being no further business to be discussed at this time, Mr. Holiday made a motion the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Burns seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The May 19, 2014 meeting of the South Carolina Auctioneers' Commission adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

The next meeting of the South Carolina Auctioneers' Commission is scheduled for August 18, 2014, in room 108.

