

MINUTES
South Carolina Board of Cosmetology
Called Board Meeting
10:00 a.m., August 8, 2010
110 Centerview Drive, Conference Room 115
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

These minutes are a record of the motions and official actions taken by the Board and brief summary of the meeting. A transcript of this meeting providing more detail will be available on the Board's website: www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Cosmetology.

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Rosanne Kinley of Anderson called the called meeting of the Board of Cosmetology to order at 10:05 a.m. Other Board members present for the meeting included: Melanie Thompson, Vice Chairman of Myrtle Beach; and Board members Selena Brown of Columbia; Delores Gilmer of Charleston; Cynthia Rodgers of Lancaster; and Kathy Webb of Easley.

Staff members attending the meeting included Ronald Cook, Assistant Deputy Director-Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Ronnie Blackmon, Inspector Office of Investigations and Enforcement; Jessica DeBenedetto, Administrative Assistant- Board of Cosmetology; Matteah Taylor, Administrative Assistant- Board of Cosmetology; Dottie Buchanan, Administrator-Office of Board Services-Operational Management; and Jamie Saxon, Advice Counsel.

Others participating in the meeting included: Sean Colton, Director of Operations for SMT

Public Notice:

Mrs. Kinley announced that public notice of this meeting was properly posted at the S. C. Board of Cosmetology 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.

Rules of the Meeting:

Mrs. Kinley read the rules of the meeting.

Introduction of Board Members and All Other Persons Attending:

The Board members, staff and other persons attending the meeting introduced themselves. A copy of the guest sign in sheet is attached as a part of these minutes.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION:

Mrs. Thompson made a motion the Board approve the agenda as presented. Mrs. Webb seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Chairman's Remarks – Rosanne Kinley:

Mrs. Kinley welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that the Board of Cosmetology and the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) to include the Offices of Investigations and Enforcement and General Counsel had worked together to find ways to prevent fraud. They have agreed that all Cosmetology Board licensees will be photographed and fingerprinted. New students will be photographed and fingerprinted at the time they enter school. *This information will be used for identification purposes only.* The photographing and fingerprinting of currently licensees will also be conducted at the schools. Not all schools must participate in processing the current licensees;

however, it will be helpful if there are schools available in all areas of the state to prevent licensees from driving great distances. The Board of Cosmetology will be piloting this program for LLR with other licensing boards will follow. It was noted that licensing in many professions including attorneys already require fingerprint identification as well as some banks and even amusement parks.

Discussion with Schools and IQT Regarding Biometric Implementation - Sean Colton, SMT:

Mr. Colton gave a brief synopsis of his professional background as well as for his company. He gave an overview of what biometrics is, how it is used, and by whom. Mr. Colton explained that they are providing similar service to the Ohio Board of Cosmetology and that within a few months of implementation they found someone trying to commit fraud. Mr. Colton explained that each student and current licensee would have their picture and fingerprints taken at which time a unique number would be assigned to that person. A person would not be able to register with a different name because they would be in the system with the original biometric information. Students will not be able to take the test for others or to take the test multiple times to harvest questions. This information is not used for illegal immigrants, wanted felons, or compared with other databases. He further explained that the software needed by the schools will be provided by his company. They will pay for the license, storage and firewall. The data belongs to the Board of Cosmetology.

Public Comment

Discussion and questions asked by guests included but was not limited to: Sharing of information with law enforcement— this would be only at the request of the law enforcement agency and would be handled in accordance with the law; Cost for equipment- schools can use current computers with new software, fingerprint reader is approximately \$80 with minimal cost for a digital camera; Transfers from one school to another –information for the person would be updated under their unique number; Fee charged by school to process- schools can charge additional fee to cover their costs for equipment and staff; Magnitude of processing 30,000+ current licensees- current licensees would be done in Board defined phases; Database security- this system also houses examinations for CIA and other groups requiring an especially high security assurance; Licensee notification- the Board will first send an e-blast then a mail out; and Name changes- names will be entered as shown on legal documents and legal documents would be required to change the name.

Ronald Cook, Assistant Deputy Director for the Office of Investigations and Enforcement explained that the main purpose of this system is not to inconvenience anyone but to protect the integrity and standards of the industry and to protect the public. Mr. Cook commended the Board for working diligently to combat fraud, meeting with various LLR divisions, and graciously agreeing to pilot the program for the agency. Cosmetology Board licensees will be pleased to know that other professions will be joining them. Mr. Cook went on to explain that inspectors will receive training on the new system and will utilize the system in their inspections.

Adjournment:

MOTION:

Ms. Webb made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Rodgers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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