

## STATE OF ALABAMA

# ALABAMA LICENSURE BOARD FOR

### INTERPRETERS AND TRANSLITERATORS

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Board Meeting February 14, 2019 Minutes

The Alabama Licensure Board for Interpreters and Transliterators held its regularly scheduled Board meeting on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery. The following Board members were present: Mr. Ben Hollingsworth (Board Chair), Mr. Sam Feibelman (Board Vice Chair), Ms. Sharon Canada-Emann (member), Mr. Melvin Walker (member), Ms. Nancy Hayes (member), Ms. Belinda Montgomery (member) and Ms. Patricia Smartt (member). Board members absent were Ms. Nancy Adams (member) and Ms. Tammy Adams (member). Others present were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Ms. Leigh Moorer (Board Administrator), Mr. Bill Garrett, (Assistant Attorney General), and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary at this meeting and Executive Secretary to Keith Warren).

- I. The meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m. by Mr. Hollingsworth, Board Chair, and a quorum was present. The meeting was advertised in advance on the Board's website, <a href="https://www.albit.alabama.gov">www.albit.alabama.gov</a>, and the Secretary of State's website, <a href="https://www.sos.alabama.gov">www.sos.alabama.gov</a>, in accordance with the Alabama Open Meetings Act.
- II. A copy of the meeting agenda was distributed before the meeting for the members review and presented at the meeting. Mr. Walker recommended that election of officers be added as new business.
  - <u>MOTION 2019-15</u>: Ms. Montgomery made a motion to accept the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walker. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board and voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Ms. Emann, Mr. Walker, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Montgomery and Ms. Smartt. The motion was unanimously approved.
- III. Chairman Hollingsworth presented the November 15, 2019 Board meeting minutes for the Board's review and approval. A copy of the November minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting.
  - MOTION 2019-16: Ms. Emann made the motion to amend the November meeting minutes, with the correction that the Committee Chair called for the vote in the Rules Committee report

(Motion 2019-01). The motion was seconded by Mr. Feibelman. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board. Voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Ms. Emann, Mr. Walker, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Montgomery and Ms. Smartt and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Walker made the motion to approve the November minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Montgomery. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board. Voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Ms. Emann, Mr. Walker, Ms. Montgomery and Ms. Smartt. Ms. Hayes abstained from the vote. The motion passed by majority approval.

#### IV. Reports

- A. Board Chair Report: Chairman Hollingsworth indicated he was appreciative of the public comments received concerning the proposed changes to the Board's Rules and reported that this matter would be addressed later in the meeting. He offered his thanks to Ms. Monet Gaines for her service to the Board as Legal Counsel. Mr. Bill Garrett, Assistant Attorney General, was introduced to the Board. Mr. Garrett reported that Ms. Gaines had been appointed to the Montgomery County circuit court judgeship.
- B. Executive Director Report: Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director Report, which included financial activities of the Board for the period ending December 31, 2018 (end of first quarter in FY 2019). Also reported were the current number of licensees, along with the number of complaints received in FY 2018 and during the first quarter of FY 2019.
  - Ms. Moorer presented the Administrator's Report listing activities accomplished by the staff since the last Board meeting held in November (a copy of the Executive Director and Administrator's report are available for review in the Official Book of Minutes) and commented on Facebook posted activities under the Board's control.
- C. Legal Counsel Report: Mr. Garrett presented the Legal Counsel Report and reported that there were three (3) pending complaint cases. Case 2019-07 and 2019-18 were received regarding the same Respondent working in a school setting. He reported that the Respondent in the cases was not licensed in the BOE system and no longer employed within the BOE system. He also reported on Case 2019-09 concerning a non-licensed individual providing interpreting services. He stated that additional information had been requested from the Complainant in the case and no response has been received. He recommended dismissal of the case.

MOTION 2019-17: Mr. Walker made the motion to dismiss Case 2019-09 due to insufficient information and to close cases 2019-7 and 2019-8 as resolved. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emann. The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board. Voting "aye" were The Board Chair called for a vote from the Board. Voting "aye" were Ms. Emann, Mr. Walker, Ms. Hayes. Ms. Montgomery and Ms. Smartt and Mr. Feibelman voted "nay". The motion passed by majority approval.

- D. Certification Committee BEI Requirements
  Ms. Smartt and Ms. Emann, members of the Certification Committee, reported that they
  would meet on the matter and report at the next Board meeting.
- E. Rules Committee-Comments to Proposed Changes to Statute
  Mr. Walker reported that the proposed Board Rules had been advertised for public comment
  and a copy of the written public comments was distributed to the Board members at the
  meeting. Due to the number of comments under consideration, Mr. Walker reported that
  the Committee would review the public comments and report at a future meeting of the
  Board their recommendations concerning proposed rules and final adoption.

Chairman Hollingsworth opened the floor for comments on the proposed Rules. Comments included inquiry about how the rule changes may impact on business license requirements. The Board questioned whether the Board had any jurisdiction regarding business licenses requirements.

Chairman Hollingsworth encouraged comments from the community concerning the Board's rules and statute in advance of the 2020 Legislative Session and asked that additional feedback from the community be addressed to the Board via email or representatives on the Board.

#### V. Old Business

Chairman Hollingsworth reported that there was no old business to address at this time.

#### VI. New Business

#### A. Election of Officers

The Board discussed deferring the annual election of officers pending appointment of new Board members. Mr. Garrett explained that the annual election of members should held and the election of officers could be held again if current members were replaced during the appointment process.

Nomination: Ms. Montgomery nominated Mr. Walker as Board Chair. Ms. Emann nominated Ms. Hayes as Board Chair. There were no further nominations by the members.

MOTION 2019-18: The Board Chair called for a vote for Mr. Walker as Board Chair. Voting "aye" were Ms. Smartt, Ms. Montgomery, Ms. Haynes and Mr. Fiebelman.

MOTION 2019-19: The Board Chair called for a vote for Ms. Hayes as Board Chair. Voting "aye" were Ms. Emann, Mr. Walker and Mr. Hollingsworth.

The motion for Mr. Walker as Board Chair passed by majority approval.

Nomination: Ms. Montgomery nominated Ms. Hayes as Board Vice Chair. There were no further nominations from the members and the nomination passed by acclamation.

Nomination: Ms. Hayes nominated Ms. Smartt as Board Secretary. There were no further nominations from the members and the nomination passed by acclamation.

#### VII. Announcements

- A. Chairman Hollingsworth announced that the next meeting of the Board is scheduled Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.
- B. Mr. Warren reminded the members about the upcoming Board member training sponsored by the Board of Examiners of Public Accounts scheduled March 1, 2019. The Board asked that interpreters be available at the training session.
- VIII. <u>MOTION 2019-20</u>: Mr. Walker made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Emann. There was no further business of the Board and the Board Chair called for a vote from the Board. Voting "aye" were Mr. Feibelman, Ms. Emann, Mr. Walker, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Montgomery and Ms. Smartt. The motion was unanimously approved. Chairman Hollingsworth adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin Walker Board Chair

Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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