

Meeting Minutes 9:00am, May 20, 2020 Zoom Video Conference Call

Members Present: Laura Veach, Mark Crabtree, Carol Hoffman, Johnny Bass, Danny Graves, Dennis Hagarty, Starleen Scott Robbins, Lynn Jones, Elizabeth Ramos, Kate Gomes, Angie Banther, Michael McGuire

Members Absent (Excused): Fran Gordon, Cheryl Gentile, Sylvia Parsons, Stephanie Robinson

Staff: Barden Culbreth, Marcie Murfin, Nelson Harris, Randolph Cloud

Call to Order: Chair Laura Veach called the meeting to order at 9:05am.

Ethics Awareness Statement: Laura read the Ethics Awareness Statement and asked that all Board members notify the board of any conflicts or appearances of conflicts about the business of the meeting. Hearing none, the meeting continued.

Approval of the Agenda: David Turpin motioned to approve the agenda. Elizabeth Ramos seconded, and the agenda was approved unanimously.

Review of Draft Rules for Publication: Laura recognized Executive Director Barden Culbreth who spoke about the Rules Review Process, including the directive of the Periodic Rules Review Process. Today's review would be the last batch of rules to be reviewed and approved by the Board for publication and comment.

Note: The draft language today consisted of Rules .0402 through .0709. The Board had previously approved language for Rules .0101, .0102, .0201, .0204, .0209, .0210, .0213, .0214, .0215, and .0401 on December 14, 2018; and Rules .0216 through .0307 on June 14th, 2019. The Rules containing fees, referred to as Fee Rules, were approved and fully adopted previously.

Starleen was recognized and proposed several amendments to the draft language considered today, specifically clarifying language around confidentiality and state and federal guidelines. Board staff agreed to make those changes.

Michael McGuire was recognized and asked if the Board would consider using gender neutral pronouns instead of "he and she" as used in the drafts. Barden reported he thought Rules Review Commission preferred gender specific pronouns, but he would ask. [Staff contacted RRC for guidance; RRC prefers gender neutral pronouns and those changes would be recommended by RRC staff during review.]

Elizabeth Ramos was recognized and asked about changes to the ethics rules definition of "immediate family." Barden described that the preferences of the RRC have evolved over time. In the past, the RRC preferred definitions of listed terms, however there is preference now for terms that the general and regulated public will readily understand. Discussion followed.

Laura asked if changes could be made to .0508 and .0509 to reflect Starleen's recommendations. Dennis made the motion. David Turpin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Michael McGuire commended the Board staff for their work during COVID19. He had heard from several of his students who were impressed they were able to still work on their applications while many other agencies were closed.

New Business: Danny Graves asked if Board needed to publicize its waiver of the Fingerprint Check during COVID19 response. Discussion followed.

Carol Hoffman motioned that the Board continue to delay Fingerprint Checks until local law enforcement agencies were able to process them. Danny seconded this motion. Nelson offered to clarify the language if it would be accepted as a friendly amendment and he would provide the language to Barden to put on the website. The motion passed unanimously.

Laura thanked everyone for joining the call to approve the rules on such late notice.

Adjourn: Carol Hoffman motioned to adjourn. Lynn Jones seconded, and the meeting ended.