

The Alabama Professional Bail Bonding Board
Board Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2022

With proper and required notice having been provided to the Alabama Secretary of State's Office along with posting on the websites of the Alabama Secretary of State and the Alabama Professional Bail Bonding Board, an emergency meeting of the Alabama Professional Bail Bonding Board was held on Thursday, February 10, 2022, at Mobile Government Plaza, 205 Government Street, Courtroom 440, Mobile, Alabama. The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Chairman Chris McNeil.

A quorum having been established and maintained; the following Board members were in attendance:

District I: Chris McNeil

District II: Gustavius Maxie

District III: Barry Johnson

District IV: Alesia Kyser

District VI: Jimmie Lay

Judge: The Honorable Spiro Cheriogotis (attended by phone due to car trouble but not voting)

Circuit Clerk: The Honorable Carla Woodall

The following Board members were not present:

District V: Victor Howard

District VII: Jennifer Smith

Also present by Zoom was Brenda Holden, Administrative Support.

Unless otherwise notated, all votes were cast by a show of hands.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Jimmie Lay.

A motion to approve the agenda as distributed was made by Carla Woodall and seconded by Barry Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the January 13, 2022, meeting and approve as dispensed was made by Jimmie Lay and seconded by Spiro Cheriogotis. Motion passed unanimously.

The Interim Executive Director's report was given by Brenda Holden where a review of all financial was discussed. Motion to approve the report was made by Spiro Cheriogotis and seconded by Barry Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

A review of outstanding invoices and vouchers that have been submitted to the Comptroller's Office was held. It was reported that per Matt Mancil with ALEA that no invoice has been submitted to the Board as of this date.

Carla Woodall reported that Brenda Holden notified her that ALEA had stopped processing applications. She met with Avery Morriss and Matt Mancil who informed her they would resume and provided the information for the Board to obtain an ORI.

Chris McNeil updated that badge vendor had not been able to obtain the dye cast due to the design of the badge and the design would need to be changed or seek another vendor and presented a sample of new design. Motion was made by Chris McNeil to approve new design and obtain from same vendor and seconded by Jimmie Lay. Motion passed unanimously.

Chris McNeil reported that the application of J.R. cannot be reviewed as there is no background check and a new complaint received by the Board the previous day.

The Executive Director Search Committee reported to the Board efforts related to securing an Executive Director under an emergency contract. Chris McNeil reported that in communication with Will Parker he was informed that the only other person who performed these services was Keith Warren. He also reported that Mary Goldthwaite has advised that the bid process can take months but that since Keith Warren had already been vetted could be approved immediately under an emergency contract. Chris McNeil reported to the Board that Keith Warren of Warren & Company was located in Montgomery and the Committee had discussed and negotiated a rate of \$4,500/month if the Board approved to issue an emergency contract. To answer any questions of the Board, Keith Warrant then appeared via Zoom to educate the Board about his company whereupon, Mr. Warren advised the services his company can provide as well as his facilities and office staffing. The Board reviewed the emergency contract. A discussion was held regarding the process by which Mr. Warren's company handles complaints. Carla Woodall reported to the Board that the Board is due an upcoming audit by the Alabama Department of Public Examiners within the next several months as well as review by the Sunset Committee of the Alabama Legislature and that for an ORI to be obtained a physical location of the Board was required by ALEA. A motion was made for the Board to approve an emergency contract for an Executive Director instead of accepting bids by Carla Woodall and seconded by Spiro Cheriogotis. Motion passed unanimously. Next a motion was made to offer an emergency contract to Warren & Company effective February 15, 2022, at a prorated amount of \$2,250 and thereafter \$4,500 per month beginning March 1, 2022, by Carla Woodall and seconded by Spiro Cheriogotis. Motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was held for Chairman McNeil to draft letter to the Director of Purchasing and State Comptroller for STAARS access for Keith Warren under an emergency contract. It was also discussed for Keith Warren's contact information to be published and distributed.

A discussion was held that issued apprentice licenses will soon begin to expire and Brenda Holden will issue notification letters to licensees.

A discussion was held that the Code of Ala, 1975, does not allow bondsmen to work as auxillary officers or reserve law enforcement deputies.

A discussion was held related to a concern in Colbert County of the sheriff not allowing the attachment of the required Power of Attorney to bonds of surety companies. Chairman McNeil will call to discuss.

The Board reviewed concern of bondsmen operating without a license and offered suggestion of a cease a desist letter being issued to bondsmen with expired licenses, open an investigation related to the matter, and a letter issued to Alabama judges and clerks. Review of Rules and Regulations and advise of Board Attorney is for complaints to be turned over to Emergency Executive Director to be investigated. It was discussed that due to inappropriate handling and delay in background checks Chairman Chris McNeil appointed Spiro Cheriogotis, Carla Woodall, and Chris McNeil as a sub-committee to begin the search for an emergency Executive Director.

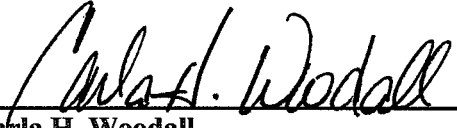
Discussions were held regarding the past due balance to Alabama Interactive from FY2021 due to payments not being submitted in the current fiscal year and questioning why. A motion was made to notify Alabama Interactive to submit unpaid invoices for FY2021 to the Alabama Board of Adjustments by Victor Howard and seconded by Gustavius Maxie. Motion passed unanimously. In depth discussions continued as to why invoices were not paid and the process of the Alabama Board of Adjustments.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Jimmie Lay and seconded by Barry Johnson. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Chris McNeil
Chairman



Carla H. Woodall
Secretary