

MS STATE BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY
Robert E. Lee Building, Floor 12
239 North Lamar Street, Jackson, MS. 39201

Deborah Coker- President
Jewel Stewart - Vice President
Dorothy Ennis - Secretary



Hilda Bills - Member
Stacy Lea, Executive Director

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
August 31, 2020, 9:00 AM

MINUTES

Board Members Present:
Deborah Coker, President
Jewel Stewart, Vice-President
Dorothy Ennis, Secretary
Hilda Bills, Member

Others Present:
Pete Cajoles, Special Assistant Attorney General
Stacy Lea, Executive Director
Ruby Lowery, School Coordinator

Board President Coker called the meeting to order at 9:09 AM.

Board Secretary Ennis called for a roll and all four (4) Board Members, one (1) AG attorney, two (2) MSBC staff members, and eight (8) members of the public were present.

President Coker stated the first item on the agenda is to discuss the status of Blue Cliff College's proposed esthetics program with representatives of Blue Cliff College.

President Coker stated she would now recognize a motion by a Board Member for the meeting to be closed to determine whether the Board should declare an executive session.

President Coker asked if there was any discussion on the motion to enter Executive Session. No motion for discussion was made.

All approved 4-0 to enter Executive Session.

President Coker stated the meeting is now technically closed and requested that all members of the public, other than Blue Cliff College representatives, exit the meeting room.

President Coker declared the Board would now enter executive session at 9:16 AM to discuss the status of Blue Cliff College's proposed esthetics program with representatives of Blue Cliff College.

President Coker declared that the Board would now exit Executive Session resume regular session at 10:47 AM. Members of the public returned to the meeting room.

President Coker stated the Board would now review Board minutes for approval. The Board unanimously approved all minutes presented.

NOTE: Due to COVID-19 protocol that limits group meetings to a maximum of 10 individuals, the Board admitted constituents individually when their agenda requests were being addressed.

Board President Coker stated the Board would now hear Ruth Acosta's request for a testing extension due to Covid-19. MSBC School & Testing Coordinator Lowery stated that testing spots were available before her testing deadline expired and advised Ms. Acosta to register for one of the testing dates available in September 2020.

President Coker stated the Board would now hear Robyn Reader's agenda request regarding requirements for Reciprocity from Illinois to Mississippi. MSBC School & Testing Coordinator Lowery stated that Ms. Reader is required to pass the state practical exam to meet Reciprocity requirements and advised Ms. Reader to register for testing dates available in October 2020.

President Coker stated the Board would now hear Jordan Mason's agenda request regarding license requirements for Reciprocity from Florida to Mississippi. Ms. Mason was not present.

Secretary Ennis stated that because Florida does not currently have a reciprocal agreement with Mississippi, she motioned that the Board deny Ms. Mason credit for Florida school hours in accordance with MSBC Rule 2.11. Board Member Bills seconded the motion, and the motion was carried (4-0).

Rule 2.11 Licensure by Reciprocity - Practitioner

An individual who holds a current license from another state with whom Mississippi has a reciprocal agreement may be eligible for a practitioner license in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. Section 73-7-23. The Mississippi State Board of Cosmetology maintains a list of states with whom Mississippi is reciprocal.

President Coker stated the Board would now hear Valerie Akin's agenda request for a testing extension.

Secretary Ennis stated that Ms. Akin was granted one year to take her exams, that MSBC testing was disrupted only two weeks during April 2020 due to COVID-19, and all students effected have been accommodated. Secretary Ennis motioned that the Board deny Ms. Akin's request for a testing extension based on the determination that she was given fair and ample time to test and that the Board uphold Rule 5.19-C which requires candidates to complete brush-up hours if exams are not taken and passed within 365 days of school completion (reference attached). Board Member Bills seconded the motion and the motioned carried (4-0).

Rule 5.19-C Student Attendance /Failure to Apply for Examination: Where there is a break in attendance of at least three (3) years, but no more than five (5) years, students will be credited with two-thirds of the original hours acquired. Where such break in attendance exceed five (5) years, but less than ten (10), students are credited with one-half of the original hours acquired. After a break in attendance of ten (10) or more years, no hours are credited.

President Coker stated the Board would now hear Brooks Dunford. agenda request to waive testing requirements for Reciprocity licensing from California to Mississippi.

Secretary Ennis stated that because California does not currently have a reciprocal agreement with Mississippi, she motioned that the Board deny Ms. Dunford request to waive testing Reciprocity requirements in accordance with MSBC Rule 2.9. Board Member Bills seconded the motion, and the motion was carried (4-0).

Rule 2.9 Examination Eligibility for Out-of-State Applicants

A. Eligibility Requirements for Examination – Practitioner

1. Any person who is licensed by a state in which Mississippi does not have provision for reciprocity licensure, or any student who is at least seventeen years of age, can read, write, and speak English, and has successfully completed a course of training in another state which meets Mississippi's minimum requirements, but is not licensed in that state, may be eligible for licensure by examination.

President Coker stated the Board would now hear Jenny Bellfield's agenda request regarding license requirements for military transfer from Kansas to Mississippi. Attorney Cajoleas stated that recent legislation was passed to help expedite licensing and work permit processes for military active duty and transfer candidates and families to better enable them to continue working. Attorney Cajoleas recommend that he review Ms. Bellfield's case thoroughly to determine how recent military legislation applies and make a recommendation to the Board.

Secretary Ennis motioned that the Board table Ms. Bellfield's request pending further review and recommendation of Attorney Cajoleas.

President Coker stated the Board would now hear Cassandra Cain's agenda request to waive testing requirements for Reciprocity licensing from South Carolina to Mississippi.

Vice-President Stewart stated that because South Carolina does not currently have a reciprocal agreement with Mississippi, she motioned that the Board deny request to waive the MS state practical testing required of Reciprocity in accordance with MSBC Rule 2.9. Board Member Bills seconded the motion, and the motion was carried (4-0).

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President Coker stated the Board would now hear Stephanie Dempsey's agenda request to accept documentation bearing Colorado digital seal as valid to meet MS Reciprocity requirements.

Vice-President Stewart motioned that the Board to accept Ms. Dempsey's documentation bearing the Colorado digital seal as valid. Secretary Ennis seconded the motion, and the motion carried (4-0).

President Coker stated the Board would now hear Heip T Nguyen's agenda request regarding clarification of licensing requirements. The Board determined that Heipt T Nguyen is to appear before the license documentation was ne

President Coker stated the Board would now consider the agenda request submitted by a constituent with a felony conviction requesting permission to enroll in school.

Vice-President Stewart motioned that the Board approve the constituent's request to enroll in school. Board Member Bills seconded the request, and the motion was carried unanimously.

President Coker stated the Board would now hear Executive Director Lea's request that the Board recognize electronic digital state seals as valid on school transcripts from states who no longer use manually embossed seals.

A discussion was held, and the Board concluded that digital state seals will be accepted according to the discretion of MSBC licensing agents and administration.

President Coker proposed that, as part of MSBC's Covid-19 response, the Board would now consider extending the grace period for instructors to obtain required Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to 120 days from an instructor's license expiration date.

Attorney Cajoleas presented the Legal-Council Update to the Board.

Executive Director Lea presented the Executive Director Report to the Board which included financial and reciprocity reports for July 2020.

There were no public comments.

President Coker requested a motion to adjourn.

Secretary Ennis motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Vice-President Stewart seconded the motion, and the motion was carried (4-0).

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Public Present:

Andy Gipson, Attorney representing Blue Cliff College

Michael Maise - Blue Cliff College Senior Campus Director

Michelle Hammothe – Blue Cliff College Campus Director – Gulfport

(The Board permitted Ms. Hammothe to participate telephonically for medical reasons).

Brooks Dunford

Robyn Reeder

Jackie Acosta

Hiep Nguyen

Valerie Skins

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