

*The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.*

The **Connecticut Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors** held a meeting on March 7, 2023.

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**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Darrell L. McClam, Embalmer, Chairman  
Daniel Jowdy, Embalmer  
Edgar Rodriguez, Embalmer

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer  
Stacy Schulman, Hearing Officer  
Dianne Bertuccio, Board Liaison  
Jennifer Zakrzewski, Board Liaison  
Chris Andresen, DPH at 9:29 a.m.  
Robert Binkowski, Inspector, DPH  
Sean Seepersad, OHE

Guest: Nicole Paquette  
John Cascio  
Jesse Gomes  
Laura Soll  
Amanda Portelance  
Ed She  
Melissa Meelin-Miles  
Laura Soll  
Jonathan Green  
Liz Connelly  
Meaghan Christinat  
Michael S. Dugan  
Guest 860-xxx-9420

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The meeting convened at 9:12 a.m. All participants were present via Microsoft TEAMS.

**I. OPEN FORUM**

**II. MINUTES**

The December 20, 2022 minutes were reviewed and unanimously approved with all in favor on a motion by Mr. Jowdy, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

The Board discussed the issues surrounding the requirement for students to pass the National Board Exam. The Board unanimously agreed to pursue exploring the current examination requirements and to make recommendations to DPH upon motion by Mr. Jowdy, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez.

Attorney Schulman advised that DPH could arrange for someone from DPH to appear at a future meeting to discuss the program requirements.

**IV. FUNERAL DIRECTOR EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Board discussed the course requirements for funeral directors and the need to potentially remove courses that are not necessary to be licensed as a funeral director. The Board envisions separate licensure for embalming and funeral directors where someone could hold one license or two.

Sean Seepersad from the Office of Higher Education discussed the role of OHE and how curriculums are determined.

**V. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES**

Robert Binkowski reported on the number of funeral homes that are subject to complaints, lapse of licensure and/or have closed. He also reported that Robinson & Wright was sold to another company.

Chris Andresen advised that the legislature is proposing disposal of human remains by terramation under House Bill 6485.

The Board discussed the need to for Connecticut to have a reciprocity agreement with New Jersey. Attorney Gaither is going to work on the agreement.

The Board discussed the need to add a public member to the Board. Chair McClam will work on this issue.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darrell L. McClam - Chairman  
Board of Examiners of Embalmers and Funeral Directors