

BOARD FOR BARBERS AND COSMETOLOGY

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Board for Barbers and Cosmetology met at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, January 22, 2025, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation Offices, 9960 Mayland Drive, 2nd Floor, Board Room 4, Richmond, Virginia.

The following board members were present:

Margaret B. LaPierre
Gregory Edwards
Emmanuel Gayot
Claudia Espinoza
Marques Blackmon
Kimberly Lewis
Candice Benvenuti

The following board members were not present:

Oanh "Tina" Pham Kim Dang
Kailey Blakeney

The following DPOR staff present for all, or part of the meeting included:

Jeb Wilkinson, Chief to the Director
Kelley Smith, Executive Director
Tamika Rodriguez, Regulatory Operations Administrator
Wendy Duncan, Licensing Operations Administrator
Heather Garnett, Administrative Coordinator
Joseph Haughwout, Regulatory Affairs Manager

A representative from the Office of the Attorney General was present for the meeting.

Board liaison was not present for the meeting.

Ms. LaPierre, Board Chair, determined a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. LaPierre read the Department of Professional & Occupational Regulations mission and announced several meeting reminders.

Ms. Smith, Executive Director, explained the emergency egress procedure for board room 4.

**EMERGENCY
EGRESS**

The Board took the agenda under consideration.

**APPROVAL OF
AGENDA**

Mr. Edwards motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Mr. Blackmon.

The members voting “yes” were Ms. LaPierre, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Blackmon, Ms. Espinoza, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Gayot, and Ms. Benvenuti. There were no negative votes. The motion carried.

The Board took the minutes of the Board meeting on November 18, 2024, under consideration.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Benvenuti motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Edwards.

The members voting “yes” were Ms. LaPierre, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Blackmon, Ms. Espinoza, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Gayot, and Ms. Benvenuti. There were no negative votes. The motion carried.

Ms. LaPierre called the Boards attention to the communication found in the electronic agenda from Ozlem Okcu concerning the examinations translated into the Turkish language. Ms. Smith informed the Board that Turkish is not a language NIC translates. If the Board requests, Ms. Smith will contact NIC with this request.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no questions or discussion from the Board.

Ms. LaPierre opened the floor for public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matthew England addressed the Board with concerns using hard wax during the NIC esthetics examination. Ms. Smith stated this topic is on the agenda for the Board discussion.

Ozlem Okcu addressed the Board with the need for NIC examinations translated into Turkish and other languages not currently offered. The Board requested Ms. Smith contact NIC for this request.

Dalton King addressed the Board with concerns about unlicensed barbers and the need for unannounced barber shop inspections.

CASES

Licensing

In the matter of File Number **2024-02766, Bless Your Heart Nail Institute LLC**, Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the informal fact-finding conference summary, transcript, investigative file, report of findings, and exhibits.

File Number 2024-02766, Bless Your Heart Nail Institute LLC

Mandi Hammond from Bless Your Heart Nail Institute LLC appeared at the meeting in person and addressed the Board.

Mr. Gayot motioned to accept the recommendation and approve Bless Your Heart Nail Institute LLC's application for nail salon license, seconded by Mr. Blackmon.

There was no Board discussion.

The members voting "yes" were Ms. LaPierre, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Blackmon, Ms. Espinoza, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Gayot, and Ms. Benvenuti. There were no negative votes. The motion carried.

In the matter of File Number **2024-02399, Michael Oswaldo Castellanos-Rios**, Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the informal fact-finding conference summary, transcript, investigative file, report of findings, and exhibits.

File Number 2024-02399, Michael Oswaldo Castellanos-Rios

Michael Oswaldo Castellanos-Rios's counsel had contacted the board in advance of the January 6, 2025, Board meeting that was cancelled indicating that he did not intend to attend the meeting, but wanted a written personal statement provided instead. Staff distributed his personal statement, and the Board considered Oswaldo Castellanos-Rios's counsel's statement.

Michael Oswaldo Castellanos-Rios appeared at the meeting in person and addressed the Board.

Mr. Blackmon motioned to accept the recommendation and approve Michael Oswaldo Castellanos-Rios's application for tattoo license, seconded by Ms. Espinoza.

There was no Board discussion.

The members voting "yes" were Ms. LaPierre, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Blackmon, Ms. Espinoza, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Gayot, and Ms. Benvenuti. There were no negative votes. The motion carried.

In the matter of File Number **2024-02596, Roland Legers Iliff**, Board members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which consisted of the informal fact-finding conference summary, transcript, investigative file, report of findings, and exhibits.

File Number 2024-02596, Roland Legers Iliff

Roland Legers Iliff did not appear at the meeting in person, by counsel, or by any other qualified representative.

Mr. Blackmon motioned to accept the recommendation and deny Roland Legers Iliff's application for barber license, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti.

There was no Board discussion.

The members voting "yes" were Ms. LaPierre, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Blackmon, Ms. Espinoza, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Gayot, and Ms. Benvenuti. There were no negative votes. The motion carried.

Ms. Duncan called the Board's attention to the examination statistics that was provided in the electronic agenda.

The Board did not have any questions or discussion.

Ms. Rodriguez presented the regulatory report that was provided in the electronic agenda.

Mr. Haughwout informed the Board the General Review of Barbering and Cosmetology Regulations is currently being reviewed by the Executive Branch and will then be published.

The Board did not have any questions or discussion.

Ms. Smith presented the executive directors' report and licensing growth chart provided in the electronic agenda. Ms. Smith informed the Board, board staff is scheduled to meet with the Department of Education to discuss the cosmetology training hours. EPICx rollout for Barbers and Cosmetology is currently in wave 1b set to launch September 16, 2025. Ms. Smith also reported that HB 1667, which would allow children 16 years of age or older to serve in a licensed barbershop or cosmetology salon provided that the child is an apprentice, the child is participating in a work-training program in accordance with relevant law, or the child has obtained a cosmetology or barber license from the Board for Barbers and Cosmetology, passed full committee unanimously and will now go to the full body for consideration.

The Board did not have any questions or discussion.

REPORTS

Examination Statistics

Regulatory Report

Executive Director Report

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Smith reminded the Board the Governor signed into law a bill that amended the Code of Virginia adding section 54.1-700.1 enacting the Cosmetology Compact. Ms. Smith presented regulation changes recommended by board staff for implementing the Cosmetology Compact. Ms. Smith explained the executive branch will review the emergency regulations, then are published in the Virginia Register of Regulations. Mr. Haughwout confirmed the emergency regulations will become effective when published with the Virginia Register of Regulations. Ms. Smith explained the NOIRA will start the standard regulatory review process to replace the emergency regulations.

Cosmetology **Compact Emergency** **Regulations**

Mr. Blackmon motioned to adopt the emergency regulations as presented and to initiate a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action, seconded by Ms. Benvenuti

There was no Board discussion.

The members voting “yes” were Ms. LaPierre, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Blackmon, Ms. Espinoza, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Gayot, and Ms. Benvenuti. There were no negative votes. The motion carried.

Ms. Smith informed the Board that multiple complaints were received by board staff and Prov examinations concerning the safety of hot wax and redundancy of showing safety and proficiency in waxing with both hard and soft wax during the esthetics examination. Ms. Smith reminded the Board esthetics examination uses NIC’s core domain sections on New Client Preparation and Hair Removal of the Eyebrows using Simulated Soft Wax and Tweezing, and the NIC Esthetics Hair Removal of the Upper Lip with Hard Wax additional section.

NIC Exams

Ms. Espinoza motioned to remove the Esthetics Hair Removal of the Upper Lip with Hard Wax section of the Virginia Esthetics examination, seconded by Mr. Edwards.

There was no Board discussion.

The members voting “yes” were Ms. LaPierre, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Blackmon, Ms. Espinoza, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Gayot, and Ms. Benvenuti. There were no negative votes. The motion carried.

Ms. Smith presented an overview of the complaint process.

TRAINING **Complaint Process** **Overview**

REMINDERS

Ms. LaPierre reminded the Board of the next board meeting scheduled for March 31, 2025.

Next Board Meeting

There being no further business brought before the Board, Ms. LaPierre adjourned the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Adjournment

Margaret LaPierre, Board Chair

Brian P. Wolford, Board Secretary

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