

# ALABAMA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

## MINUTES Special/Called Board Meeting May 11, 2021

The Alabama Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects met on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at the Board's office located at 2777 Zelda Road in Montgomery to conduct special business of the Board. Due to the COVID 19 State of Emergency, the meeting was held virtually. The following members attended in-person: Ms. Lea Ann Macknally (Board Chair) and Ms. Julie Stephens (member). Mr. Chad Watkins (Board Secretary) attended virtually. Also on the conference call was Bettie Carmack (Assistant Attorney General). Others attending onsite were Mr. Keith Warren (Executive Director), Ms. Leigh Mooror (Board Administrator) and Ms. Renee' Reames (recording secretary). Chairperson Macknally called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. and, following Board roll call by Mr. Warren, all members were present.

Public notice of this special/called meeting was published on the Secretary of State's web site at [www.sos.alabama.gov](http://www.sos.alabama.gov) in accordance with the requirements of the Alabama Open Meetings Act and advertised on the Board's web site at [www.abela.alabama.gov](http://www.abela.alabama.gov).

Mr. Warren presented a copy of the proposed changes to the Board's statute previously prepared for the 2019 Legislative session.

The Board discussed proposed changes to the statute to present at the 2022 Legislative session, e.g., establishing a lapsed and reinstatement period to allow renewal of license, repealing the certificate of authorization requirement, adding an inactive status category, adding legal injunction authority, licensing fee increase, disciplinary fines increased, add CLARB record licensure requirement, etc.

Further discussions continued about proposed changes and consideration to renewing licenses that had lapsed after March 15<sup>th</sup> late deadline, e.g., requiring a late fee with re-application if license renewed within 12 months after license had expired (current reference as suspended) and add reinstatement within 5 years of expiration to include meeting current licensure requirements of proof of exam, annual licensing fees, reinstatement fee and annual CE requirements. Also adding an inactive fee (1/2 of active license fee) to allow licensee to place license on inactive status if notification received 30 days prior to expiration and establish requirements to activate license from inactive status to include a license fee, CE requirements, etc. The Board also reviewed statute Section 24 concerning payments and Section 25 concerning fees, along with repealing the certificate of authorization requirements, adding injunctive relief concerning unlicensed individuals and increasing the administrative fine maximum to \$5000 per violation.

Mr. Warren indicated that he would work with the Legislative Committee to develop a list of items to submit to the State's Legislative Service Agency to draft a proposed bill for the Board's review at the next meeting. The Board also discussed additional changes to the proposed bill to include the CLARB uniform standard project.

The Board also discussed the Alabama licensure examination and the following categories were considered: title and practice, continuing education, ethics and responsibility, registration (how to apply for licensure) and reciprocity. The Board discussed establishing an examination period of two weeks to complete and submit the open-book exam, and the exam contain 10-20 questions. Chairperson Macknally requested comments from the Board members about creating questions concerning the Board's law, rules and code of ethics.

Mr. Warren indicated that he would discuss with Alabama Interactive about creating an online exam for applicants and the Board discussed rotating questions among applicants from a pool of 40-50 questions.

Chairperson Macknally indicated that she was working with Mr. Rip Weaver in developing an initial draft of questions to present to the Board at the next meeting.

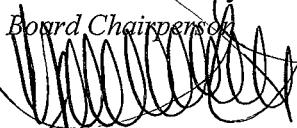
Chairperson Macknally announced that the next meeting of the Board was scheduled October 5, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. and the members would be advised about any change in the Board's meeting date and location.

There being no further business of the Board, Ms. Stephens made the motion that the meeting be adjourn and Mr. Watkins seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board and Chairperson Macknally adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lea Ann Macknally  
*Board Chairperson*

Keith E. Warren  
*Executive Director*

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