

Alabama Private Investigator Regulatory Board (APIB)

Minutes of Meeting

April 2, 2024

With proper and required notice provided to the Alabama Secretary of State and published on the Alabama Secretary of State's website, a meeting of the Alabama Private Investigator Regulatory Board was held on April 2, 2024, at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440, Montgomery AL.

Board members present are Chairman Charles Knight, Vice-Chairman Jim Casteel, Jeff Hammock, Darrel Tatum, Attorney Albritton, Will Parker, Claire Austin, Scott Hawk. Also attending are Claire Austin and Will Parker. Guests present are Honorable Romaine Shaw with the Alabama State Bar and Ryan , son of Scott Hawk. The meeting was called to order at 1030 a.m. by Chairman Charles Knight with a quorum of board members being present. Prayer by Vice-Chairman Jim Casteel

Upon review of the agenda, a motion to approve the agenda was made by Jim Casteel and seconded by Darrel Tatum. Upon review of the previous minutes, a motion to approve minutes was made by Jim Casteel and seconded by Scott Hawk.

Chairman Charles Knight addressed the board. No immediate concerns were noted. Board members were thanked for the work being provided. Will Parker and Claire Austin were recognized for the work they provided to the Board and the fiscal management they provided.

Scott Hawk was reappointed to his position with the APIB from the Alabama State Bar. The Honorable Romaine Shaw provided the oath of office. As required, Elections for Chairman and Vice-Chairman were held. Upon a motion from Jim Casteel and seconded by Darrel Tatum, the floor was opened for nominations and elections. Upon receiving nominations, the floor was closed. Charles Knight was nominated for Chairman by Jim Casteel and seconded by Darrel Tatum. No other board members were nominated. Nominations for Vice-Chair were proposed by Charles Knight and seconded by Scott Hawk. Upon closing the floor for other nominations, Voting was tabulated. Charles Knight was reappointed as Chairman with no oppositional voting counted. Jim Casteel was reappointed as Vice-Chairman with no oppositional votes provided. Jeff Hammock was reappointed as Secretary.

Claire Austin and Will Parker discussed the pending legislation and the landscape for the hearing scheduled today at 1:00 p.m. with all board members asked to attend. Regarding the prior sunset review report, Claire Austin met with the Public Examiners Office and any deficiencies reported during the sunset review are identified as corrected.

Regarding the sponsorship and apprenticeship requirements, there continues to be a need for sponsors in certain geographical areas of the state. The board discussed the need for training standards for both the apprentices and sponsors. Standardization of training materials and training aids among the APIB certified trainers is necessary to ensure accurate information is being pushed. Board members agreed that any training methods engaged should include exposure to actual fieldwork opportunities.

Will Parker provided the financial report with no negative data or concerns noted.

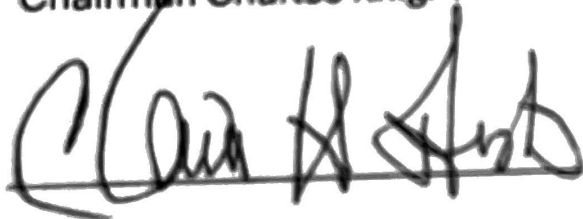
Vice-Chairman Jim Casteel addressed the board regarding SB224 and the hearing today. Jim Casteel will address the body with our objections and concerns regarding the proposed consolidation of boards. Other boards are expected to deliver similar objections to the legislation.

Scott Hawk addressed the resignation letter submitted by Eddie Cox and the bar complaint that he filed against Scott Hawk. The allegations in Eddie Cox's letter of resignation are considered false in all aspects. Discussion regarding the resignation letter and future actions of the board summarized that Chairman Charles Knight would address the allegation to the Governor's office in letter form. No further actions would be initiated by the board regarding the actions and abrupt resignation of Eddie Cox. Jeff Hammock asked to have the Attorney General draft the response to the Governor's office to ensure the board was compliant.

With no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by Jeff Hammock at 11:55 a.m. and seconded by Darrel Tatum. Without objection, the board terminated the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Knight", written over a horizontal line.

Chairman Charles Knight

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Claire H. Austin", written over a horizontal line.

Claire H. Austin, Executive Director