

ALABAMA PRIVATE INVESTIGATION BOARD

May 12, 2026, Board Minutes

With proper notice and time, the meeting was made public in a timely manner. The meeting was called to order at 10:33 am at the Board office, 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440.

There was a quorum established with members of the Board. Board members present were the following: Charles Knight, Jim Casteel, Ivan Gray, David Hill, Darrell Tatum, Stephanie Smith, and Sheriff Derrick Cunningham joined meeting at 11:30 AM. Scott Hawk joined via zoom.

Others present at the meeting were Steve Herndon, AG Legal Counsel and Management staff Will Parker, and Jacki Tucker.

*Approval of the Agenda 1st Motion-Jim Casteel 2nd Motion-Ivan Gray Motion Passed Unanimously

*Reading of the Minutes 1st Motion-Ivan Gray 2nd Motion-David Hill Motion Passed Unanimously

*Charles Knight Chairman's report: Chairman Knight thanked everyone for being here today, and for their serve on the Board.

*Will Parker announced that The Austin Group's contract will end on September 7, 2026, and the new contract is due August 20, 2026. The Austin Group employees, Will and Jacki, left the room while the Board went into Executive Session. After the Executive Session, Ivan Gray made the first motion, and David Hill made the second. The members discussed contract details, including daily operations, weekly renewals, and related responsibilities. The Board voted by roll call to approve a 5% increase for The Austin Group's management services contract. All members present voted in favor.

Parker, in his executive report to the Board, shared that APIB Board was over billed by the Service Division of Mail and contacted them to dispute charges. We are waiting for a decision. He stated that the day-to-day operations are operating smoothly and that the board is in good financial shape.

Attorney Steve Herndon asked about being approved for him to have a contract at \$150 an hour.

*There was discussion about Apprenticeships, Internships, Testing fees, and Agency licenses.

*OIDS PI's are still being paid \$70 hourly for these cases while Attorney's pay has increased to around \$100-150 hourly. The Association might send a letter to state.

*Jim asked if PI's are considered Mandatory reporters. Jim took a course for CASA. Should we all take this course or just consider reporting under common sense standards? May possibly have a speaker to certify us in CE's pertaining to this. It was decided to revisit this.

*34-25B-22 AL DHR for course. What's considered abuse and neglect? Are we going to make this course mandatory?

Sheriff Cunningham made motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Ivan Gray. The Board adjourned @ 12:06 pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 18 @ 1030 am



Charles Knight, Chairman



Claire H. Austin, Executive Director