IOWA BOARD OF MORTUARY SCIENCE
September 13, 2012
Lucas State Office Building, 5th Floor Conference Room #526
Des Moines, Iowa

Open Session Meeting Minutes

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order by Chair Brad Hawn at 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call:

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Norene Mostkoff, Public Member
Marty Mitchell, FD
Brad Hawn, FD
Barbara Teahen, FD
Rebecca Ervin, Public Member
Todd Kale, FD

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Kimberly Doehrmann, FD

STAFF PRESENT:
Susan Reynolds, Board Executive
Barb Huey, Bureau Chief
Pam Griebel, AAG
Barb Christiansen, Administrative Assistant

GUESTS PRESENT:
Suzanne Gebel, IFDA
Kevin Patterson, Mortuary Science Program Chair, DMACC

Review Agenda:

Approval of Minutes:
A motion was made by Mitchell to approve the June 14, 2012, minutes. A second was received from Mostkoff. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Reports:
Chairperson: No report.
Board Executive: No report.

Bureau Chief: Barb Huey reported to board members on the secure mail system the department is currently utilizing. Marvin Firch is the contact person for those who are having difficulty accessing secure mail.

AAG: Pam Griebel discussed the issue of conducting human and pet cremations in one location. She reported the board lacks any jurisdiction over pet cremation, but could address in rule form a funeral director's professional responsibilities with respect to assuring human and pet cremations are separated. Kale suggested that this subject needs to be discussed further in the rules committee. Griebel reported that the board has been informally asked about the issue in the past and has cautioned funeral directors to keep the practices separate. Formal rules would provide better guidance in the future. Iowa does not require a person to be a licensed funeral director to cremate pets.

Griebel reported Dr. Libbie withdrew his petition for waiver of the embalming requirements for licensure as a funeral director. There is no issue to resolve at the meeting as a result. He informed Griebel he may file a suit which, if filed, would be defended by the Attorney General. He would not be able to challenge a specific decision because he asked the board not to decide anything. As a more general topic, the board has discussed possible rulemaking about the interplay between Iowa Code chapter 156 and religious cultures and officials. Griebel suggested the board's rules committee review this issue. Griebel has dealt with religious issues in the past on behalf of the board and provided the board guidance when the board determined a religious organization practicing Islamic burial rights did not need a license from the board to conduct its practices. She also suggested the rules committee review the burial transit permit process as it relates to a funeral director's ability to transfer remains to a religious organization or family so they may bury their own dead as provided in section 156.2(4).

Applications:
Ryan Coburn submitted an application to serve an internship with the Caldwell-Raddatz Funeral Home. The funeral home is currently under a five-year disciplinary sanction by the Board. Administrative rules prohibit a funeral director from acting as a

preceptor if they are affiliated with a funeral home who has been disciplined in the last five years. The preceptor will be asked to resubmit his application at the end of the disciplinary period.

Rules Committee:
Marty Mitchell reported on the rules committee meeting held September 12th. Committee members met with Jill France, Bureau Chief of Vital Statistics to review the changes to vital record rules that impact mortuary science. The December meeting will focus on the proposed rules submitted by Kevin Patterson regarding responsibilities of preceptors and interns. Committee members need to review and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting December 12th. Committee will also begin review of crematory regulations and religious officials.

Closed Session:
A motion was made by Mitchell to enter into closed session at 10:24 a.m. to discuss confidential material related to applications and complaints according to Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1) (a) and (d). A second was received from Teahen. Roll call was taken.
Mostkoff – aye
Mitchell – aye
Hawn – aye
Teahen – aye
Ervin – aye
Kale – aye
Motion carried.

The board returned to open session at 11:03 a.m. and took the following action:

A motion was made by Teahen to close case complaints 10-019, 10-200 and 11-019. A second was received from Ervin. 5 – Aye, 1 - abstain (Mitchell), motion carried.

A motion was made by Teahen to close the following complaints, 10-007, 10-011, 10-018, 12-005, 12-006, 12-008, 12-010, 12-011, 12-012, 12-013 and 12-014. A second was received from Mitchell. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.

Future Board Meeting:
December 13, 2012

Adjournment:
A motion was made by Mitchell to adjourn the meeting at 11:04 a.m. A second was received from Ervin. All ayes, opposed none, motion carried.