

MORTUARY SCIENCE BOARD MEETING

Open Session Minutes

March 5, 2026 | 1:00 p.m.

Board Members present for all or part of the meeting:

David Moore, Funeral Director
Kelsey Lo, Public Member

John Parrish, Funeral Director
Marty Rieken, Funeral Director

Staff present:

Michele Christiansen, Executive Officer
Beth Jorgenson, DIAL Staff (virtual)
Lacy Hepp, DIAL Staff
Mike Jaeger, Investigator (virtual)
Kaylynn Munoz, Investigator

Charles Hill, Bureau Chief
Emily DeRonde, DIAL Staff (virtual)
Katrina Phillips, Assistant Attorney General
Matt Celentano, Investigator (virtual)

Public present:

Danielle Knapp, IFDA
Andrew Joseph (virtual)
Fred Retz (virtual)
Sean Lokmer (virtual)

Kevin Patterson, DMACC
Devin Hunter, Schmid Family Funeral Home (virtual)
Lance Angstman (virtual)

Call Meeting to Order

Call to Order by Rieken at 1:02 p.m.

Attendance Roll Call by Christiansen: Lo, aye; Parrish; aye, Rieken, aye; Moore, aye.

Quorum was established.

Discussion and Vote on Meeting Minutes

Motion by Moore to approve December 5, 2025 minutes.

Seconded by Parrish.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

New Business

- A. Legislative Updates** – Christiansen and DeRonde presented the changes to the rules pending approval of the notice of intended action as amended. Much discussion was had regarding the specific wording of the provisions and safety precautions.

Motion by Parrish to approve the Notice of Intended Action as amended.

Seconded by Lo.

Vote: Aye: All **Nay: None** **Abstaining: None**

- B. International Conference Update** – Andrew Joseph from The Conference discussed the meeting from last month in Kentucky. The conference was very informative and consisted of networking, education,

and information on grant programs. Discussions regarding board regulation and public protection were highly informative subjects.

Legislative Updates

The DIAL Licensing Bill is currently in legislation that allows for the Professional Licensure Division to add a new licensing database this summer. This database will standardize and streamline the process for all license types and will most likely standardize renewals cycles to 3 years by the licensee's date of birth. This will spread the work load for our licensing staff throughout the year. Amendments have been made from the original proposal. A fee study also changes the licensing fee schedule to be more consistent.

The Senate file 563 has approved guidelines for a Crematory Operator's license type. This bill would require applicants to complete a specialized course in cremation, approved by the board, from a nationally recognized organization. The board will need to create regulation and rules for this new position.

Closed

Motion by Lo to enter into closed session, pursuant to Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(a) to review or discuss records which are required or authorized by state or federal law to be kept confidential; Iowa Code section 21.5(1)(d) to discuss whether to initiate licensee disciplinary investigations or proceedings.

Seconded by Moore. Roll call vote.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

The board entered closed session at 1:58 p.m.

Motion by Moore to return to open session.

Seconded by Parrish.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

The board returned to open session at 3:19 p.m.

Public members were allowed to return to the meeting.

Action on Closed Session

Motion by Lo to approve December 5, 2025 closed session minutes.

Seconded by Moore.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Motion by Lo to pend case 25-0359 as discussed during closed session.

Seconded by Parrish.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Motion by Rieken to close cases 25-0438 and 25-0439 as discussed during closed session.

Seconded by Lo.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Motion by Parrish to approve the extended internship for 128550 and 127947 as discussed during closed session.

Seconded by Lo.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

Adjournment

Motion by Parrish to adjourn the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

Seconded by Lo.

Vote: Aye: All Nay: None Abstaining: None

Motion passed.

The next board meeting will be held on June 9, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.