

Georgia Occupational Regulation Review Council
Meeting Minutes: October 6, 2021

Introduction

Anna Miller recapped the minutes of last meeting.

Anna started a motion to approve meeting minutes from September 22nd GORRC Meeting Eight

Sam Teasley makes the motion

Kelly Dudley seconds the motion

The motion is approved

HB 476

Anna Miller speaks on the draft that has been sent to committee

Bill does not change how engineers and land surveyors are licensed

Only 4 professions have ever left the Secretary of State (SOS) office

41 professions are licensed by SOS office

Funding comparisons with Real Estate Commission - last 3 Fiscal Year percentage of fees to budget 72% (2019), 74% (2020) and 55% (2021)

Anna asks if council members have any questions

Stephan DeBaun has concerns about resources available and other professions raising similar arguments being administratively attached

Gabriel Sterling joins to speak about the savings and pros/cons of being attached to SOS

Kelly Dudley speaks to experience from SAO perspective of governing a licensing board

Michael Sullivan explains that bill has been 15 years in the making

Anna opens the floor for questions

Anna talks about proposals of fee increases, when will board vote on cost changes and is the board aware of the increase and how it will affect?

Russ Pennington responds – GA is among the lowest in fee costs; board is prepared to make changes; had discussions with several groups; board would approve proposed increases

Michael Sullivan says GA will remain among the lowest after increase is approved

Russ speaks that personal and business fees will be separate

Michael says business fees will likely be increases also at a later time

Anna asks how many complaints were brought before the council

Russ and Michael explain that because there's a perception that no resolution will come with filing a complaint so consumers may not file

Anna requests more data regarding complaints filed versus those that get resolved/prosecuted for report

Kelly asks for clarification as to the flow after a complaint is filed

Gabriel states the path is same as others; investigators present to board and the board renders a decision and then heads to the Attorney General's (AG) office

Russ says an investigator is assigned and then an investigative committee before being referred to the AG's office

Stephen DeBaun speaks that private lawsuits are sometimes filed in place of a complaint

Anna advises council to send any additional data points for the final report and states the vote will be completed the next meeting on Oct 13th

Anna Miller adjourns the meeting