

Louisiana Real Estate Commission
State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor

JEFF LANDRY
GOVERNOR



TAYLOR F. BARRAS
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

FEBRUARY 15, 2024
MEETING MINUTES

On Thursday, February 15, 2024, the Louisiana Real Estate Commission (“LREC” and/or “Commission”) conducted its regularly scheduled, monthly meeting in-person and at the Commission’s domicile office located at 9071 Interline Avenue, Baton Rouge, LA 70809 in accordance with La. R.S. 37:1430 *et seq* and other applicable law.

Commission Members Present:

Ms. Paula Duncan, Chair (Sup. Ct. Dist. 3)

Ms. Doneva Halphen (Sup. Ct. Dist. 1)

Ms. Synde Devillier, Secretary (Sup. Ct. Dist. 6)

Mr. Theodore Major (At-Large)

Mr. Tony Cornner (3rd Congress. Dist.)

Mr. Matt Ritchie (Sup. Ct. Dist. 4)

Mr. Jeff Free, Chair (Sup. Ct. Dist. 2)

Ms. Gladys Smith-Coward (Sup. Ct. Dist. 5)

Commission Members Absent:

Mr. Joseph Pappalardo, Jr. Vice Chair (Sup. Ct. Dist. 7) Mr. Rodney D. Greenup, Sr. (At-Large)

Ms. Hanna Chustz (Sup. Ct. Dist. 5)

Staff Present:

Ms. Summer S. Mire, Executive Director

Mr. Mark Gremillion

Mr. Thomas E. Devillier, Dep. Dir./Exec. Counsel

Ms. Telly Hollis

Ms. Allison Burnette

Ms. Allison OToole

Ms. Karen Carey

Ms. Courtney Stafford

Ms. Dusty Evans

Ms. Nikki Wallace

LOUISIANA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

February 15, 2024, *Meeting Minutes*

Page 2 of 4

Ms. Malissa Fowler

Ms. Sloane Watts

Others Present:

Ms. Kim Callaway

Ms. Kristie Garrison –Court Reporter

Mr. Wardell Coward

Mr. Taylor Hou

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Paula Duncan called the meeting to order at or about 10:00 a.m. A roll call was conducted in open meeting. See attendance detailed above. Commissioner Major led the invocation; and Chairman Duncan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

III. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 18, 2024 LEGAL & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Secretary Devillier made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Halphen, and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes of the January 18, 2024 meeting as written and circulated (Exhibit A).

IV. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 18, 2024 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Secretary Devillier made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Smith-Coward, and unanimously approved to adopt the minutes of the January 18, 2024 meeting as written and circulated (Exhibit B).

V. PERSONAL APPEARANCES (SEE OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT/RECORD)

1. Case No. 2023-2068 c/w 2020-1172; In re: Scott Craig Leggett, Jr.: Mr. Leggett requested an eligibility determination and applied for authorization to obtain a real estate license in accordance with R.S. 37:1430 *et seq.* Mr. Leggett was placed under oath by Ms. Garrison. Mr. Devillier presented information regarding hearing procedure and questioned Mr. Leggett, who confirmed on record that he waived objections to the introduction of the proposed *Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order* and related exhibits (Exhibit C). Commissioner Cornner made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Halphen, to introduce all exhibits submitted *en globo*. Mr. Devillier provided the commissioners with additional information on the case, including details that led to Mr. Leggett appearing before the Commission. Mr. Leggett then proceeded with his testimony. Commissioner Cornner made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Halphen, to deny Mr. Leggett's authorization to obtain a real estate license in accordance with law. The motion

LOUISIANA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

February 15, 2024, *Meeting Minutes*

Page 3 of 4

carried 5-1 with Commissioner Major voting in opposition. Commissioner Free abstained from voting.

VI. CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION – ARELLO COMMISSIONER’S COLLEGE

Chair Duncan presented Commissioners Devillier, Chustz (absent), Free, and Duncan with a certificate for completing the Commissioner’s College program provided by the Association of Real Estate License Law Officials (ARELLO).

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Budget. Commissioner Major reported regarding the Commission’s budget report (Exhibit D).

2. Education. Secretary Devillier asked the commissioners to begin thinking about ideas for the 2025 mandatory course and decide if they would like to have a broker-specific mandatory course next year.

3. Legal / Legislative. Mr. Devillier provided an update on legislation the Commission discussed during the last Legal/Legislative Committee meeting on January 18. Mr. Devillier stated that the Commission was able to find a sponsoring author for the legislation, Rep. Polly Thomas (Metairie). Rep. Thomas has provided the Commission with a draft of that legislation and it has been pre-filed with House staff.

Mr. Devillier continued to *Case 2022-1765: In re: Nicole E. Burdett Waguespack; Consideration of proposed Consent Agreement and Final Order*. Mr. Devillier presented the case to the Commissioners along with the consent agreement signed by Ms. Waguespack (Exhibit E). Commissioner Smith-Coward made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Major, to approve the consent agreement as presented. The motion passed 6-1 with Commissioner Cornner voting in opposition.

Mr. Devillier continued to *Consideration of Executive Order JML 24-05*. Mr. Devillier explained to the commissioners that Governor Landry issued this Executive Order on January 12, 2024, and directed them to page five, sections two and three of the Order (Exhibit F). Mr. Devillier stated that the Commission is currently in compliance with the order, as the Commission requires all applicants for a license to complete a background check with the Louisiana State Police and FBI prior to becoming licensed.

4. Standardized Forms. None.

5. Technology. Commissioner Smith-Coward stated that equipment needs to be replaced every five years. This being the fifth year, the Commission’s IT Director Karen Carey will be looking to replace technology equipment for staff members.

Commissioner Smith-Coward also mentioned that ARELLO will be hosting a

LOUISIANA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

February 15, 2024, *Meeting Minutes*

Page 4 of 4

webinar on artificial intelligence. Ms. Carey provided an overview of the potential impacts of artificial intelligence on the real estate industry. Ms. Mire encouraged members of the Commission and staff to attend the webinar.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

1. Strategic Plan. Ms. Mire stated that the current strategic plan (Exhibit G) continues through 2026. Ms. Mire reviewed the document with the commissioners and provided updates on the progress of each strategic priority.

2. Annual Reporting. Ms. Mire directed the commissioners to multiple annual reports the Commission submits to the Division of Administration and oversight committees in the Louisiana House of Representatives and Louisiana Senate. Ms. Mire reviewed the reports for Act 270, Act 483, and Act 590 with the commissioners.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. NEW BUSINESS

None.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Devillier made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Cornner, and unanimously approved.