The North Carolina Auctioneer Licensing Board met on Monday, November 16, 2009, in the Fuquay-Varina office. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. Members present were: Chairperson Jesse G. Meeks, Vice Chairperson Keith J. Pierce, William B. Lilly, Lloyd (Mickey) Meekins, Jr., and Jean W. Woolard. Also present: Executive Director Teresa L. Watson and Garris Neil Yarborough, Counsel to the Board.

Chairperson Meeks inquired of each member if there were any known conflicts of interest or an appearance of conflicts with respect to any matters coming before the Board during this meeting and each member indicated there were none.

Minutes of the meeting held on October 12, 2009, were approved as recorded on motion by Member Woolard. Member Lilly seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

At this time, Board Counsel Yarborough advised that he was continuing his work on the proposed auction firm rule changes. Next, the CE Committee gave an update regarding their progress with providing continuing education classes across North Carolina and presented information from Member Meekins and Betty O’Neal, Business Resource Center Director with Stanly Community College, for the Board’s review. Following a lengthy discussion on this matter with the State of North Carolina being divided into three (3) districts, Eastern – Fayetteville, Kinston, and Williamston; Central – Durham and Winston-Salem; and, Western – Cherokee and Hickory, to serve as CE locations, Member Meekins moved to instruct Board Counsel Yarborough to prepare Requests for Proposals which would be provided to all currently approved CE Sponsors allowing each sponsor to bid on providing CE for each district with the following stipulations: (a) each sponsor’s bid would include a flat rate of $10.00 per attendee;
and, (b) each sponsor’s bid would include a four (4) hour session with one (1) hour being a Law/Rules Video provided by the Licensing Board. Member Lilly seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Member Meekins further moved to approve Board Counsel Yarborough’s proposal of $2,500.00, plus the cost of production and 50 DVDs, to record the above-referenced one (1) hour Law/Rules Video, and instructed Mr. Yarborough to obtain the production costs and make this information available to the Board Members within 30 days. Vice Chairperson Pierce seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

At this time, Board Counsel Yarborough advised that he would be presenting a form letter at the December 14, 2009, Board meeting which would be used by the Board in regulating agents who contract with sellers and then sell those items on-line. Next, Director Watson gave an update on the vacant Administrative Assistant position. Following a discussion on this matter with Ms. Watson recommending the delay of filling the vacant position until next fiscal year, Member Meekins moved to proceed with advertising the Administrative Assistant position. Chairperson Meeks seconded the motion which carried with Members Lilly and Woolard voting “nay.”

The Board next considered the Probable Cause Subcommittee Recommendations and the following motion was made. Member Meekins moved to accept the Probable Cause Subcommittee Recommendations. Vice Chairperson Pierce seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Member Woolard did not participate in the discussions nor did she vote on these matters involving the Probable Cause Subcommittee Recommendations due to her participation on the Probable Cause Subcommittee.

Director Watson provided each Board Member with a copy of the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 for their review. Following this review, Vice Chairperson Pierce moved to accept the Audit Report for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 as presented. Member Meekins seconded the motion which with Members Lilly and Woolard abstaining.
Next, in compliance with G.S. 143-318.12, the following schedule of regular meetings of the Board was set.

January 11, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
February 8, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
March 8, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
April 12, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
May 10, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
June 14, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
July 12, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
August 9, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
September 13, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
October 11, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
November 8, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office
December 13, 2010  9:00 a.m.  Fuquay-Varina Office

Director Watson was instructed to prepare a letter to the NAA from the Board Chairperson welcoming the NAA to the State of North Carolina during their July 2010 Convention. Next, a request was presented from Steven Cates, a prospective Apprentice Auctioneer Applicant, for consideration of Joseph (Bud) Johnson, NCAL #8452, and Nancy Johnson, NCAL #8484, as Apprentice Sponsors. Discussion was held regarding this request and staff was instructed to advise Mr. Cates that neither Joseph nor Nancy Johnson met the five (5) years of recommended experience in the auction profession. Then, financial information concerning the individual month of October 2009 was reviewed by the Board.

At this time, other Board matters were discussed. Member Lilly inquired about the “Open Meetings Law” in reference to Board Members dining together before a scheduled Board Meeting.
and Board Counsel Yarborough reviewed this Law with the Members. Ms. Watson informed the Members that, as instructed at the October 12, 2009, Board Meeting, other hotel locations in the area had been inspected and that their current hotel remained the best option.

Next, Director Watson informed the Board that she had attended the mandated ethics presentation and provided each Member with a handout entitled “Gift Ban Laws for Public Servants.” Ms. Watson also provided each Member with a copy of a congratulatory letter received from Representative Pryor Gibson on the new office building.

Following the review and approval of applications for licensing, the Board confirmed the next meeting as Monday, December 14, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fuquay-Varina office. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa L. Watson
Executive Director