The North Carolina Auctioneer Licensing Board met on Monday, October 12, 2009, in the Fuquay-Varina office. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 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 welcomed everyone and congratulated new Members Lilly and Woolard on their appointment to the Board and Member Meekins reappointment 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 September 14, 2009, were approved as recorded on motion by Member Meekins. Vice Chairperson Pierce seconded the motion which carried with Members Lilly and Woolard abstaining.

Next, a discussion was held concerning the “Final Project Fund Requisition” for the new office building. Following a review of the requisition, Member Meekins moved to approve the “Final Project Fund Requisition” and apply the balance remaining in the project fund to the new office building mortgage. Vice Chairperson Pierce seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Also discussed at this time was the replacement of trees that did not survive the summer. Member Woolard moved to allow the Executive Director to negotiate with a landscape contractor, up to an amount not to exceed $2,000.00, to replace the trees. Member Meekins seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
At this time, Board Counsel Yarborough advised that he and Ms. Watson had attended the “Rulemaking 201” training sessions that were provided by the North Carolina Office of Administrative Hearings and that he would continue with the proposed auction firm rule changes.

The CE Committee gave an update regarding the progress of their negotiations with Steve Proffitt and advised that Mr. Proffitt would not be available to provide continuing education classes until possibly the renewal period 2011/2012. CE Committee Member Meekins advised that he had also been discussing with Kurt Bachman concerning his ability to provide continuing education classes across North Carolina. After providing this information, **Member Meekins moved to proceed with obtaining Mr. Bachman’s services, through approved CE Sponsor Stanly Community College, for providing CE classes across North Carolina up to an amount not to exceed $12,000.00.** Vice Chairperson Pierce seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Following a discussion with Betty O’Neal, Business Resource Center Director with Stanly Community College, it was determined that obtaining Mr. Bachman’s services through CE Sponsor Stanly Community College is not possible. After additional discussion, Ms. O’Neal will make a decision concerning submitting a proposal from herself to become a CE Sponsor.

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

Director Watson presented a request from the NAA for the consideration of addition of new CE courses and a request from Mendenhall School of Auctioneering for the consideration of the addition of a new CE instructor and the addition of a new CE course. Following a review of the
provided materials from the NAA, Vice Chairperson Pierce moved to approve the addition of the CE courses entitled “Technology,” “UCC” and “Appraisals” for the NAA. Member Lilly seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Following a review of the provided materials from Mendenhall School of Auctioneering, Member Lilly moved to approve the addition of a new CE instructor, Albert A. Ward, and the addition of a new CE course entitled “Customer Service Made Simple.” Member Meekins seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

At this time, Director Watson provided the results of the October 1, 2009, auctioneer examination which were as follows: 11 examinees with 11 passing. Also at this time, financial information concerning the individual month of September 2009 was reviewed by the Board.

Member Meekins moved to go into Closed Session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.18 to discuss personnel matters. Vice Chairperson Pierce seconded the motion which carried unanimously. The Board went into Closed Session at 9:50 a.m. and returned to Open Session at 10:05 a.m.

Upon returning to Open Session, Member Meekins moved that Investigator Ralph A. Southerland’s hourly rate be increased to $20.00 an hour and that Receptionist Barbara A. Phillips’s hourly rate be increased to $14.00 an hour. Vice Chairperson Pierce seconded the motion which carried unanimously. Member Meekins then moved that the Director initiate the recruitment process for the vacant Administrative Assistant position. Vice Chairperson Pierce seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

At this time, other Board matters were discussed. Ms. Watson was instructed to “check out” other hotel locations in Fuquay-Varina for the Board Members’ stay while attending Board meetings. Member Meekins led a discussion on “on-line” auctions which was carried over from the September 14, 2009, Board meeting. Following this discussion, Board Counsel Yarborough advised that he would be preparing a form letter that would be used by the Board in regulating agents who
contract with sellers and then sell those items on-line.

Following the review and approval of applications for licensing, Member Lilly moved to change the November Board meeting date to November 16, 2009, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fuquay-Varina office. Member Meekins seconded the motion which carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa L. Watson
Executive Director