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***State of Louisiana Board of Barber Examiners  
Board Meeting Minutes June 12, 2022  
Board Office Conference Room, Baton Rouge, Louisiana***

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Board President Rebecca Villeneuve called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. Present were Board Members Kedrian Landrew, Gina Moreau, Marlon Lewis, and Executive Director Latrice Matthews. Also Present Shawn and Sheena Boston of BosMan's Barber College. Absent, Board Vice President Cory Dawsey.

Board President Rebecca Villeneuve presented the minutes of March 13, 2022.

***M/Landrew, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Lewis to approve the minutes as read. Mc***

Board President Villeneuve called for a motion to suspend the Regular Order of Business to hear New Business, A presentation from Shawn and Sheena Boston of BosMan's Barber College, Shreveport, Louisiana.

***M/Landrew, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Lewis to suspend the regular order of business. Mc***

Mr. Shawn Boston introduced himself as a licensed barber of 30 years, instructor for maybe 26 or 25 years, shop owner for 20, and school owner for going on 12. Nationally known across the U.S. for shows and competing and teaching. Mr. Boston stated that he wanted to talk today about moving forward making the Louisiana Barber Board better if possible. One way would be to raise up all the licenses that the barbers, shop, instructors and school owners have to carry. Prices have gone up and barbers are making some nice money now and it's time to increase the licenses to help the board improve. Mr. Boston said in Shreveport haircuts are starting at \$30 and he has barbers in his shops that are getting \$50 to \$100 per haircut. Barbers are making money and the barber licenses could be increased between \$75 to \$100. Instructors between \$90 and \$140. Shop owners between \$40 and \$60 a year. Schools \$100 to \$160. The extra money could go towards a set site for maybe 24 chairs and we could have a stationary spot for the barbers to come to, which would make it lighter on the board members if they can't travel at times to accommodate the board. Any maybe you could have set dates to give the students more knowledge of when the board is coming to help put some pep in their step to come to school every day.

Also two, for the students that have completed the course, the school and a shop owner could come up with a certification and a notarized letter stating that this student is qualified to go into a shop to service people properly. The letter could be then sent in to the barber board and the barber board approves it, and then that would give that student the shop experience until board comes. Kind of like what the apprentices do.

And also we should kick back the annual meeting for the instructors to meet with new barber board members to know what's going on and what styles you looking for now, either in person or via zoom.

Mr. Boston stated that he probably should address his last one to the apprenticeship board. As a school owner we don't allow a student to leave my school to go to his school and he owes me money. That school owner makes sure that student is cleared through me. Sometimes a student will drop out of school and owe the school money and get into the apprenticeship program fancy free. Mr. Boston said he thinks the apprenticeship program should do a background check to make sure that student is cleared from that school before they can register into the apprenticeship program.

Mr. Boston stated that was pretty much it, he knows what he has to do on his part with his students from the last few incidents with them reflects back to him, and he would like to make the industry better for those coming behind him.

Board President Villeneuve asked other than some of the suggestions you have, what is it that you feel like we are not doing? Mr. Boston stated we should have a set date for the test for the whole year. Board Member Landrew explained that you can't really have a set date for testing because all students don't finish at the same time and to have a test for just a few students would not be effective. Board President Villeneuve also explained that it would not be economical to create an expense of sending board members to let's just say north Louisiana for an exam for only a few students, and also holidays switch around every year. We have meetings once every quarter and we also have our testing once a quarter in each area New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Shreveport, Monroe and we actually have a lot of test. 40 years ago when I tested it was 2 boards a year. 1 in Shreveport and 1 in Baton Rouge and that was it, and if you graduated after you would have to wait until the next test. So as far as testing we're pretty generous. Board President Villeneuve further explained as far as a facility, that's a whole nother avenue. Board Member Marlon Lewis agreed saying you would probably be looking at around 3 or \$400,000 to half a million to build a new facility for testing unless you buy something already built, and state code is not going to allow you to build something without spending over \$300,000 just in coding, fire systems and more just because it's a state building.

Board Member Moreau stated to Mr. Boston that those are all great ideas but what we're doing is trying to tell you the reasons why we do things the way we do. Mr. Boston replied that he was there to listen and to try and understand. Board Member Lewis stated that he's a new board member and he's been barbering for 30 years and so that probably means we started about the same time and I'm actually impressed with all of the suggestions that you have and am probably 80% in agreement with most of them and things evolve. I am new and I am learning the system in terms of how soon we test and so far I believe it's been pretty good. When I tested over 30 years ago I waited at least 3 months. But I am very impressed with your presentation.

Board President Villeneuve asked Mr. Boston to further explain wanting to know when the test are. How long do you allow them to go to earn their 1500 hours? Mr. Boston replied that we allow them at least 1 year. Ms. Sheena Boston explained that it makes a difference knowing when the test are because we're losing some during that waiting period between the boards.

Board President Villeneuve questioned if the student would after spending 1500 hours in school and spending the money to go to school, give up their careers for having to wait 2 months. Absolutely Ms. Boston replied. This is a new generation of kids. Board Member Lewis stated that he's not saying that we need to test more frequently but he does agree that a lot of kids get lost in the absence, however it's not our job to fix that. Board Member Landrew suggested that maybe there was something the school could do to keep them interested. Board Member Moreau agreed. Mr. Boston asked what would be wrong with allowing the student to go into the shop and allowing the school and shop owner to make that decision. Board Member Landrew replied because that student may not want to come out of the shop once they are in that environment. Mr. Boston asked what was the difference between an apprentice in a shop and a student. Board Member Landrew explained that the apprentice has a master barber that is there teaching that apprentice. Mr. Boston asked do you really think a master barber is teaching an apprentice the proper way to cut and sanitation and all that. Board Member Landrew stated that he was an apprentice and he was properly trained by his master barber. Board President Villeneuve replied that the same could be said for some schools. When we see students at the board they're not all always ready to be there. Board Member Lewis explained that they can't be in the shops because it's a matter of the law. Board President Villeneuve stated that it takes from the professionalism if we allow someone to go into a shop and work and they haven't been officially tested by our board. Well how does an apprentice work in a shop, questioned Mr. Boston. Because it's a totally different program and that person is working with a master barber. Board Member Lewis explained he was one of the first people in Louisiana to have an apprentice back in 1996. Everybody that he's had under his license has owned a shop or owns a shop. I taught them not only how to be a barber but how to own a shop and how to be community involved. There may not be many master barbers that will take that comb out of that apprentice's hand and show them but it's happening and you may not know it happening. But what it sounds like what you're asking is for a temporary apprentice license until they take their board. That's how I would frame that up and I don't know if we make that decision or the apprentice program. I don't even know if it's a good decision but I know that what you're asking for. I wouldn't be for creating a whole nother way of getting them in the shop. Board Member Moreau stated that might be something if they completed 4000 hours. They would have to go until they have the 4000 hours.

Board Member Moreau explained that she did not let her apprentices do anything for at least a year and it cost her to have them because she paid them minimum wage and as soon as they get their license they leave. Board President Villeneuve explained that although an apprentice is in a shop working, they are also in the program 4000 hours, way longer than a student so there is that sacrifice and they are putting in more time. Mr. Boston said he really didn't come to talk about the apprenticeship program but it came up and he's not knocking what you guys have said about apprenticeship. I've read the apprenticeship documentation and she's probably the only one doing it right, an apprentice is supposed to be paid by the hour. Board Member Lewis stated actually that's not true, they changed that rule about 25 years ago that we can charge booth rental. Mr. Boston stated that he read they have to be paid. Board Member Moreau again stated to Mr. Boston that everything he said is spot on and she understands, but there are reasons these things are happening the way they are happening. It's disheartening to think that a student would give up on everything just to have to wait to test, but you can't make people see things the way you see them or make them want it, they have to want it for themselves. Mr. Boston replied that he understands. Mr. Boston asked President Villeneuve if there was anything else that she wanted to

ask. No, I think I pretty much am good. Board Member Moreau also commented that she does not agree that a student should be able to get into the apprenticeship program and owe the school money. Board Member Lewis agreed. Mr. Boston said he was going to ask that to the apprentice program. Mr. Boston said he also wanted to ask, the tools for board, is it ok to use enhancements. Board President Villeneuve said the board is just the basics not a hair show. Board Member Lewis said you're probably going to fail if you use enhancements because you're covering up something. That's what enhancements are, to cover up your mistakes. Mr. Boston disagreed that enhancements are just that, to enhance the haircut. Board Member Lewis explained that for barbers such as you, myself, or Kedrian it is, but for a student it's going to be to cover up some mistakes. Mr. Boston asked as soon as the workshop is together to let him know so he can know what he needs for his students so they don't have to make extra trips anymore. Board Member Lewis said he's heard good things about his school and his students. Board Member Moreau agreed. Board President stated that we would be getting with them sooner rather than later with the workshop. Board President Villeneuve stated that we're going to go on cause we have a time thing and we're going to continue with our meeting and called for a motion to start a closed meeting with the board members.

*M/Landrew, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Moreau. Mc*

#### NEW BUSINESS

*M/Landrew, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Moreau to approve the New Business. Mc*

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board President Villeneuve reported having been working with Executive Director Matthews to come up with some dates for the workshop but it's been really hard to get everybody's dates together. We're going to look at some dates and try to accommodate everybody but it might get to the point where we might have to pick a date where not maybe everybody can be there because it needs to be done.

*M/Landrew, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Lewis to approve the President's Report. Mc*

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Please see attachment

Executive Director Matthews reported having completed this year's Agreed Upon Procedures by CPA Michael Glover with no findings. However, Executive Director Matthews mentioned a new addition to the audit including the examination documents, and the importance of scoring and grading the students correctly with two checks.

## Financials

Executive Director Matthews reported the Total License Revenue for period ending March 31, 2022 is \$299,855 which included Apprentice Licenses \$16,552, Barber Licenses \$211,873, Instructor Licenses \$8,790, Reciprocity \$780, School Licenses \$1,760, New Shop Licenses \$3,180, Shop Licenses \$48,770, and Student Licenses \$8,150. Total Income for period ending March 31, 2022 budgeted \$494,500 vs actual \$351,439 for a difference of \$143,061. As noted, Total Expense for period ending March 31, 2022 budgeted \$490,375 vs actual \$118,680 for a difference of \$371,695.

***M/Lewis, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Landrew to approve the Executive Director's Report. Mc***

## BOARD MEMBERS' REPORT

Board Member Kedrian Landrew did not have anything to report in his area.

Board Member Gina Moreau reported that there needs to be two checks to fail someone and she was in the back by herself last time. Board President Villeneuve stressed that it has to be two regardless if it's a fail or a pass and that these things could be audited and have to be done right. Board Member Lewis stated he doesn't mind floating. Board Member Landrew stated that it would be best for Board Member Lewis to stay in one area because he's still new and learning. Board Member Moreau also wanted to fill Board Member Landrew in that the students of the testing school have to have their supplies for board at their station and not in the supply room. Board President Villeneuve said to keep down confusion for the other students that don't know why the students are doing that, they should all have their supplies at their station. Board Member Landrew stated that had been going on since he's been on the board but agreed that they should have their supplies at their station. Board Member Lewis asked if other schools do it. Executive Director Matthews and Board Member Landrew said yes. Board President Villeneuve stated she was unaware that was going on and let's just make everybody have everything at their stations.

Board Member Marlon Lewis reported that the test overall went well and the workshop is going to help not only the board but the instructors on what we're looking for. I am new and learning. Board Member Lewis reported the school J's asked if a board could be had at their school, but it may not work because of the number of chairs they have.

***M/Landrew, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Moreau to approve the Board Member's Report. Mc***

## OLD BUSINESS

Executive Director Matthews recommended Dupre's Professional Barber College, Opelousas for final approval. Their 6 month probationary period is up and they have continued to meet our

requirements and have 11 students enrolled. Things are going well and word has gotten out that they are open and interest has picked up.

***M/Landrew, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Lewis to Final Approve Dupre's Professional Barber College. Mc***

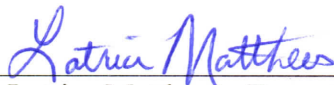
Board President Villeneuve recommended that we require the style cut first, once that is scored they move on to their taper cut. No tapering is allowed in the style cut, save that for the taper cut. The taper has to be a two finger taper all over. Board Member Lewis said he is in agreement with this and the two finger will take care of a lot of the problems. He also agreed that the taper first idea would be hard on a full head of hair and would not be easy for a student. He's satisfied with the recommendation. Board Member Landrew stated that we need to do better with communication on the workshop dates and responding to text messages. The tentative dates agreed upon was July 31 and August 1 Baton Rouge, August 14 and August 15 Monroe.

***M/Landrew, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Lewis to approve Old Business. Mc***

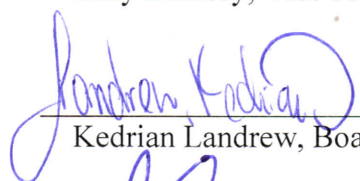
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

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Rebecca Villeneuve, President

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Cory Dawsey, Vice President



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Latrice Matthews, Executive Director

  
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Kedrian Landrew, Board Member

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Gina Moreau, Board Member

  
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Marlon Lewis, Board Member