

## **Alabama Private Investigation Board (APIB)**

### **Minutes**

**November 18th, 2025**

With proper and required notice provided to the Alabama Secretary of State and published on the Alabama Secretary of State's website, a meeting of the Alabama Private Investigator Regulatory Board was held on November 18, 2025, at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1440, Montgomery AL

Present were Chairperson Charles Knight, Vice-Chairman Jim Casteel, Jeff Hammock, Ivan Gray, Darrel Tatum and Stephanie Smith with quorum of board members being present. Attending via zoom was Scott Hawk. In attendance there was executive director, Claire Austin, Will Parker, Andy Crowder, Legal Counsel and David Hill of APIA. attended as a guest, the meeting was called to order at approximately 10:30 AM.

Ivan Gray offered a Prayer. Upon closure, the board reviewed the agenda. A motion from Jeff Hammock was made to approve the agenda, with a second by Ivan Gray with the board unanimously approved the agenda.

Upon review of the minutes by the board, a motion to approve the minutes was offered by Ivan Gray and a second by Darrel Tatum. The board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from the July meeting of the meeting.

New Board Member, Stephanie Smith, was sworn in by Claire Austin and welcomed by all members.

Chairman Knight welcomed everyone attending and thanked the executive directors for their continued great work and efficiency.

From the executive director's report, Austin stated that things have been running smoothly with board approximately 730 licensed investigators that Will does a great job of keeping renewals, and applicants for licensures daily.

Will Parker provided that at present there were renewals, apprentices, agency licenses and sponsor, and 730 licensed investigators.

There are several active complaints pending. Mr. Parker provided the financial report for the board members. The Board is in sound financial shape.

Claire Austin offered meeting date for the year 2026 as follows.

Tuesday, February 17

Tuesday, May 12

Tuesday, August 18

Tuesday, November 16

Each begins at 10:30 A.M.

All board members agreed on meeting dates. Austin stated that we can certainly call for additional meetings in the year when necessary.

Claire Austin offered that the board approve the certification of new rules, Jim Casteel made motion to certify Ivan Gray seconded the motion, all approved.

Andy Crowder, Legal Counsel stated that the Investigative Committee did review five cases prior to the Board meeting for disciplinary action. The Attorney General's report provided that 5 cases were reviewed for disciplinary action and dismissed.

Elections of officers were held, a motion to elect Charles Knight for Chairman was made by Jeff Hammock and seconded by Darrell Tatum, all voted in favor.

Charles Knight made the motion that Jim Casteel be elected as Vice Chairman, Darrel Tatum seconder, all voted in favor. Jim Casteel made the motion that Stephanie Smith me elected as secretary, Ivan Gray seconded and all voted in favor.

In new business there was discussion of reviewing our legislative needs in the upcoming session as far as housekeeping and clarification of aspects of the latest passed legislation.

At approximately 11:34 AM motion to adjourn was offered by Jeff Hammock with a second from Ivan Gray, it was unanimous to adjourn

Charles Knight, Chairman -



Claire H. Austin, Executive Director

