

## VIRGINIA AUCTIONEERS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Virginia Auctioneers Board met on April 1, 2026 at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

The following members were present for all or part of the meeting:

Betty Bennett (Auctioneer)  
Angela Smith-Mackey (Citizen Member)  
Josh Puffenbarger (Auctioneer)  
Douglas Sinclair (Auctioneer)

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Laura McClintock, Director  
Steve Kirschner, LRPD Director  
Kate Nosbisch, Executive Director  
Ecila Williams, Licensing Operations Administrator  
Kyle Mathews, Regulatory Operations Administrator  
Davon Jones, Administrative Coordinator  
Tom Payne, CID Director  
Free Williams, Director of Adjudication  
Elizabeth Frye, Adjudication Specialist  
Jennifer Sayegh, Policy and Legislative Affairs Manager  
Eric Beidel, Digital and Communications Manager

Adrianna Cowan-Waddy (Citizen Member) was not present with regrets.

Elizabeth Peay, Assistant Attorney General from the Office of the Attorney General, was present.

Ronald Bledsoe, BPOR Liaison, was not present with regrets.

Members of the Audience:

Jarrold Hines, Farmer Auctions Representative  
Charlie Watts, Virginia Auctioneers Association  
Logan Eukd, Senator Reeves Representative

Finding a quorum of the Board present, Ms. Bennett, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

**Call to Order**

Ms. Bennett and Ms. Nosbisch advised the Board of the emergency evacuation procedures.

**Emergency  
Evacuation  
Procedures**

Mr. Sinclair moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Puffenbarger seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Bennett, Puffenbarger, Sinclair and Smith-Mackey.

**Approval of  
Agenda**

Mr. Puffenbarger moved to approve the minutes for the following date:  
Auctioneer Board Meeting, October 1, 2025

**Approval of  
Minutes**

Mr. Sinclair seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by  
members: Bennett, Puffenbarger, Sinclair and Smith-Mackey.

Ms. Nosbisch welcomed and introduced Ms. Laura McClintock as the new Director  
and Mr. Kyle Mathews as the new Regulatory Operations Administrator.

**Welcome and  
Introductions**

There was no public comment.

**Public Comment  
Period**

Mr. Sinclair recused himself from the meeting for discussion and deliberation of  
the file.

**Recusal of Board  
Member**

Regarding **File Number 2025-01635, Neoclassic Auctions, LLC.**, the Board  
members reviewed the record of the Informal Fact-Finding Conference, which  
consisted of the case file, transcripts and exhibits, and the Summary of the  
Informal Fact-Finding Conference.

**File Number:  
2025-01635,  
Neoclassic  
Auctions, LLC.**

No representative was present at the meeting to address the Board.

Mr. Puffenbarger moved to accept the violations in the Informal Fact-Finding  
Conference which cites the following violations of the Board's regulations:

Count 1: 18 VAC 25-21-170.C - Change of Address

Count 2: 18 VAC 25-21-170.D - Change of Address

Count 3: 18 VAC 25-21-185.B - Cooperation with Board

Ms. Smith-Mackey seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by:  
Bennett, Puffenbarger, and Smith-Mackey.

Ms. Nosbisch indicated that there were no prior disciplinary actions against  
Neoclassic Auctions, LLC.

Ms. Smith-Mackey moved to accept the presiding officer's recommendation for  
the sanctions and impose the following:

Count 1: \$600 monetary penalty

Count 2: \$600 monetary penalty

Count 3: \$2,500 monetary penalty and revocation of Neoclassic Auctions'  
license.

Mr. Puffenbarger seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by:  
Bennett, Puffenbarger, and Smith-Mackey.

Mr. Sinclair returned to the meeting.

**Return of Board  
Member**

Ms. Nosbisch presented examination statistics covering multiple years, including  
the number of candidates tested, the number who passed, and overall pass rates.  
The Examination Statistics Report was provided for the Board's review.

**Examination  
Statistics**

Ms. Nobsisch provided an update regarding the Board's examination services contract with PSI. The Board was informed that there is a one year extension on the current contract which we are invoking and this matter will be brought before the Board before the extension expires.

**PSI Exam Contract**

Ms. Nobsisch stated that the Executive Director's Report was provided for informational purposes only and included an initiative highlighting national recognition days celebrating the Auctioneer profession:

**Executive Director's Update**

- National Auctioneers Week: April 27–May 2, 2026
- National Auctioneers Day: May 2, 2026

Mr. Mathews provided an update on regulatory changes impacting the Board. It was reported that SB 826 has been implemented, which replaces prior "moral character" language with the standard of "fraudulent or dishonest acts," providing greater clarity and consistency in evaluating applicants and disciplinary matters.

**Regulatory Update**

Mr. Mathews also introduced the Application Review Matrix guidance document, effective January 1, 2026, which is available on Town Hall and is intended to assist the Board in making consistent and informed application determinations.

Mr. Mathews advised that fee adjustment actions remain on hold pending further direction, and no regulatory action is being taken at this time

Ms. Sayegh provided a comprehensive overview of the 2026 General Assembly session, noting that it was a 60-day long session that concluded on March 14, 2026, with legislation currently pending the Governor's action. She advised that multiple bills impacting the Department and its regulatory boards were introduced, with several advancing through the legislative process.

**General Assembly Update**

Ms. Sayegh highlighted updates to the Callahan Act (HB 796 / SB 680), which modernize the fee-setting process by allowing for annual financial reviews and more timely fee adjustments while maintaining public notice and comment requirements. She also discussed HB 1305, which provides Boards with authority for deferred disposition in disciplinary cases, allowing for greater flexibility in addressing minor or first-time violations.

Ms. Sayegh provided an update on SB 578, which proposes to include online auctions within the statutory framework. She explained that due to policy and enforcement complexities, including definitional and jurisdictional challenges, the bill has been continued to the 2027 General Assembly session to allow for further stakeholder engagement and development.

**SB 578 Online Auctions continued until 2027**

The Board discussed the importance of addressing online auction activity and expressed interest in continued evaluation of the issue in advance of future legislative action.

Mr. Charles Watts, representing the Virginia Auctioneers Association, addressed the Board regarding the topic of online auctions. He stated that the Association has conducted a recent survey of its membership and, based on responses received to date, there is strong support for moving forward with regulation of online auctions. Mr. Watts noted that while the survey is still ongoing, preliminary results indicate approximately 90% support among respondents.

He further expressed that the Association views auctioneering as a profession and supports efforts to ensure that online auctions are treated consistently with in-person auctions. Mr. Watts also conveyed the Association's interest in working collaboratively with the Board and the Department to develop appropriate regulations moving forward.

The Board discussed the need for further evaluation of online auction regulation and agreed by consensus to establish an Online Auction Ad Hoc Committee to study the issue and provide recommendations. Mr. Puffenbarger motion was made to form the sub-committee Mr. Sinclair seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Bennett, Puffenbarger, Sinclair and Smith-Mackey.

Ms. Bennett appointed the following members to serve on the Online Auction Ad Hoc Committee: Mr. Puffenbarger, Ms. Smith-Mackey, and Mr. Watts with the Virginia Auctioneers Association. It was noted that additional stakeholders may be invited to attend the committee's meetings. The committee will meet prior to the next Board meeting and report an update to the Board.

The licensee counts as of March 1, 2026:  
Auctioneers: 902  
Auctioneer Firms: 208

**Licensed Population**

The Board recessed at 10:54 a.m. and reconvened at 11:01 a.m.

**Recess**

Mr. Sinclair recused himself from the meeting for discussion and deliberation of the file.

**Recusal of Board Member**

Regarding **File Number 2025-01635, Neoclassic Auctions, LLC**, staff informed the Board Chair of a misprint in the regulatory codes cited for the violations listed in the case summary.

**Reopen:**  
**File Number:**  
**2025-01635,**  
**Neoclassic**  
**Auctions, LLC.**

Ms. Bennett reopened the case and advised the Board of the corrections to the regulatory codes.

After a brief discussion, Ms. Smith-Mackey moved to accept the violations in the Informal Fact-Finding Conference which cites the following violations of the Board's regulations:

Count 1: 18 VAC 25-21-170.B - Change of Address

Count 2: 18 VAC 25-21-170.C - Change of Address

Count 3: 18 VAC 25-21-185.A - Cooperation with Board

Mr. Puffenbarger seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by: Bennett, Puffenbarger, and Smith-Mackey.

Mr. Sinclair returned to the meeting.

**Return of Board**  
**Member**

Board members participated in training covering regulatory board responsibilities, conflict-of-interest requirements, public meeting procedures, disciplinary processes, and other governance requirements under Virginia law. The training was provided to ensure Board members understand their duties and responsibilities as members of a public regulatory body.

**Board Member**  
**Training**

Conflict of Interest forms and Travel Vouchers were completed by all board members present.

**Conflict of**  
**Interest Forms /**  
**Travel Vouchers**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

**Adjourn**

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Betty Bennett, Chair

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Laura V. McClintock, Secretary