

**Southern Conference of NCARB
Regional Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2026
3:00 p.m. Central
Minneapolis, MN**

Members Present:

Alabama

Dan Bennett
Mike Chapman
Emily Coe
Nolanda Hatcher
Paula Pilgreen
Jimmy Seay

Arkansas

H Craig Boone
Shana Bryant
Doug Hurley

Florida

Stacey Buccieri
Beverly Frank

Georgia

Melissa Cantrell
Ralph Raymond
Anne K. Smith

Louisiana

Tyson Ducote
Stephen Long

Mississippi

John Cothron
Leigh Jaunsen
Richard McNeel
Jason Zuckerman

North Carolina

Timothy Hillhouse
Dia Holman
Catherine Lee
Eric Lindstrom
Cathe Monte Carlo
Cathy Morrison
Walt Teague

Puerto Rico

Pedro Alfaro

South Carolina

Sanders Tate

Tennessee

Brian Tibbs
Glenn Kopchak
Rick Thompson
Frank Wagster

Texas

Mike Alvarado
Brien Graham
Justin Hiles
Eva Read-Warden
Joyce Smith
Alfred Vidaurri

Virgin Islands

Sarah Maynard

Roll Call/Confirm Quorum

With a quorum present, confirmed by James, the meeting was called to order by Durrell at 3:11 p.m. Central Time.

New member board members, MBEs and legal counsel were invited to introduce themselves.

Approval Of Minutes

April 30, 2026– ExComm & BOD

Motion by Teague seconded by McNeel and approved by all.

Regional Business Report

James reviewed the FY26 end of year fiscal report and briefly reviewed the FY 27 budget as approved by the BOD.

Resolution Discussion

A brief discussion of the FY 26 Resolutions was conducted by Morrison.

Regional Director Report

Morrison reported on the NCARB Board meeting that took place on June 25, 2026. Of note was an action by the PCC that will be publicly published soon. It was an unprecedented action related to fraudulent use of seals.

The NAAB Position Statement has been distributed on June 25, 2026.

The Competency Standard document has been approved and distributed at the ABM.

MBE Report

Sarah Maynard is the new Executive Director for the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Chair's Report

Durrell reported the following:

- Completed filing of revisions to the Bylaws and incorporation documents
- Completed acquisition of D&O insurance
- Completed ED review and contract renewal
- Financial audit and review is scheduled.
- Training and planning sessions to include the following:
 - Transfer of power meeting for onboarding new executive committee members
 - New member orientation
 - Regional Strategic Planning – set up a task force to achieve this initiative.
 - Policy Manual and Best Practices Guidebook
- Strategic Planning Task Force – To a simple planning document that aids the region as a general guide for future leadership to target areas of focus.
 - Establish guiding tenants to support our purpose and mission.
 - Identify areas of clarity, agility, and alignment for region and regional leadership
 - Serve as a general basis of policy
 - Planning sessions, approximately 3 meetings, in a 4-6 month timeframe
 - Create a Strategic plan for BOD and region to review and adopt.
- Upcoming Meetings

- October 9-10, 2026, MBE/MBC meeting
- February 25, 2027, MBE meeting
- February 26-27, 2027, Regional Summit in Providence
- June 24-26, 2026, ABM 2027 Pittsburgh

Durrell presented Pedro Alfaro with a Distinguished Service Award. In recognition of his outstanding service and for the valuable contributions he has made through his selfless dedication and tireless efforts that have benefited the Southern Conference, its Members, NCARB and the Practice of Architecture.

FY 2027 Leadership Symposium

James reported that as Chair of the event, he would like to recruit volunteers to assist in planning the symposium. It is tentatively scheduled for February during the regional summit. Details will follow. The topics should center around developing and preparing future leadership of the region and council. Some suggestions included:

- contacting individuals from the Jacob Leadership Institute, Brett Hood
- Take aways from the NCARB Leadership Academy - ethics, conflict resolution, emotional intelligence, opportune and risk
- HR Management for individual new to management positions.

General Discussion

In addition to the [state reports posted on the website](#), several states shared activities and issues that are under discussion in their states.

A motion by Teague seconded by Sanders to bring up the notion of dissolution for discussion and action at the regional summit with supporting documents. A friendly amendment was made by Thompson to table the discussion was accepted by Teague. Thompson then withdrew the amendment.

AL – Yes

AR – Yes

FL – Yes

GA – Yes

LA – Yes

MS – Yes

NC – Yes

PR – No Representation

SC – Yes

TN – Yes

TX - Yes

USVI – No representation

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m. Central Time

Respectfully submitted,

Darren James
Secretary/Treasurer FY 26

Approved by the Southern Conference of NCARB on XXXXXXXX

DRAFT