

MISSISSIPPI LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LAAC)
Minutes of a Regular Meeting (conducted by videoconference)
October 8, 2025, 10:15 AM
Ridgeland, Mississippi

Members Present: Jon Milstead (joined at 10:20 AM), Warren (Cory) Gallo, Alan Hoops, Robert Mercier, Brantley Snipes

Also Present: John Cothron, Wyatt W. Dunn, Andrew Kilpatrick

With a quorum present, Mr. Hoops called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item	Explanation	Actions Taken/Planned
1. Minutes		Motion was made by Mr. Hoops and seconded by Mr. Mercier to approve the minutes from the August 2025 meeting as presented. The motion passed 4-0.
2. Approval of Certificates		Motion was made by Mr. Mercier and seconded by Ms. Snipes to approve certificates issued since the August 2025 meeting (attached). The motion passed 4-0.
Mr. Milstead joined the meeting.		
3. Legislative Update	Mr. Cothron and Mr. Kilpatrick provided an update on legislation to amend <i>Miss. Code Ann.</i> §§ 73-1-19 and 73-2-5.	
4. North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Codes Research	Mr. Cothron reviewed research on nature of business codes used in Mississippi Secretary of State business filings. He noted that numerous unlicensed practice/title use complaints have been received in which the respondent firm's filing with the Secretary of State improperly uses the NAICS codes for "Architectural Services" or "Landscape Architectural Services" to describe the nature of their business. Several possible approaches were discussed.	Motion was made by Mr. Milstead and seconded by Mr. Gallo to recommend to the Board of Architecture that legal counsel develop a licensing disclaimer to add to the Business Reports page of the Secretary of State's website to alert the public that use of certain NAICS codes does not confirm a business is licensed to provide the service. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) Annual Meeting Debriefing	Mr. Hoops, Mr. Milstead, and Mr. Cothron provided a report on the 2025 CLARB Annual Meeting. It was noted that the next CLARB Annual Meeting is scheduled for August 27-29, 2026, in Calgary, Alberta.	
6. Licensure Defensibility Discussion	Members discussed the purpose and benefits of licensure and licensing boards, including a white paper on "Boards that Work."	
7. FY 2027 Budget Request Overview	Mr. Cothron reviewed the Board of Architecture's FY 2027 budget request for information purposes.	

Mr. Gallo and Ms. Snipes departed from the meeting.		
8. American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Twin States Conference		Motion was made by Mr. Hoops and seconded by Mr. Milstead to designate two (2) LAAC members and the Executive Director to attend the 2026 ASLA Twin States Conference. The motion passed 3-0.
9. Meeting Schedule		Motion was made by Mr. Milstead and seconded by Mr. Hoops to set the following 2026 LAAC meeting dates, subject to adjustment as needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ January 21 ▪ April 8 ▪ August 5 ▪ October 7 The motion passed 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with unanimous consent at 11:39 AM.

10/21/2025

Date Approved by MSBOA

Alan Hoops

Alan Hoops, Chair, LAAC

Brantley Snipes

Brantley Snipes, Secretary, LAAC

Gary Gallo

John Cothron

Prepared by John Cothron, Executive Director, on 10/8/2025

NOTE: This meeting was conducted by videoconference at the Board's office in compliance with Miss. Code Ann. § 25-41-5. The equipment used allowed all members of the public body and members of the public who attended the meeting to hear the deliberations. Notice of this meeting was posted on September 29, 2025.

Landscape Architect Certificates Issued for Approval			
Lic No	Name	License Date	Method
805	Michael Hunton	7/31/2025	RECIPROCITY
521	Augustus Lee Wesson	7/31/2025	REINSTATEMENT