



**Minutes – Board of Governors Meeting
April 21, 2021
Via Zoom Meeting**

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Nevada was convened on April 21, 2021.

The following members were in attendance:

Eric Dobberstein, President
Ann Morgan, President-Elect
Paola Armeni, Vice President
Paul Matteoni, Immediate Past President
Seth Adams
Julie Cavanaugh Bill
Doug Clark
Terry Coffing
Andrew Craner
Richard Dreitzer
Gene Leverty
Joel Locke
Catherine Mazzeo
Kari Stephens
Brittnie Watkins

State Bar staff present:

Kimberly Farmer
Lisa Dreitzer
Marc Mersol
Manny Botello
Dan Hooge

Guests:

James Barnes
Milan Chatterjee

CALL TO ORDER/PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Eric Dobberstein called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 8:35 am. Mr. Dobberstein provided an overview of the 2021 Annual Meeting schedule and expressed his eagerness to see everyone in person in June.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kimberly Farmer discussed the pending merger of the Nevada Board of Continuing Legal Education and the State Bar of Nevada. She provided the board with an update on the groundwork laid so far to ensure the process is completed smoothly.

BOARD BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION

The Board discussed *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, by Isabel Wilkerson.

FAMILY LAW SECTION REPORT

James Barnes, Family Law Section chair, gave the board an update on the Family Law Section activities. In particular, he briefed them on the 2021 Family Law Conference which took place 100% virtually due to COVID.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved, second and carried to approve consent agenda items:

- February 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Section Appointments
- ADR Section Bylaws
- Resignations
- Nevada Lawyer Policies
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Blog
- Contracts
 - Geller Data Solutions
 - Encore Audio Visual
 - Pitney Bowes

It was moved, seconded, and carried to pull the VuShorus, a member benefit proposal and State Bar Board Bylaws from the consent agenda.

After discussion it was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Bylaw revisions.

Upon further review and discussion of the proposed member benefit, it was moved, seconded, and carried to reject the VuShorus member benefit proposal.

SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Milan Chatterjee, chair of the South Asian Bar Association (SABA), provided the board an overview of the South Asian Bar Association activities. Mr. Chatterjee highlighted the events SABA plans to host in 2021. He extended an invitation to board members to attend the SABA National Leadership Retreat that will take place in Las Vegas in the Fall of 2021.

REPORTS

Blue Ribbon Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (DEI) Report:

Ann Morgan discussed the proposed ADKT seeking a mandatory CLE requirement covering DEI. The board discussed the goals and objectives of a DEI education requirement. After much discussion, it was determined that a timeline and plan outlining various DEI education programs should be developed prior to seeking a rule change. It was moved, seconded, and carried to table the ADKT education proposal on DEI until a CLE plan and outline is developed and approved.

Office of Bar Counsel Report:

Dan Hooge presented the report and statistics covering matters in the Office of Bar Counsel.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Marc Mersol presented a summary of the state bar's Financial Report for February 28, 2021. Mr. Mersol also presented the proposed revised 2021 budget to the board.

It was moved, second, and carried to accept the February 28, 2021 financial report. It was moved, second, and carried to approve the revised 2021 budget.

ACTION ITEMS

Tax Law Specialization:

Kimberly Farmer gave the board an overview of the Tax Law Section's request to develop a tax law specialization. Ms. Farmer refreshed the board's memory on the section's previous request. After much discussion, the board determined that the Tax Law Specialization requirements should mirror or closely resemble the Workers' Comp Specialization.

Workers' Comp Specialization:

Kimberly Farmer provided the board with an overview of the Workers' Compensation Specialization Board's request to have the total number of specialized CLE hours increased from 6 to 10 hours. The Workers' Compensation Board also requested the specialization's requirement be waived for 2020 due to the pandemic limit the available courses attorneys can take to fulfill the requirement.

It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the Workers' Compensation Specialization Board's requests.

Designated Funds:

Following up from prior board meetings, Kimberly Farmer discussed a revised proposal to develop a granting program using a portion of the state bar's designated funds. The proposal creates two separate granting funds -- a Program Development Fund and an Administrative Fund. The Program Development Fund would be used for granting purposes to outside entities. The Administrative Fund would not be assigned to any specific program. The dollar amounts available for granting from each fund would be set annually by the board.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve two designated funds, a Program Development Fund and an Administrative Fund. With each fund used for program grants.

Policy on Board Statements:

Kimberly Farmer provided the board an overview of the proposed policy regarding how/when statements by the board should be made on current events. Ms. Farmer highlighted the issues the board has faced when deciding whether to make a statement or not.

After much discussion it was moved, seconded, and approved to develop guidelines the board may follow when making statements concerning current events.

APPOINTMENTS

The Board approved the following appointments:

Fee Dispute:

Slate approved – 3-year term.

State Chair: Margo Chernysheva – 1 year term

Regional Chairs:

Stephanie Zinnav- LVA, 1 year term
Alex LeVeque – LVB, 1 year term
Jenifer Mahe – Carson City, 1 year term
Dan Anderson – Reno/Rural, 1 year term

Client Security Fund:

Jennifer Salem – 3 year term
Mark Thome – 3 year term

Advertising Committee:

Tracie Jefcik – 2 year term

Nevada Lawyer Editorial Board:

Gregory Shannon – 3 year term
Patty Walsh – 3 year term

Nevada Lawyer Board Officers – 1 year term

Chair: Laura Tucker
Chair-Elect: Deborah Westbrook
Vice-Chair: Patty Walsh
Immediate Past Chair: Chad Olsen

Standing Committee on Transition into Practice:

Carmen Avello – 2 year term
Andy Moore – 2 year term
Tara Young – 2 year term

Chair: Carmen Avello – 1 year term

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board entered Executive Session at 2:00 pm. and concluded the session at 2:30 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Board discussed:

- Proper use of the state bar logo.
- Information on a revised jury instruction, civil project.
- A new strategic priority covering continuing legal education.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Via E-mail Vote on May 20, 2021

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the contract with the Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa