



**Minutes  
Board of Governors Meeting  
June 16, 2021**

**Email Vote, July 27, 2021  
Email Vote, July 29, 2021  
Email Vote, August 17, 2021**

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Nevada was convened on June 16, 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  
Jeff Albregts  
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:**

Lisa Dreitzer  
Manny Botello  
Kimberly Farmer  
Dan Hooge  
Marc Mersol

**Guests:**

Michael Buckley  
George Bochanis  
Robert Jensen  
Jason Naimi  
Steve Silva

## **CALL TO ORDER/PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Eric Dobberstein called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Dobberstein provided an overview of the 2021 Annual Meeting schedule and an update on events occurring since the April 2021 board meeting.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- April 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Section Appointments
- Resignations
- Suspensions
- Hartford Insurance Policy

## **REPORTS**

### MCLE Transition 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 process of transferring funds, agreements and all operational matters as directed by the March 22, 2021, Supreme Court Order. A report outlining the progress was submitted to the Court on June 11, 2021.

### Tax Law Specialization Report

Taylor Randolph presented the report of the Tax Law Section requesting approval for a tax law specialization. He specifically covered board concerns expressed in the April 2021 board meeting. The board discussed the main issue of requiring exam developers and graders to receive training. After discussion it was moved, seconded, and carried to approve a tax law specialization managed by the Tax Law Section. It was further moved, seconded, and approved to require formal training approved by the state bar for exam developers and graders every 3 years.

### Family Law Specialization Report

Jason Naimi provided an overview of the family law specialization and the request by the Family Law Section to renew the specialization managed by the section. After discussion it was moved, seconded, and carried to approve renewal of the family law specialization managed by the Family Law Section. It was further moved, seconded, and approved to require formal training approved by the state bar for exam developers and graders every 3 years.

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

Ann Morgan discussed DEI activities in the past year. As a discussion point, each board member discussed key take-aways from the past six months.

### Office of Bar Counsel Report:

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

### Real Property Section Report

Michael Buckley provided an overview of section activities. The section submitted an amicus brief and completed work on the Real Property Practice manual. He noted this publication resulted from a collaboration of over 50 lawyers. Mr. Buckley discussed the section's current challenge of presenting CLEs that provide innovative education to section members.

### Appellate Litigation Section Report

Steve Silva discussed section events. He also provided an overview of the recently completed Appellate Practice Manual and noted this manual is a great benefit to section members.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Marc Mersol presented a summary of the state bar's Financial Report for April 30, 2021. It was moved, seconded, and carried to accept the April 30, 201 financial report.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### ADKT Amendment to Rules Governing ADR, Short Trial Rules and NRPC

George Bochanis and Robert Jensen discussed proposed Supreme Court Rule amendments. The Nevada Justice Association and representatives from the Board of Governors worked to develop the proposed amendments. After review of the proposed amendments and discussion, the board determined that additional time was needed to receive comments from interested stakeholders.

#### Designated Funds

The Designed Funds Program Development Grant Committee discussed their review of applications for funding under the newly established designated funds program development grant initiative. It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following grants.

- *Nevada Latino Bar Association* -- \$17,500 contribution to the Nevada Latino Bar Association scholarship program. If the fundraiser Andale! meets \$17,500 in fundraising, the award will be increased to provide for an additional two \$1,750 scholarships.
- *Las Vegas Chapter of the National Bar Association* -- \$15,000 to the LVNBA scholarship program. A \$3,000 grant for mentoring lunches.
- *Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada* -- \$24,000 (2-year grant) to the Summer Diversity Fellowship Program. A \$6,000 (3-year grant) for Diversity CLE series.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

The Board approved the following appointments:

#### Lawyer Representative for the District of Nevada

Elham Roohani, Lindsay Lidell

#### Discipline Panels, North and South, 3-year term ending July 31, 2024

Neil J. Beller  
Amanda Brookhyser  
William Kioki Hanagami  
David J. Kaplan  
Robert R. Madsen  
John M. Nolan  
David F. Sarnowski  
Rachel Wise

#### Nevada Lawyer Editorial Board, 3-year term ending June 30, 2024

Charlie Finlayson, Joe Riccio

Transitioning into Practice Standing Committee, 2-year term ending July 31, 2023

Stephen Shulman

Nevada Bar Foundation, 2-year term ending July 1, 2023

Mark Brandenburg, Kelley Jones, Paul Matteoni, Kyle Morishita

Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, 3-year term ending July 31, 2024

Stephanie Barker, J. Rusty Graf, Sarah Molleck, Randolph Fielder

Advertising Advisory Committee, 2-year term ending July 31, 2023

Danielle Christenson, James Kemp, Christopher Phipps, Maria Saladino

CLE Committee, 3-year term ending May 31, 2024

Stephanie Buntin, Asher Killian, Lauren Calvert, Stacey Newman

Chair, 1-year term, Lauren Calvert

Vice-Chair, 1-year term, Stacey Newman

Client Security Fund Committee, 3-year term ending July 31, 2024

Brigid Higgins, Diane Lowe, Rosa Solis-Rainey, Reed Werner

Standing Committee on Judicial Ethics, 2 year term ending January 31, 2023

Janet Pancoast

Nevada Board of Continuing Education, term ending December 31, 2023

Sunethra Muralidhara

TIP Mentors as presented

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The board entered Executive Session at 4:00 p.m. and concluded the session at 4:45 p.m.

**ELECTION OF 2021-2022 OFFICERS**

*Vice-President* – It was moved, seconded, and carried to elect Julie Cavanaugh-Bill as vice-president.

*President-Elect* – It was moved, seconded, and carried to elect Paola Armeni as president-elect.

*President* – Ann Morgan was welcomed as 2021-2022 president.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

**JULY 27, 2021, EMAIL VOTE**

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the Intellectual Property Section's request for permission to submit written comments on the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office's Patent Eligibility Jurisprudence Study. With final comments to be brought to the Board of Governors by September 1, 2021.

## **JULY 29, EMAIL VOTE**

At prior meetings the board approved the budget, space plans, and contractor, Boyd Martin Construction (BMC), to build out 3 spec suites at the Las Vegas office. The final step was to approve the construction agreement. It was moved, seconded and carried to move forward with signing the BMC construction agreement.

## **August 17, EMAIL VOTE**

The Intellectual Property Section sought approval to move forward with submission of written comments on the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's request for comments for the Patent Eligibility Jurisprudence Study. The Intellectual Property Section's Executive Committee unanimously approved a motion to request permission to comment on this matter from the board during its meeting on July 16, 2021. The Board of Governors approved the section's request on July 27, 2021. Subsequently the section provided written comments. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the section request to submit written comments on the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's request for comments for the Patent Eligibility Jurisprudence Study.