

Executive Committee:

*Jeffrey R. Rodefer, Chair
*P. Gregory Giordano, Vice Chair
Erin Barnett | Jaime K. Black
Michael R. Brunet | Bruce A. Leslie
*Erica L. Okerberg | Maren Parry
*Jennifer Roberts | Karl F. Rutledge
*Scott Scherer | Robert B. Ziems

*Co-editors of the *Nevada Gaming Lawyer* magazine

Reply to:

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MINUTES

October 22, 2024

Attendance. After being duly noticed, the following members of the Executive Committee (Committee), constituting a quorum pursuant to Section 4.5 of the Fourth Amended and Restated Bylaws (as approved May 9, 2001, amended October 18, 2006, July 9, 2014 and June 21, 2023), participated in a telephonic only meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.: Jeffrey R. Rodefer, Chair; Erin Barnett; Michael Brunet; Bruce Leslie; Jennifer Roberts; Karl F. Rutledge; Scott Scherer; and Robert B. Ziems. Also attending from the State Bar of Nevada was Sonja Finley-Tratos, CLE Manager.

ITEMS DISCUSSED.

1. **Review and Approve the Minutes of September 18, 2024.** After reviewing a draft of the minutes, the Committee, upon a motion made by Rob Ziems and duly seconded by Jennifer Roberts, unanimously approved the Minutes of September 18, 2024.
2. **Discuss Law Student Members.** The Committee was reminded that the 2023 amendments to the bylaws, included a provision in Section 3.2 for law students to join the Gaming Law Section (GLS) at no cost. Jennifer Roberts stated she had a conference call scheduled for later in the day with the UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law about law students interested in joining the GLS and their role. The Committee discussed potentially having law students serve on a subcommittee that could assist with events and publications, including sponsorships for the conference and advertisers for the magazine while providing them with some meaningful recognition and networking.
3. **Discuss 2024 Gaming Law Conference.** Jeff Rodefer indicated that the GLS account balance is currently \$2,770.94. Due to budgetary restrictions, speaker gifts for this year's conference would be limited solely to speakers and Maren Parry was working on identifying affordable gifts. Jeff further stated that there would be some additional expenses for graphic design work, which included the agenda, ads, speaker profiles, etc. that would probably be a few hundred dollars. He also indicated that Eric Johnson, CLE Director for the State Bar of Nevada had done some preliminary analysis of the potential revenues and expenses for the conference and he projected that 118 paid attendees would be required for the event to breakeven.

Sonja-Finley Tratos provided there were currently 87 paid registrants for the conference. She stated that eliminating the breakfast would save \$10,000 in expenses and moving from a plated lunch to a buffet-style service would also result in additional savings of approximately \$3,000. Jennifer Roberts inquired if there would be additional savings if attendees were served a box lunch? In turn, Sonja replied that she should inquire of the Palms Casino Resort.

The Committee also discussed reducing the costs associated with printing copies of the agenda and speaker profiles, as well as ordering physical signage for the event. Sonja indicated that poster-size foam board signs are about \$75/each, but she was unsure what the cost would be for larger six-foot signs. She stated that the three pull-up canvas signs at last year's conference totaled more than \$800. The Committee decided to eliminate physical signs and simply use digital images on the big screen at the front of the conference room to recognize sponsors and the keynote speaker.

Bruce Leslie asked about the expense associated with same day Zoom connectivity. Sonja stated that the providing a same day Zoom connection would cost additional \$5,000-8,000. Since the COVID pandemic, she also provided that individuals seemed significantly less interested in attending live seminars and noted that providing a same day Zoom option typically results in a much smaller turnout for a live event.

Sonja also stated that the State Bar of Nevada does an audio/visual recording of the event that is typically finalized approximately six weeks afterwards. This is done for those individuals who register, but do not show up on the day of the conference. The recording is also available in the State Bar's CLE library for purchase after the fact. She was not sure if there was much historical interest in purchasing the video recording of the conference. Moreover, she felt that the Committee would have to have conversations with the Eric Johnson about this avenue if it was looking to capture these revenues. Additionally, she cautioned there may be a shared expense with the State Bar to produce the video if the Committee wants to pursue these revenues if they exist.

Sonja also confirmed Rob Ziem's suggestion that most attendees will probably register closer to the date of the conference. Sonja stated that the past couple of years, there were an increase in registrations the last three weeks.

As an alternative, Jennifer raised the possibility of a mid-year, half-day webinar that would have broader appeal nationwide. Jeff stated that it would be possible to do such an event. It was just a matter of organizing topics, speakers and doing the related graphic design work/advertising. Sonja stated the State Bar's offices in Las Vegas could host, at no cost, groups of up to 135. Karl Rutledge supported the webinar proposal and the Committee agreed to discuss this further at its next meeting. Jennifer asked Sonja to forward a link to the conference and encouraged all Committee members to post on social media to assist with registrations. Jennifer also requested that a list of law firms and companies be put together for law students to contact this year about attending the conference.

Erin Barnett inquired about additional revenues for the GLS through increasing membership fees. Jeff stated that the Committee agreed in late 2022 to increase the annual dues from \$25 to \$35/member. He

further indicated that the increase did not seem to have a negative impact on the number of members since the GLS membership had historically floated in the range of 180 to slightly more than 200. He also provided that the registration fees for the conference last year were raised by \$50/registrant. It was the first fee increase since the conference's inception in 2002.

4. Discuss 2025 Nevada Gaming Lawyer magazine. Scott Scherer asked when would the Committee need to decide whether to move forward with a magazine next year. Jeff Rodefer stated that articles are due by June 30th and ads by July 15th. As such, he felt a decision would need to be made by late February and, specifically, knowing the number of committed advertisers would be critical for the decision. In turn, Scott suggested continuing the discussion on next year's magazine until after the December 6th conference to see if it was successful in producing a profit or at least breaking even.
5. Other Items of Interest/New Business. Bruce Leslie asked if the Committee should convene again prior to the conference. The Committee felt that Jeff Rodefer could forward updates as is needed. No other items were raised for discussion.
6. Adjourn. Upon a motion made by Jennifer Roberts and duly seconded by Bruce Leslie, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

DATED ____ day of January 2025.

State Bar of Nevada
Gaming Law Section

Jeffrey R. Rodefer, Chair