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BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Saturday, August 28, 2021

New Orleans, LA

*** MINUTES ***

President H. Minor Pipes III called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, August 28, 2021, in New Orleans, Louisiana. He announced that the meeting would be expedited to enable everyone to evacuate due to the approach of Hurricane Ida. Business was conducted in accordance with the agenda below.

Agenda Item 1. Roll Call

Ms. Larsen called roll and advised that the following members, who constituted a quorum, participated:

- President, H. Minor Pipes III
- President-Elect, Stephen I. Dwyer
- Treasurer, John E. "Eddie" McAuliffe, Jr. (by phone)
- Secretary, C.A. "Hap" Martin III (by phone)
- Immediate Past President, Alainna R. Mire (by phone)
- Chair, Young Lawyers Division, Graham H. Ryan (by phone)
- First Board District Representative, Lawrence J. Centola
- First Board District Representative, Scott L. Sternberg
- Second Board District Representative, Erin O. Braud (by phone)
- Third Board District Representative, Dwazendra J. Smith (by phone)
- Fourth Board District Representative, Todd S. Clemons (by phone)
- Fifth Board District Representative, Kelly M. Rabalais
- Fifth Board District Representative, Adrian G. Nadeau
- Sixth Board District Representative, Charles D. Elliott
- Seventh Board District Representative, W. Michael Street (by phone)
- Eighth Board District Representative, Curtis R. Joseph, Jr. (by phone)
- At-Large Member, Tina L. Suggs (by phone)
- At-Large Member, Adrejia Boutté Swafford (by phone)
- At-Large Member, Blake R. David (by phone)
- From the Faculty of LSU Law Center, John M. Church (by phone)
- From the Faculty of Tulane Law School, Ronald J. Scalise, Jr. (by phone)
- From the Faculty of Louisiana State Law Institute, Lila Tritico Hogan (by phone)
- House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Chair, Ann S. Siddall
- House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, D. Skylar Rosenbloom (by phone)

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House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, Keenan K. Kelly (by phone)

Also present were:

President-Elect Designee, Shayna L. Sonnier (by phone)

From the Leadership LSBA 2021/2022 Class:

Andretta Atkins
Stuart Breaux
Rubiante Brown
Quinn Brown
Farren Davis
Jimmie Herring
Elizabeth Hyman
Alexis Joachim
Shermin Khan
Taylor LeDuff
Margaret Manning
Joseph Tran

Executive Director, Loretta Larsen, CAE

Associate Executive Director, Cheri Cotogno Grodsky (by phone)

Access to Justice Director, Monte T. Mollere (by phone)

Communications Director, Kelly W. Ponder

Director of Member Outreach and Diversity, Tricia R. Pierre

Information Technology Director, Ashley Cambre

Executive Assistant, Jennifer France

Agenda Item 2. Consent Calendar

- a. Minutes of June 9, 2021, June 11, 2021 and July 8, 2021 Meetings** - Consideration of approval of minutes of June 9, 2021 and June 11, 2021 meetings held during Annual Meeting, and July 8, 2021 meeting held via Zoom;
- b. Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education** - Periodic report from the LCLCE, as required by the April 2010 agreement; and
- c. Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization** - Annual Report from Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization.

Upon motion by Mr. Dwyer and second by Mr. Nadeau, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Calendar without discussion or debate.

Agenda Item 3. Budget – John E. McAuliffe, Jr.

- a. 2020/2021 Budget** – Review of preliminary June 2021 financial report for FY 2020/2021; and
- b. 2021/2022 Budget** – Consideration of amendments to FY 2021/2022 budget as recommended by the Budget Committee.

Mr. McAuliffe reported on the 2020/2021 budget, noting that due to a number of factors including the COVID pandemic's impact on live events, the LSBA ended the year with a roughly \$1 million

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contribution to reserves,

Mr. McAuliffe reviewed a number of budget amendments being recommended by the Budget Committee, noting that they resulted in an overall position impact of more than \$60,000. Upon motion by Mr. Sternberg and second by Mr. Dwyer, the Board unanimously approved the amendments as recommended.

Agenda Item 4. 2022 Annual Meeting/Summer School Fee Schedule – Loretta Larsen

Mr. Pipes advised that this would be deferred until the fall meeting.

Agenda Item 5. Ratification of Email Votes – H. Minor Pipes III

Ratification of the following appointments approved by the Board via email on July 1, 2021:

- **Louisiana Client Assistance Foundation 2021/2022 Board of Directors:** President, Frank X. Neuner, Jr.; Vice President, Stephen I. Dwyer; Secretary-Treasurer, Charles B. Plattsmier; Trustees – Drew A. Ranier, Lawrence J. Centola, Mary Ann Wegmann, Vincent J. Saitta, A. Anderson Hartiens (lay member), Major Reginald R. Brown, Sr. (lay member) and Lauren McHugh Rocha (Supreme Court).
- **Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization 2021/2022 Board of Directors:** Chair, Bernadette R. Lee; Vice Chair, Richard K. Leefe; Treasurer, Douglas C. Caldwell; Members - Kevin R. Molloy, Susan J. Burkenstock, Robert G. Levy, Robert E. Rowe, Shawn D. Vance and Ann Marie LeBlanc.

Upon motion by Mr. Centola and second by Mr. Dwyer, the Board unanimously ratified the action previously taken by email.

Agenda Item 6. Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education – Loretta Larsen

Ms. Larsen referred members to the 2021/2022 LCLCE Board of Directors roster. Upon motion by Mr. Dwyer and second by Mr. Nadeau, the Board unanimously approved the appointments.

Agenda Item 7. Member Benefit Proposals – Tricia R. Pierre

Consideration of the following member benefit proposals:

- **Smith.ai** – This is a virtual receptionist service for live calls and web chat, primarily serving solo and small-firm attorneys. Smith.ai also provides AI software that filters spam, routes calls, and facilitates integrations and workflows with email, CRM, billing, and calendaring programs.
- **The Expert Institute** – This is a legal-tech platform that connects attorneys with expert witnesses for complex litigation matters.
- **Faster Law** – This is a legal suite of tools that syncs with Clio to optimize performance, productivity, and profit.
- **Digital Age Marketing Group, Inc/USAttorneys.com** – This is a full-service online marketing firm that specializes in Search Engine Optimization (SEO), social media content marketing, video production for Law Firms, website creation, and directory sites for the legal industry.

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Upon motion by Mr. Sternberg and second by Ms. Siddall, the Board unanimously approved the member benefit proposals.

Agenda Item 8. Nominating Committee – H. Minor Pipes III

Mr. Pipes reported that the Nominating Committee at its August 26 meeting nominated Shayna L. Sonnier for 2022-2023 President-Elect (to succeed to the presidency in 2023-2024) and Larry J. Centola for 2022-2024 Treasurer.

Agenda Item 9. Single Billing 2021/2022 Recap – Loretta Larsen

Ms. Larsen referred members to the written report and advised that collections were on track with prior years.

Agenda Item 10. Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program – Stephen I. Dwyer

Mr. Dwyer referred advised that JLAP had timely submitted its quarterly report and that the first quarter funding payment was timely released. Mr. Pipes added that he had appointed a committee to address long-term stable funding for JLAP.

Agenda Item 11. Strategic Plan Update – H. Minor Pipes III

Mr. Pipes referred members to the report which illustrated plan progress to date and commended LSBA staff as the goals set forth in the plan are almost complete.

Agenda Item 12. Report of the President – H. Minor Pipes III

- a. Law School Professionalism Programs** – Mr. Pipes reported on the 1L programs, noting there were a total of four programs with two being held virtually and two in person.
- b. Leadership LSBA 2021/2022** – Mr. Pipes directed members to the 2021/2022 Leadership Class roster noting the diversity of this year's class and added that several class members were participating in today's meeting in person and via conference call.
- c. Fall 2021 Meeting** – Mr. Pipes announced that the next Board of Governors meeting will be held Friday, November 5 and Saturday, November 6 at the Homewood Suites in Lafayette. He encouraged Board members to attend and added that additional information will be forwarded to Board members no later than mid-September.
- d. 2022 Midyear Meeting** – Mr. Pipes announced that the 2022 Midyear meeting will be held Thursday, January 20 through Saturday, January 22 at the Renaissance Baton Rouge Hotel.
- e. Other Matters** – Mr. Pipes announced that the Spring Board of Governors meeting would be held on Thursday, April 7 and Friday, April 8 in Covington.

Agenda Item 13. Report of the President-Elect – Stephen I. Dwyer

Mr. Dwyer waived his report.

Agenda Item 14. Report of the Treasurer – John E. McAuliffe, Jr.

Mr. McAuliffe waived his report.

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Agenda Item 15. Report of the Secretary – C.A. “Hap” Martin III

Mr. Martin waived his report.

Agenda Item 16. Report of the Immediate Past President – Alainna R. Mire

Ms. Mire waived her report.

Agenda Item 17. Report of the Young Lawyers Division Chair – Graham H. Ryan

Mr. Ryan reported on the YLD meeting held on August 27.

Agenda Item 18. Report of the Executive Director – Loretta Larsen

Ms. Larsen waived her report.

Agenda Item 19. Report of the Associate Executive Director – Cheri Cotogno Grodsky

Ms. Grodsky waived her report.

Agenda Item 20. Staff Reports

Mr. Pipes referred members to the written reports included in the materials.

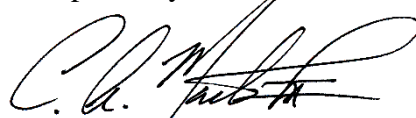
Agenda Item 21. Executive Session – Update on *Boudreaux* litigation.

At 8:09 a.m., Mr. Sternberg moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss litigation, which motion was seconded by Mr. Dwyer. Mr. Pipes asked all non-members to exit the meeting. The Executive Session ended at 8:15 a.m.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



C.A. (Hap) Martin III
Secretary

**APPROVED BY BOARD OF GOVERNORS
NOVEMBER 6, 2021
LAFAYETTE, LA**