



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

January 17 & 18, 2020

Baton Rouge, LA

*** M I N U T E S ***

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2020

President Robert A. Kutcher called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m., Friday, January 17, 2020, at the Renaissance Baton Rouge Hotel. Business was conducted in accordance with the agenda below.

A G E N D A

Agenda Item 1. Roll Call

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

President, Robert A. Kutcher
President-Elect, Alainna R. Mire
Secretary, Patrick A. Talley, Jr.
Treasurer, Shayna L. Sonnier
Immediate Past President, Barry H. Grodsky
Chair, Young Lawyers Division, Scott L. Sternberg
First Board District Representative, Darryl J. Foster
First Board District Representative, Lawrence J. Centola
Third Board District Representative, Shannon Seiler Dartez
Fourth Board District Representative, Todd S. Clemons
Fifth Board District Representative, Valerie T. Schexnayder
Sixth Board District Representative, Edward L. Tarpley, Jr.
Seventh Board District Representative, Paul L. Hurd
At-Large Member, Monique Y. Metoyer
At-Large Member, Lynn Luker
At-Large Member, Tina L. Suggs
From the Faculty of Loyola University College of Law, Monica Hof Wallace
From the Faculty of Southern University Law Center, Donald W. North
From the Louisiana State Law Institute, Zelda W. Tucker
House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Chair, Shayna Beevers Morvant
House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, Jeffrey A. Riggs

**Louisiana State Bar Association
Board of Governors
January 17 & 18, 2020 Minutes
Page 2**

House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, Ann S. Siddall

Also present were:

President-Elect Designee, H. Minor Pipes III
Leadership LSBA 2019/2020 Class Member, Rachel Caluda
Executive Director, Loretta Larsen, CAE
Associate Executive Director, Cheri Cotogno Grodsky
Access to Justice Director, Monte T. Mollere
Communications Director, Kelly Wells Ponder
Director of Member Outreach and Diversity, Tricia R. Pierre
Information Technology Director, Ashley Cambre
Executive Assistant, Jennifer France

Absent were:

Second Board District Representative, Stephen I. Dwyer
Fifth Board District Representative, Kelly M. Rabalais
Eighth Board District Representative, Patrick J. Harrington

Agenda Item 2. Consent Calendar

- a. **Approval of Minutes** – Consideration of approval of minutes from November 2, 2019 meeting held in Lake Charles.
- b. **Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education** – Periodic report from the LCLCE, as required by the April 2010 cooperative endeavor agreement.

Upon motion by Ms. Dartez and second by Ms. Suggs, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Calendar without discussion or debate.

Agenda Item 3. Amendments to FY 2019/2020 Budget – Shayna Sonnier

Ms. Sonnier reviewed two income amendments and advised that the Supreme Court had remitted the MCLE transition reimbursement to the LSBA. After a brief discussion and upon motion by Mr. Grodsky and second by Ms. Metoyer, the Board unanimously approved the amendments as recommended by the Budget Committee.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of At-Large Appointment – Alainna R. Mire

Ms. Mire asked that the Board grant her the authority to make the at-large appointment for a three-year term beginning June 2020 and ending June 2023. Upon motion by Ms. Luker and second by Ms. Metoyer, the Board unanimously granted Ms. Mire authority.

Agenda Item 5. Review of House of Delegates Agenda – Robert A. Kutcher

Mr. Kutcher reviewed the House agenda and resolutions, urged Board members to serve as proxies if needed, and reminded members that the Board would reconvene at the adjournment of the House

**Louisiana State Bar Association
Board of Governors
January 17 & 18, 2020 Minutes
Page 3**

meeting to consider ratification of the action of the House.

Agenda Item 6. Election Update – Loretta Larsen

Ms. Larsen referred to the written report, noting that there were Board runoff elections for 1st, 2nd and 5th district seats and runoff elections for Nominating Committee districts 1A and 1B. She added that if the resolution presented by the Transitioning Lawyers passes at the House meeting, the amendment to the Articles of Incorporation would also appear on the ballots. She advised that voting would begin on January 27 and end on February 19.

Agenda Item 7. Mandatory Continuing Legal Education – Loretta Larsen

Ms. Larsen reported to the Board that the MCLE transition was continuing with remaining programming issues being addressed as identified. She added that members' notices were being sent timely.

Ms. Schexnayder moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss agenda item 8, which motion was seconded by Ms. Sonnier and unanimously approved by the Board. Staff and Leadership LSBA class members exited the meeting, with the exception of Ms. Larsen and Ms. Grodsky who remained at the invitation of the Board. The Executive Session began at 2:25 p.m.

Agenda Item 8. Judges and Lawyers Assistance Program – Robert A. Kutcher, Alainna R. Mire, and Shayna L. Sonnier

Upon motion by Mr. Grodsky and second by Ms. Dartez, the Board voted unanimously to end the Executive Session at 2:50 p.m.

Upon motion by Ms. Dartez and second by Mr. Sternberg, the Board voted to immediately remove Donald C. Massey from the JLAP Board of Directors, as per the authority set forth in Article III, Section 16 of the JLAP Bylaws, with Mr. North abstaining.

Agenda Item 9. Bar Center Update – Loretta Larsen

Ms. Larsen reported the following progress based on authorization at the November 2, 2019 Board meeting:

- One of the four coils on the chiller replaced in November at a cost of \$18,776;
- Work began on January 13 on the roof repairs, the total cost of which is \$30,550 and includes at 20-year warranty; and
- Gertler Bros. has provided a prioritization of the other identified issues. Staff will bring issues to the Board if there are insufficient funds to address in the budget.

Agenda Item 10. Strategic Plan Update – Robert A. Kutcher

Mr. Kutcher referred Board members to the written update and commended Ms. Larsen, Ms. Grodsky, and the Bar staff for successfully moving the goals and priorities forward.

Officer and Staff Reports

Agenda Item 11. Report of the President – Robert A. Kutcher

- a. Spring 2020 CLE at the Greenbrier** – Mr. Kutcher encouraged Board members to attend and/or promote to others the spring 2020 CLE seminar scheduled for Wednesday, March 18 through Friday, March 20 at The Greenbrier in White Sulphur Spring, West Virginia.
- b. Spring Meeting**
Mr. Kutcher reported that the next Board meeting will be April 17 and 18 in Baton Rouge, possibly in connection with the Legislation Committee meeting depending upon the action of the House at its January 18 meeting.
- c. House of Delegates Vacancies**
Mr. Kutcher updated the Board on the few remaining vacancies on the House of Delegates and urged Board members to help identify individuals to fill the remaining seats.

Agenda Item 12. Report of the President-Elect – Alainna R. Mire

Ms. Mire announced “2020: A Vision for the Future” would be the theme of the Combined Annual Meeting/Summer School for Lawyers and Judges, scheduled for Sunday, June 7 through Friday, June 12 at Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort. She also advised the 2020/2021 Board of Governors/YLD Orientation would be held Thursday, April 30 to Sunday, May 3, and asked returning Board members to save the date.

Agenda Item 13. Report of the Secretary – Patrick A. Talley, Jr.

Mr. Talley reported that the Editorial Board met on January 16 and is seeking articles for publication. He encouraged Board members to consider submitting articles for consideration.

Agenda Item 14. Report of the Treasurer – Shayna L. Sonnier

Ms. Sonnier waived her report, noting all matters had been covered elsewhere on the agenda.

Agenda Item 15. Report of the Immediate Past President – Barry H. Grodsky

Mr. Grodsky commended Mr. Kutcher on his term as president thus far. He added that Mr. Kutcher had addressed a number of difficult issues during the first six months of his term and was doing an excellent job.

Agenda Item 16. Report of the Young Lawyers Division Chair – Scott L. Sternberg

Mr. Sternberg reported on the Young Lawyers Conference held that day with 121 young lawyer registrants. He thanked Board members for submitting award nominations.

Agenda Item 17. Report of the Executive Director – Loretta Larsen

**Louisiana State Bar Association
Board of Governors
January 17 & 18, 2020 Minutes
Page 5**

Ms. Larsen waived her report, as all matters had been addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

Agenda Item 18. Report of the Associate Executive Director – Cheri Cotogno Grodsky

Ms. Grodsky referred members to her written report and two flyers regarding the Solo and Small Firm Conference and Four Corners free CLE series.

Agenda Item 19. Departmental Reports

a. Member Outreach and Diversity

Ms. Pierre referred members to her written report.

b. Access to Justice

Mr. Mollere referred members to his written report.

Agenda Item 20. Boudreaux v. Louisiana State Bar Association, Louisiana Supreme Court, et al

Mr. Tarpley moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss agenda item 20, which motion was seconded by Ms. Mire and unanimously approved by the Board. Staff and Leadership LSBA class members exited the meeting, with the exception of Ms. Larsen and Ms. Grodsky who remained at the invitation of the Board. The Executive Session began at 3:05 p.m. and ended at 3:10 p.m.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2020

President Kutcher reconvened the Board at 11 a.m., Saturday, January 18, 2020, immediately following the adjournment of the House of Delegates meeting. The following Board members participated:

President, Robert A. Kutcher
President-Elect, Alainna R. Mire
Secretary, Patrick A. Talley, Jr.
Treasurer, Shayna L. Sonnier
Immediate Past President, Barry H. Grodsky
Chair, Young Lawyers Division, Scott L. Sternberg
First Board District Representative, Darryl J. Foster
Second Board District Representative, Stephen I. Dwyer
Third Board District Representative, Shannon Seiler Dartez
Fourth Board District Representative, Todd S. Clemons
Fifth Board District Representative, Valerie T. Schexnayder
Sixth Board District Representative, Edward L. Tarpley, Jr.
Seventh Board District Representative, Paul L. Hurd

**Louisiana State Bar Association
Board of Governors
January 17 & 18, 2020 Minutes
Page 6**

Eighth Board District Representative, Patrick J. Harrington
At-Large Member, Monique Y. Metoyer
At-Large Member, Lynn Luker
At-Large Member, Tina L. Suggs
From the Faculty of Loyola University College of Law, Monica Hof Wallace
From the Louisiana State Law Institute, Zelda W. Tucker
House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Chair, Shayna Beevers Morvant
House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, Jeffrey A. Riggs
House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, Ann S. Siddall

Also present were:

President-Elect Designee, H. Minor Pipes III
Executive Director, Loretta Larsen, CAE
Associate Executive Director, Cheri Cotogno Grodsky
Access to Justice Director, Monte T. Mollere
Communications Director, Kelly Wells Ponder
Information Technology Director, Ashley Cambre
Director of Member Outreach and Diversity, Tricia R. Pierre
Executive Assistant, Jennifer France

Absent were:

First Board District Representative, Lawrence J. Centola
Fifth Board District Representative, Kelly M. Rabalais
From the Faculty of Southern University Law Center, Donald W. North

Upon motion by Ms. Suggs and second by Mr. Sternberg, the Board voted to ratify all action of the House of Delegates, with Mr. Grodsky voting against ratification.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Patrick A. Talley, Jr.
Secretary

**APPROVED BY BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MAY 20, 2020
VIA EMAIL**