



Louisiana State Bar Association

Serving the Public. Serving the Profession.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS August 27, 2011

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

President James J. Davidson III called to order the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Louisiana State Bar Association at 9:05 a.m., Saturday, August 27, 2011 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Professor Jones did the invocation and Mr. Pipes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item 1. Roll Call

Present were:

President, James J. Davidson III

President-Elect, John H. Musser IV

Secretary, Richard K. Leefe

Treasurer, Mark A. Cunningham

Immediate Past President, Michael A. Patterson

Chair, Young Lawyers Section, Shayna L. Sonnier

First Board District Representative, Barry H. Grodsky

First Board District Representative, H. Minor Pipes III

Second Board District Representative, Stephen I. Dwyer

Third Board District Representative, Dona K. Renegar

Fourth Board District Representative, Winfield E. Little, Jr.

Fifth Board District Representative, Darrel J. Papillion

Sixth Board District Representative, Charles D. Elliott

Seventh Board District Representative, Charles L. Kincade

Eighth Board District Representative, Ronald J. Miciotto

At-Large Member, Karelia R. Stewart

At-Large Member, Franchesca L. Hamilton-Acker

At-Large Member, Daniel A. Cavell

From the Faculty of Loyola University College of Law, Monica Hof Wallace

From Southern University Law Center, Russell L. Jones

From the Louisiana State Law Institute, John Wayne Jewell

House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Chair, George B. Recile

House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, Jeffrey A. Riggs

House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, C. Kevin Hayes

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Also present were:

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 Information Technology, Tony LaVerde
Director of Member Outreach and Diversity, Kelly McNeil Legier
Executive Assistant, Jacqueline E. Gay
Kitty Hymel, MCLE Director (part of meeting only)
Leadership LSBA Class Co Chair, Kellen J. Mathews
Leadership LSBA Class Co-Chair, Dylan M. Tuggle
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Laura F. Ashley
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Nichole M. Cox
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Taylor A. Eilers
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Andrew T. Lilly
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Lindsay L. Meador
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Jennifer Zeringue Rosenbach
Leadership LSBA Class Member, James K. Sticker
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Bradley Joseph Tate
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Spencer L. Trahan
Leadership LSBA Class Member, Jay Christopher Zainey, Jr.

Agenda Item 2. Introduction of Leadership LSBA 2011/2012 Class

Self-introductions were made by the 2011/2012 Leadership LSBA Class.

Agenda Item 3. Consent Calendar

The following items were included on the Consent Calendar and moved for approval without discussion and/or debate and unanimously approved:

a. Approval of Minutes

Consideration of approval of minutes from June 29, 2011 meeting of the 2010/2011 Board of Governors and June 30, 2011 meeting of the 2011/2012 Board of Governors, both held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

b. Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education

Periodic report from the LCLCE, as required by the April 2010 cooperative endeavor agreement.

c. Louisiana Board of Legal Specialization

Annual Report from LBLS.

Agenda Item 4. Report of Nominating Committee - James J. Davidson III

Mr. Davidson reported that at its meeting on August 26, the Nominating Committee nominated Richard K. Leefe of Metairie as President-Elect for 2012/2013 (the position will

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automatically succeed to the presidency in 2013/2014) and Steven G. "Buzz" Durio of Lafayette as Treasurer for 2012-2014. Notices of action of the Nominating Committee will be mailed to all LSBA members on Monday, September 19, along with qualifying information for all open positions.

Agenda Item 5. MCLE Committee - Daniel A. Cavell

MCLE Committee Chair Daniel A. Cavell presented a written report and spoke briefly on the history of the MCLE Committee and program in Louisiana. MCLE Director Kitty Hymel made a presentation to the Board regarding 2010 MCLE program statistics.

Agenda Item 6. Board of Governors Materials - Jeffrey A. Riggs

Mr. Riggs expressed his dissatisfaction with the practice of emailing meeting materials to Board of Governors members, rather than sending via overnight mail. Ms. Larsen reported that this change was made to maintain consistency with House of Delegates meeting materials distribution, and as a cost saving measure. After some discussion, Mr. Riggs motioned for printed materials to be delivered in advance to each Board member who requested them. Professor Jones seconded the motion. After some discussion Mr. Riggs withdrew the motion.

Agenda Item 7. Mandatory Section Reports - James J. Davidson III

Mr. Davidson reviewed the mandatory annual reports submitted by LSBA voluntary sections and advised that all sections had complied with the new requirement.

Agenda Item 8. 2011 Annual Meeting and Summer School for Lawyers & Judges - Loretta Larsen and Cheri Cotogno Grodsky

Ms. Grodsky reported that there were 475 total attendees (255 lawyers and 220 judges) for the 2011 Sandestin Summer School. Ms. Larsen reported there were 242 registrants for the 2011 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. Ms. Larsen also referred the Board to attendance records from previous Annual Meetings and Summer Schools. A brief discussion followed.

Agenda Item 9. ABA Annual Meeting

The Board members indicated reported that the ABA House of Delegates passed the resolutions referenced in a and b below. There was no discussion about other action of the ABA House of Delegates.

- a. Resolution 101 A, which adopts the Model Act Governing the Representation of Children in Abuse, Neglect and Dependency Proceedings (LSBA supported) - Franchesca Hamilton-Acker
- b. Resolution 116, which Urges Lawyers' Disaster Preparedness (LSBA was sponsor) -James J. Davidson III

c. Other ABA House of Delegates Action - Delegation Members Agenda

Item 10. Legislation - James J. Davidson III

Mr. Davidson reported on the following:

- a. Objections to 2011 Legislative Positions: The LSBA received 305 objection letters with regard to the legislative positions adopted by the LSBA during the 2011 Regular Session.
- b. 2011/2012 Legislation Committee Orientation: Held Thursday, August 25, 2011 at the Louisiana Bar Center in New Orleans
- c. Ad Hoc Legislative Policy Committee: This committee will hold its first meeting on Friday, September 9 in Baton Rouge.
- d. BOG Legislative Contacts: Ms. Larsen distributed forms for the Board members to submit the names of the legislators they would be willing to contact.

Agenda Item 11. Amicus Brief: *Robert Jones v. Burl Cain* - James J. Davidson III

- a. Brief, Motion to Strike, Opposition to Motion to Strike - Mr. Cunningham reviewed at Mr. Davidson's request.
- b. LDAA Opposition to Brief - Mr. Davidson reported.
- c. Letters in Support of LSBA - Mr. Davidson reported.

Agenda Item 12. Justice Community Conference Reception - Monte T. Mollere

Mr. Mollere extended an invitation to the Board members to attend the Justice Community Conference Reception scheduled from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, October 13, at Juban's Restaurant in Baton Rouge.

Agenda Item 13. Suit Up for the Future High School Legal Institute and Internship Program - Kelly McNeil Legier

Ms. Legier reported on the summer 2011 program.

Agenda Item 14. Consideration of Any Item(s) Removed from Consent Calendar - James J. Davidson III

No items were removed from the Consent Calendar.

Agenda Item 15. Strategic Plan - John H. Musser IV

Mr. Musser presented the Strategic Plan as recommended by the Board Strategic Planning Committee appointed at the June 30, 2011 Board of Governors meeting. After some

discussion, and upon motion by Mr. Grodsky and second by Mr. Musser, the Board unanimously approved the new LSBA Strategic Plan.

Agenda Item 16. Amendments to 2011/2012 Budget - Mark A. Cunningham

Mr. Cunningham reviewed the 2011/2012 budget amendments as recommended by the Budget Committee, and motioned for approval. Mr. Cavell seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

Agenda Item 17. Annual Meeting and Summer School for Lawyers and Judges

- a. Ms. Larsen presented the proposed 2012 Annual Meeting/Summer School fee schedule. Upon motion by Mr. Pipes and second by Ms. Hamilton-Acker, the Board unanimously approved the fee schedule.
- b. Mr. Musser proposed Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort as the site of the 2013 Annual Meeting. After some discussion as to which offer should propose the meeting site and "chair" the meeting, the Board authorized Ms. Larsen to sign the 2013 contract pending final approval by the 2012-2013 President-Elect.

Agenda Item 18. Report of the President - James J. Davidson III

Mr. Davidson reported on the following:

- a. Leadership LSBA 2011/2012 Orientation
- b. Law School Professionalism Programs
- c. 2012 Annual Meeting and Joint Summer School with Louisiana Judicial College at Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort
 - Summer School - Sunday, June 3 through Wednesday, June 6
 - Annual Meeting - Wednesday, June 6 through Friday, June 8
- d. October 2011 Meeting - The next Board of Governors meeting will be held Saturday, October 29 in Lafayette. Details to follow in early September.
- e. Proposed Changes to the Louisiana Bar Exam - The Supreme Court is expected to make its decision on the short-term issues in the fall of 2011.

Agenda Item 19. Report of President-Elect - John H. Musser IV

Mr. Musser mentioned that he had attended the National Conference of Bar Presidents in Toronto, Canada. Mr. Musser also mentioned that the 2012 Orientation for the 2012/2013 Board of Governors would be held Thursday, May 3 through Sunday, May 6, at the Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama.

Agenda Item 20. Report of the Secretary - Richard K. Leefe

Mr. Leefe reported on his plans as editor of the *Louisiana Bar Journal*, with emphasis on his goal of increasing advertising revenue.

Agenda Item 21. Report of the Treasurer - Mark A. Cunningham

Mr. Cunningham briefly reviewed the preliminary year-end budget for FY 2010/2011, and reported that the LSBA had increased its cash reserves by \$363,000.

Mr. Cunningham also reported, as LCLCE President and by the request of Hon. Calvin Johnson, about the Youth Empowerment Project which serves to reintegrate children from the juvenile system into society.

Agenda Item 22. Report of the Immediate Past President - Michael A. Patterson

Mr. Patterson waived his report.

Agenda Item 23. Report of the Young Lawyers Section Chair - Shayna L. Sonnier

Ms. Sonnier reported on the Young Lawyers Section's recent Wills for Heroes Event at the Fireman's Association and noted that the Young Lawyers Section is working on expanding its law student membership program.

Agenda Item 24. Report of the Executive Director - Loretta Larsen

Ms. Larsen reported on a letter she had sent on August 22, 2011 to Orleans Parish Assessor Erroll G. Williams outlining the Bar Center property tax exemption.

Agenda Item 25. Report of the Associate Executive Director - Cheri Cotogno Grodsky

Ms. Grodsky referred members to her written report.

Agenda Item 26. Other Matters

Ms. Legier presented the SurePayroll Member Benefit proposal. After some discussion, the Board deferred the proposal and asked staff to develop a draft member benefit policy to be considered at the next Board meeting.

Agenda Item 27. Litigation Update

The Leadership LSBA Class Members left the meeting and the Board engaged in its Executive Session at 11:20 a.m.

Adjourn

The Executive Session concluded and upon motion and second, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Richard K. Leefe
Secretary

**APPROVED BY BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OCTOBER 29, 2011
LAFAYETTE**