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BOARD OF GOVERNORS

9 a.m. ■ Friday, June 7, 2024

Miramar Beach, Florida

*** MINUTES ***

President Patrick A. Talley, Jr. called the meeting to order at 9 a.m. on Friday, June 7, 2024, in Miramar Beach, Florida. 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, were present:

President, Patrick A. Talley, Jr.
President-Elect, Edward J. Walters, Jr.
Secretary, Valerie T. Schexnayder
Treasurer, C.A. "Hap" Martin III
Immediate Past President, Shayna L. Sonnier
Chair, Young Lawyers Division, Kristen D. Amond
First Board District Representative, J. Christopher Zainey, Jr.
First Board District Representative, Graham H. Ryan
Third Board District Representative, Melanie W. Chatagnier
Fourth Board District Representative, Adam P. Johnson
Fifth Board District Representative, Carrie LeBlanc Jones
Sixth Board District Representative, Barry M. Barnett
Seventh Board District Representative, Amy J. Miller
Eighth Board District Representative, Senée D. Hall
At-Large Member, Jeffrey A. Riggs
At-Large Member, Tina L. Suggs
From the Faculty of Southern University Law Center, Donald W. North
From the Louisiana State Law Institute, André Doguet
House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Chair, Shannon Seiler Dartez
House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, Sandra K. Cosby

Also present were:

Senior Lawyers Division Chair, Richard K. Leefe
Louisiana Bar Foundation President, Hon. John C. Davidson
Executive Director, Loretta Larsen, CAE
Associate Executive Director, Cheri Cotogno Grodsky

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Access to Justice Director, Monte T. Mollere
Communications Director, Kelly W. Ponder
Information Technology Director, Ashley Cambre
Director of Member Outreach and Diversity, Tricia R. Pierre (by phone)
Executive Assistant, Jennifer France

Absent were:

Second Board District Representative, Jeffrey G. Lagarde
Fifth Board District Representative, Kelly M. Rabalais
At-Large Member, L. Bradley Hancock
From the Faculty of Loyola University College of Law, Monica Hof Wallace
House of Delegates Committee on Liaison Member, Aaron R. Wilson

Agenda Item 2. Consent Calendar

a. Bank Resolutions

Resolutions have been prepared covering all accounts of the Association. These require that all checks be signed by Treasurer C.A. “Hap” Martin III or Assistant Treasurer Loretta Larsen and countersigned by one of the following persons: Patrick A. Talley, Jr., Edward J. Walters, Jr., Shayna L. Sonnier, Valerie T. Schexnayder, J. Christopher Zainey, Jr., Graham H. Ryan, Monica Hof Wallace and Tina L. Suggs.

b. Louisiana Center for Law and Civic Education

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

Upon motion by Ms. Sonnier and second by Ms. Schexnayder, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved without discussion or debate.

Agenda Item 3. House of Delegates – Patrick A. Talley, Jr.

Mr. Talley reviewed the action taken by the House of Delegates at its Thursday, June 6, 2024 meeting. Upon motion by Mr. Riggs and second by Ms. Sonnier, the Board voted unanimously to ratify the action of the House.

Agenda Item 4. Presidential Authority – Patrick A. Talley, Jr.

Under the Charter, the President, with the consent of the Board of Governors, may make committee appointments and create committees with acquiescence of Executive Committee and Board of Governors. The Board is requested to grant Mr. Talley the authority to make such appointments as required during his term of office and also to create such special committees and/or task forces he deems necessary and proper with acquiescence of Executive Committee and Board of Governors. Upon motion by Mr. North and second by Ms. Schexnayder, the Board voted unanimously to grant Mr. Talley presidential authority.

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Agenda Item 5. Board of Governors Statements Confirming LSBA Policies – Patrick A. Talley, Jr.

After review by Mr. Talley and upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Ms. Sonnier, the Board unanimously approved the Antitrust Avoidance, Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest policies, which were circulated for Board members' signatures.

Agenda Item 6. Budget – C.A. “Hap” Martin III

a. JLAP Budget Request

Mr. Martin reviewed the proposed JLAP budget for FY 2024/2025. Upon motion by Ms. Dartez and second by Ms. Chatagnier, the Board unanimously approved the JLAP budget as presented.

b. 2024/2025 Budget

Mr. Martin reviewed the proposed budget as recommended by the Budget Committee, highlighting those items which he deemed most important, along with those items which reflected any significant changes. Upon motion by Mr. Johnson and second by Ms. Jones, the Board voted unanimously to approve the budget.

Agenda Item 7. Election Procedures 2024/2025 – Loretta Larsen

Ms. Larsen reviewed the election procedures for 2024/2025, noting that the following positions would be elected in the coming year:

- Board of Governors representatives from the First, Fourth and Fifth Districts;
- House of Delegates representatives from the Twentieth through Forty-Second Judicial Districts;
- All 15 members of the Nominating Committee; and
- One delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates.

She noted that the elections would again be conducted online only, as allowed by the governing documents and in accordance with procedures adopted a number of years ago. Upon motion by Mr. Douget and second by Mr. North, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Election Procedures.

Agenda Item 8. Report of the Young Lawyers Division Chair – Kristen D. Amond

Ms. Amond announced that she would like to offer training to all Board members interested in working with the YLD on Wills for Heroes, and she reported that the YLD had completed 266 wills this year.

Agenda Item 9. Report of the Treasurer – C.A. “Hap” Martin III

Mr. Martin waived his report, as all items were covered elsewhere on the agenda.

Agenda Item 10. Report of the Secretary – Valerie T. Schexnayder

Ms. Schexnayder reported that the first issue of the *Bar Journal* was recently mailed and expressed her gratitude toward the Board members that submitted updated biographies and photographs. She also encouraged Board members and Young Lawyers to submit articles.

Agenda Item 11. Report of the Immediate Past President – Shayna L. Sonnier
Ms. Sonnier waived her report.

Agenda Item 12. Report of the President-Elect – Edward J. Walters, Jr.
2025 Annual Meeting/Joint Summer School with Louisiana Judicial College at Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort – Sunday, June 1 through Friday, June 6
Mr. Walters announced the dates of the 2025 Annual Meeting/Summer School for Lawyers and Judges and encouraged all to plan to attend.

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

a. Leadership LSBA 2024/2025 – Deadline Friday, May 31

Mr. Talley reported that applications were accepted until May 31 and announced that he would meet with LSBA staff later in the month to select young lawyers for the class.

b. Committee Appointments

Mr. Talley reported that he would be meeting with staff on Tuesday, June 25 to make committee appointments.

c. 2024/2025 Board of Governors Meeting Calendar

Mr. Talley referred members to the meeting schedule and asked Board members to mark their calendars for all meetings. He added that the Strategic Planning meeting was set for September 13 and 14 at the Baton Rouge Marriott and that additional information would be sent to all members in the near future.

d. 2025 Midyear Meeting – Thursday, January 16 through Saturday, January 18 at the Renaissance Baton Rouge Hotel

Mr. Talley announced the dates and location of the Midyear Meeting and asked Board members to mark their calendars and plan to attend.

e. Artificial Intelligence Task Force

Mr. Talley announced that an AI Task Force had been created and Board member, Adam Johnson, would serve as chair. Other members include Board member Graham Ryan, Louisiana Supreme Court Deputy Judicial Administrator and General Counsel David Becker, Richard Stanley, Jeremy Grabill from Phelps Dunbar, Hon. Scott U. Schlegle from the 24th Judicial District Court, and Damien Riehl a nationally renowned expert in AI at Fastcase.

f. Other Matters

At Mr. Talley's request, Louisiana Bar Foundation President the Hon. John C. Davidson (ret.), gave a brief introduction and report and encouraged all Board members to consider becoming LBF Fellows. Mr. Talley advised that he had invited Judge Davidson to attend all 2024/2025 Board of Governors meetings.

Agenda Item 14. Report of the Executive Director – Loretta Larsen
House Concurrent Resolution No. 38

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Ms. Larsen directed members to the resolution and asked Mr. Mollere to share what his department has been working on in regard to the matter.

Agenda Item 15. Report of the Associate Executive Director – Cheri Cotogno Grodsky

Ms. Grodsky announced that the Solo, Small Firm & Tech Conference would be held Monday, June 24th at the Sheraton in New Orleans.

Agenda Item 16. Other Matters

a. Request from Senior Lawyers Division regarding reduced Annual Meeting/Summer School registration fees.

Senior Lawyers Division Chair, Richard K. Leefe asked Board members to consider a reduced fee for Senior Lawyers attending the Annual Meeting/Summer School. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board moved to revisit the subject in the Fall when it considered registration fees for the 2025 meeting.

b. Other Matters

Ms. Schexnayder announced that the governor had declared Juneteenth (Wednesday, June 19) a state holiday, and asked the Board to consider adding the holiday to those observed by the LSBA. After a brief discussion, Ms. Dartez moved to honor the holiday on the 19th, which was seconded by Ms. Chatagnier and unanimously approved by the Board.

Executive Session

At 10:14 a.m., Ms. Dartez moved that the Board go into the Executive Session to discuss final disposition of the *Boudreaux* litigation, which motion was seconded by Ms. Schexnayder and unanimously approved by the Board. The Executive Session began at 10:15 a.m. and ended at 10:36 p.m.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Valerie T. Schexnayder
Secretary

**APPROVED BY BOARD OF GOVERNORS
AUGUST 24, 2024
NEW ORLEANS, LA**