



SBAND Board of Governors

ZOOM Conference Call

April 21, 2023
3:00 PM

Minutes

Members Present: President Jennifer Jensen, Justice Doug Bahr, Taylor Olson; Rob Manly, Zachary Pelham, Dean Brian Pappas, Katie Schmidt, Hernando Perez, Debra Hoffarth, Jordan Selinger, Erica Hovey, Joshua Frey, Paul Myerchin

Staff Members Present: Tony Weiler; Jennifer Hauge

President Jensen called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM.

Meeting Minutes January 6, 2023

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to approve the minutes of January 6, 2023. [D. Bahr / P. Myerchin] Motion unanimously carried.

Financial Update

Secretary-Treasurer Manly and Executive Director Weiler visited prior to the meeting to review the financial information. The CPA's are behind this spring so financials are unavailable. Account balances are similar to last year at this time. The audit will be completed before the June meeting.

Action: No action required.

Board Appointments /Reappointments / Recommendations to the Court

Pattern Jury Instruction Commission

The Board considered two individuals for two openings on the committee: Ryan McCamy and Jack Zuger.

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to reappoint Ryan McCamy and Jack Zuger to an additional term on the Pattern Jury Instruction Commission. [D. Hoffarth/J. Frey]. Motion carried.

Commission for Indigent Defense

The Board considered one individual for one opening on the committee: Dane DeKray

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to appoint Dane DeKrey to serve on the Commission for Indigent Defense. [P. Myerchin/D. Bahr]. Motion carried.

Parenting Investigator Review Board

The Board considered one individual for one opening on the Board: Diane Schull

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to reappoint Diane Schull to an additional term on the Parenting Investigator Review Board. [D. Hoffarth/Z. Pelham]. Motion carried.

Investment Policy Statement

Executive Director Weiler presented the Board with the proposed Investment Policy Statement created by First International Bank and Trust. The Investment Committee has reviewed the policy and recommends Board approval.

Action: It was duly motioned and seconded to approve the Investment Policy Statement as presented. [R. Manly/J. Selinger]. Motion carried.

Annual Meeting Awards 2023

Distinguished Service Award

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to award the 2023 Distinguished Service Award to Bruce Quick. [D. Bahr / J. Frey] Motion unanimously carried.

Legislative Service Award

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to award the 2023 Legislative Service Award to Senator Diane Larson. [T. Olson / B. Pappas] Motion unanimously carried.

Gerald W. VandeWalle Medal

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to award the 2023 Gerald W. VandeWalle Medal to Judge Daniel L. Hovland. [Z. Pelham /D. Hoffarth] Motion unanimously carried.

Liberty Bell Award

Action: None required, no nominees were presented. Board members to inform Executive Director Weiler if a recipient is determined.

Community Service Awards

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to award a 2023 Community Service Award to Cynthia Schaar. [D. Hoffarth /H. Perez] Motion carried. Board members to inform Executive Director Weiler if additional recipients are determined.

Annual Meeting Agenda

The proposed agenda for the Annual Meeting was provided to Board members for their information. The agenda is nearly finalized but continues to be fine-tuned.

Action: No action required.

Law School Report

Dean Pappas provided an update on the School of Law. He reported on the outcome of the February bar exam. The School of Law plans to hire a full-time bar prep/academic success faculty member as well as a full-time advisor. They are exploring ways to recruit in ND colleges and high schools. Professor Rand received the Chester Fritz award. Work continues with the endowments.

ABA Update

Z. Pelham provided a review of the ABA meeting in New Orleans in early February. He encourages all lawyers to be involved in the ABA.

SBAND President's Report

President Jensen thanked Board members for support during her presidency. She and Tony Weiler attended the Western States Bar Conference in San Diego and had a productive time connecting with other states; everyone is struggling with a shortage of attorneys in rural areas.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director Weiler updated the Board of Governors on the following:

- Jeanne is retiring at the end of June
 - Jennifer is taking over Boards/committees and CLE's

- Finances will be out-sourced to Schmitz-Holstrom CPA's (the firm that already does SBAND payroll)
- A part-time person has been hired on a contract basis to work 5-10 hours/week with the LAP program. She is a social worker and will be helping with intakes, training and supporting mentors, and outreach.
- Legislative session is almost over
 - Court budget is mostly good, new judgeships were added and will need to be filled
 - Spousal support bill passed
 - The Court will participate in a study to explore alternative pathways to a license to practice law
 - Licensing boards will be required to visit with the Labor Commissioner
 - Challenge Grant amounts may be decreased, it looks like \$250,000 could be dedicated to the School of Law
- Annual Meeting June 14-16 in Bismarck
- Silent Auction Thursday June 15th –Board members are encouraged to participate in gathering items for the auction

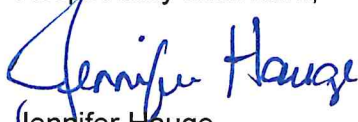
Other Business

Justice McEvers and the Women Lawyer's Section asked about creating an award in memory of Justice Beryl Levine. T. Weiler is waiting to hear back from them re: how the winner will be chosen, who will pay for the award, and when it will be awarded.

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to create the Justice Beryl Levine award once the details have been received. [D. Hoffarth/Z. Pelham]. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Hauge
Contract Attorney


Tony J. Weiler
Executive Director