



SBAND Board of Governors

ZOOM Meeting
Fargo, North Dakota

June 11, 2020
2:00 PM

Minutes

Members Present: Aubrey Zuger, President; Carrie Francis; Zack Pelham; Pat Ward; Judge Dan Traynor; Ted Sandberg; Dean, Michael McGinniss; Tonya Duffy; Andrew Askew; Judge Mike Hurly; Judge Doug Bahr; Jennifer Albaugh; Taylor Olson; Debra Hoffarth

Members Absent: Christina Wenko

Guests Present: Ashley Engel, Brady Martz & Associates

Staff Members Present: Tony Weiler; Jeanne Schlittenhard

President Zuger called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Meeting Minutes April 24, 2020

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2020, meeting [P. Ward / C. Francis] Motion carried.

Financial Statements and vouchers March 2020

Executive Director Weiler reviewed the financial statements.

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to receive the financials. [D. Traynor / J. Albaugh] Motion carried.

Annual Review of Reserve Fund Policy

Executive Director Weiler reviewed the Reserve Fund report provided annually to the Board of Governors. The Reserve Fund was increased by \$83,627 for FY2019. The Board continues to consider how excess funds can be used to further the profession.

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to approve the Reserve Fund Policy for 2019 Funds. [D. Traynor / M. Hurly] Motion carried.

Brady Martz 2019 Annual Audit Report

Ashley Engel, CPA from Brady Martz & Associates presented the audit report to the Board of Governors, a copy was provided to all Board members. Ms. Engel reviewed sections of the report including the Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Activities, Statement of Functional Expenses, Statement of Cash Flows, and Note to Financial Statements. A copy of the 2018 Audited Financials is available to all members and will be posted on the SBAND Website.

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to receive the 2019 Audited Financial report. [P. Ward / T. Sandberg] Motion carried.

Appointments /Reappointments / Recommendations to the Court

- North Dakota Indigent Defense Commission [1 opening]
Two attorneys were considered for the opening on the North Dakota Indigent Defense Commission: Jackson Lofgren (Bismarck) and Paul Myerchin (Bismarck)
Action: It was duly moved and seconded to appoint Jackson Lofgren to the North Dakota Indigent Defense Commission. [Z. Pelham / P. Ward] Motion carried
- North Dakota CLE Commission [1 opening]
 - Adele Page (eligible for reappointment)**Action:** It was duly moved and seconded to reappoint Adele Page to the North Dakota CLE Commission. [D. Bahr / D. Traynor] Motion carried
- North Dakota CLE Commission – Appointment of Chair
Action: It was duly moved and seconded to reappoint Adele Page as chair of the North Dakota CLE Commission. [D. Hoffarth / M. Hurly] Motion carried.

Annual Meeting Survey

At the direction of the Board of Governors, a survey was distributed to SBAND members to ask who was planning to attend the Annual Meeting in person. The results were a strong 61.06% of those surveyed stated they would not be attending in person.

Action: It was duly moved and seconded to leave the planning of on-line courses to the incoming president and the executive director and staff. The fee for the courses should be determined and be offered to SBAND members at a significantly reduced fee. [D. Traynor / C. Francis] Motion carried.

Additional discussion regarding award winners was conducted. Executive Director Weiler will look at ways to enhance the acknowledgement of the award winners with articles in the Gavel magazine, and through Social Media posts. It was suggested to consider short video clips of presentation of awards to the recipients and these video clips be presented during the courses of the annual meeting and/or posted on SBAND website and social media outlets. Other suggestions included hosting mini-receptions for recipients in their local area.

Membership Survey

Executive Director Weiler provided a copy of the Membership Survey for review. The last membership survey conducted was in 2010. The Board will review sections of this survey over the next several meetings.

Action: No action taken.

Law School Update from Dean Michael McGinniss

Dean McGinniss stated the school year has been very active. The pandemic happened but the 2nd semester was successfully completed. For the coming academic year, UND School of Law has developed plans to offer students new experiential learning opportunities through clinical practicum courses in the area of Family Law. Admissions numbers for 1st semester are strong. Dean McGinniss reported the ND State Match grant is finishing this week.

ABA Report from Judge Dan Traynor

The 2020 ABA Annual meeting will be an on-line meeting, to be offered to ABA members for no cost. The remainder of the meetings for 2020 have been canceled.

President's Report

- An update on the paralegal program from MSUM was given.
- President Zuger thanked the members of the Board of Governors for the support during her tenure as President of the State Bar Association of North Dakota.
- President Zuger thanked outgoing Board Members Judge Mike Hurly, Christina Wenko, Zack Pelham, and Andy Askew for their service to and excellent work on the Board of Governors.

Executive Director's Report

- New Board members are Joshua Frey (NE Judicial District Representative); Jordan Selinger (SW Judicial District Representative); and Brady Pelton was elected by the Young Lawyer Section as the Young Lawyer Section Board of Governors member.
- The SBAND office is closed to the public for now, but the office is staffed to provide uninterrupted service to the public and to the members.
- The NDBF Board of Directors is meeting quarterly. The Foundation has approximately \$430,000 to be allocated to public programs that keep in line with the mission of the Foundation. Board members are encouraged to let Executive Director Weiler know if any organizations might qualify for financial support from the Foundation.

Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Schlittenhard
Associate Director

Tony J. Weiler
Executive Director