

Draft Minutes
Board of Directors
National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards, Inc.
Tuesday, April 19, 2005
9:00 am (PDST)
Telephone Conference Call

Present: John VanBolt, President; Judge Ron Stovitz, Past President; Chris McKeeman, Assistant Secretary; Karen Watkins, President-Elect; Elaine Bixler, Board Member; Sally Akins, Treasurer; Judge Bill Lucero, Board Member; Betty Branda, Board Member; and George Riemer, Secretary.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting.

Karen Watkins previously circulated the minutes of the last meeting. Elaine Bixler moved, George Riemer seconded, and the board unanimously approved those minutes.

2. Participation of Past President.

The past president is participating in meetings of the board as an *ex-officio* member.

3. Update on Finances.

George Riemer reported that money on hand at the end of March 2005 was \$7302.90. All known bills have been paid. George indicated that he thought he could transfer the financial records to Sally Akins, but she could still use the existing bank account to transact business. Karen moved, Elaine seconded, to keep the existing bank account with West Coast Bank, but to have Sally added as a signatory as 2005-2006 Treasurer. George would be kept on the account as a signatory also to handle any special issues as the bank is right next door to the Oregon State Bar Center. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

4. Update Web Site info on Treasurer.

John VanBolt requested that the NCLDB web site be updated to show Sally as the new treasurer. George indicated he would make that change shortly.

5. Dues for 2005-2006.

Karen and George will talk on the phone following the meeting to transition the records of the secretary. George will send out dues notices to member organizations for 2005-2006 and also send the board an updated roster of member organizations in due course.

6. Report on Organization Issues.

George indicated that he submitted various reports to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to comply with Texas Franchise Tax requirements. He also applied for an exemption for NCLDB as an educational organization. No decision has been made by the Texas Comptroller on that application to date. George also reported that he had filed an application for a tax exemption for NCLDB as a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with the Internal Revenue Service. He has not heard back from the IRS to date.

7. Membership Update.

John asked if anyone had anything to add on membership issues. Karen indicated that the past-president is the chair of the nominating committee; the president-elect is the chair of the program

committee, and the secretary is the chair of the membership committee and the publications committee.

8. Debriefing from the Salt Lake City Meeting.

Karen felt the meeting went very well overall. She urged the board to encourage more participation in the organization by volunteer board members of the various disciplinary boards. That way, we could be certain that the issues particularly relevant to them would be addressed in NCLDB programming, either by their participations on panels or during general membership discussions of issues. John and Karen indicated there were some glitches associated with the joint program with the National Organization of Bar Counsel. John also mentioned that Sarah McShea with the Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers (APRL) appreciated being a part of a panel at the SLC meeting and was very complimentary of the overall NCLDB program in SLC. Judge Lucero indicated that the topic of issues associated with aging and disability was very timely and will continue to be a topic worthy of discussion at future NCLDB meetings.

9. Next Meeting in New Orleans.

The group briefly discussed whether and to what extent NCLDB meetings are coordinated with meetings of the American Bar Association and the National Organization of Bar Counsel. The group also discussed preliminary hotel and meeting room arrangements for the next annual meeting to be held in February 2006 in New Orleans.

10. Program and Other Committees for 2005-2006.

John will review the bylaws to verify the chairs of this year's committees and to select appropriate members of each committee. The group discussed making sure the committees had a good balance of volunteers and staff. Judge Stovitz noted the volunteer/staff distinction might better be viewed as adjudicators (whether paid or volunteer) and staff. George suggested that the topic of the decision of several jurisdictions to transition from volunteer to paid adjudicators may be worthy of being a part of next year's program. Betty Branda suggested that someone be added to the program committee from the next host jurisdiction of Louisiana. Judge Lucero and Judge Stovitz volunteered to serve on this year's program committee.

The date of next year's annual meeting will be on Thursday, February 2, 2006. Karen will contact Donna Roberts in Louisiana to begin discussion of suggested arrangements, including meeting rooms and hotel arrangements, in New Orleans next year. This information will be brought back to the board for further discussion.

11. Next Board Meeting.

The board will meet again by conference call on Tuesday, June 14, 2005 beginning at 9:00 am (PDST).

Respectfully submitted this 19th day of April, 2005.

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George A. Riemer
2005-2006 Secretary