

Draft Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards, Inc.
November 9, 2009
1:00 pm (EDT)
Telephone Conference Call Meeting

Present: Julianne K. DeCore, President; Elaine M. Bixler, Immediate Past President; Julie Shankland, President-Elect; Christine E. McKeeman, Secretary; John Van Bolt, Treasurer; Ray Bolze and Michael Fredrickson, directors, the Honorable Ronald W. Stovitz and Elizabeth J. Branda, Past Presidents. The meeting convened at 1:05 p.m. EST and concluded at approximately 2:35 p.m.

Minutes: Ms. Bixler moved to approve the minutes from September 24, 2009, and Mr. Fredrickson seconded the motion. The minutes from August 27, 2009 were unanimously approved. Ms. Bixler moved to approve the minutes from September 2, 2009 with correction to Ms. Shankland's name, and Ms. Shankland seconded the motion. The minutes from September 2, 2009 were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Shankland and Mr. Van Bolt are working on transfer of the treasurer's records and the bank account. Ms. Shankland noted that the group will have to decide which signatures to require on the account and that a corporate resolution will be necessary to open the new account and transfer the money. The account balance as of the last bank statement was \$7,644.99. Ms. Shankland reported deposits since that time of \$2,000, bringing the total current balance to \$9,644.99. She noted that Illinois may have paid dues twice and will contact them to see if they need a refund or could be credited for 2010-2011 dues. She also suggested that the dues payment period be changed so as not to coincide with the change of officers effective July 1 each year. Ms. Bixler suggested starting the changeover to the new treasurer after the February election. Ms. Shankland has also emailed jurisdictions that did not specify the persons to be listed in membership but has not heard back from any.

Committee Reports:

Membership. Ms. McKeeman reported that a reminder letter will go out to the eight jurisdictions that have not paid dues for 2009-2010 when the program topics are finalized. Efforts to recruit new jurisdictions are pending.

Communication. Ms. Bixler deferred this report to the next meeting due to having just moved her offices.

Program. Ms. Shankland reported that she has contacted Jack Weiss and that he has agreed to participate in the program on whatever topic the group wants. He is currently representing an attorney in disciplinary proceedings who has drawn complaints as a result of defending a high-profile criminal defendant. His experiences in that case

might provide material for a presentation to the extent he can discuss the matter by February.

Ms. Shankland has also received several cases and ideas for a presentation on criminal conduct not related to the practice of law. The group agreed this should include felonies as well as misdemeanors. Mr. Van Bolt suggested Nancy Cohen (CO) and Don Lundberg (IN) as possible speakers. Ms. Shankland said that Mr. Fredrickson had also expressed interest in the panel. Judge Stovitz suggested including a jurisdiction with a “serious crime” or moral turpitude standard, like CA. Ms. McKeeman said that Texas also has a moral turpitude standard.

Ms. Shankland said that she had contacted Bill Weigel with the NOBC but that they had not yet discussed a joint topic. Ms. Shankland suggested that disciplining the disciplinary counsel, a hot topic in WA and MI, might be a good joint program. Ms. Watkins suggested that the issue of disciplining disciplinary counsel would be particularly interesting for an NCLDB – NOBC – APRL joint program. Mr. Van Bolt thought that Mr. Weiss, (former?) APRL member, might draw attendance from that group. Judge Stovitz suggested that the topic of disciplining counsel appearing in disciplinary proceedings might be better handled as a separate topic rather than as a joint program with NOBC, as a more neutral forum.

The group adopted the following tentative program agenda:

- #1 Sanctioning counsel appearing in disciplinary proceedings
- #2 Sanctioning criminal conduct not related to the practice of law (joint session)
(possible speakers: Nancy Cohen, Don Lundberg)
- Lunch
- #3 Dealing with the media
(Jack Weiss, a prosecutor, and reporter)
- #4 Hot topics
(Julianne DeCore, John Van Bolt)
- #5 Problem solving (open discussion)

Annual Meeting Logistics – Orlando. NOBC has not yet decided on a location for its meeting in Orlando and may not commit until November. Ms. McKeeman has a contract from the Swan which she will circulate. Ms. Bixler, Ms. Watkins, and Ms. McKeeman suggested that NCLDB should not wait that long to finalize its own hotel arrangements. Ms. Shankland will ask Linda Eide whether NOBC has any specific locations they are considering.

New Business: None.

Next Board Meeting: The next meeting will be held by conference call on Monday November 9, 2009 at 1 pm EST (noon CST, 10 am PST).

Ms. DeCore adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 9th day of November, 2009,

Christine E. McKeeman
Secretary