

**UTAH STATE BAR  
BOARD OF BAR COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES**

**MARCH 8, 2018  
ST. GEORGE, UTAH**

- In Attendance:** President John Lund, President-elect H. Dickson Burton, Commissioners: Grace Acosta, John Bradley, Steven Burt, Heather Farnsworth, Liisa Hancock, Herm Olsen, Cara Tangaro, Heather Thuet, and Katie Woods.
- Ex-Officio Members:** Acting Dean Bob Keiter, Nate Alder, Erik Christiansen, Julie Emery, Dani Cepernich, Diana Hagen, Rob Rice, and Jamie Sorenson.
- Not in Attendance:** Kate Conyers, Mary Kay Griffin, Mark Morris, Michelle Quist, and Ex-Officio members Amy Fowler, Margaret Plane, Gordon Smith, and Bebe Vanek.
- Also in Attendance:** Executive Director John C. Baldwin, General Counsel Elizabeth A. Wright and Supreme Court Liaison Catherine Dupont.

**Minutes: 1:20 p.m. start**

**1. President's Report: John Lund**

- 1.1 Review Spring Convention Schedule.** Katie Woods and Dickson Burton presented the Convention schedule and highlights.
- 1.2 Report on Legislative Session and Meeting with Gov. Herbert.** John Lund reported on the work of the Governmental Relations Committee over the course of the legislative session and discussed bills that were of particular interest to the Bar. John Lund also reported that he and Dickson Burton met with Governor Herbert. The Bar president meets with the Governor on an annual basis. John Lund and Dickson Burton reported to the Governor on the Bar's efforts to increase access to legal services and commended the Governor for his judicial appointments.
- 1.3 Report on National Conference of Bar Presidents Meeting.** John Lund reported on the highlights of the February meeting. Of note was a presentation on excessive alcohol use among lawyers and ways Bars and law schools can work to make alcohol less of a focus at social and networking events. Dani Cepernich reported that as part of its Fit to Practice Program, the YLD hosts some social/networking events that involve hiking or golf in order to get away from a model of always meeting at restaurants and bars.

The Commission also recognized Commissioner Kate Conyers for being selected University of Utah Alumnus of the Year and for being selected to provide legal services in Myanmar.

## 2. Action Items

- 2.1 Awards Committee Report.** Heather Farnsworth reported that the Awards Committee met, reviewed all of the Bar's awards and had some initial recommendations for improving the Bar's awards process. The Awards Committee will prepare a report and recommendation to be presented at the April Commission meeting.

The Commission also discussed the Breakfast of Champions mentoring awards event that failed to gain steam this year for failure to receive nominations. After discussion, **Cara Tangaro voted to hold the Breakfast of Champions awards event every other year in an effort to foster enthusiasm for nominations, subject to confirmation by Michelle Quist and the report of the Awards Committee. Liisa Hancock seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

- 2.2 WIPFLi Recommendation and Tech Support.** Postponed until next meeting.

## 3. Discussion Items

- 3.1 Surveys and Focus Groups.** Liisa Hancock reported on the findings of the Lighthouse survey and focus groups regarding individual and small perceptions of lawyers and the use of legal services. The survey committee will work with the Bar's Communications Director to market the survey findings and ideas to Bar members.

## 4. Information Items

- 4.1 Supreme Court Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Committee Report.** Judge Kate Toomey and Rob Rice reported on the Supreme Court's efforts to increase access to legal services by licensing Licensed Paralegal Practitioners ("LPPs") to provide limited legal services in the areas of landlord tenant, debt collection and some family law matters. Judge Toomey reported on the various LPP committees that have worked over the past year and half to develop rules for licensing LPPs. Judge Toomey also reported that, after an investigation into various methods of developing licensing tests for LPPs, the Supreme Court LPP Steering Committee determined a professional test company is the best method for writing a test that will meet all of the necessary requirements of a professional licensing exam. A proposed contract was attached to the meeting materials. After the presentation and discussion, **Grace Acosta moved that the Bar enter into the proposed contract to pay the cost and arrange for a professional testing company to write test questions for the exams the LPPs will have to take in order to be licensed. Cara Tangaro seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

**Grace Acosta also moved that the Bar add the cost of administering the LPP program to the Bar's annual budget. Cara Tangaro seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

- 4.2 ABA Delegates Report.** Nate Alder and Erik Christiansen reported on the ABA House of Delegates meeting that took place in Vancouver in February. Erik reported on

declining ABA membership and the ABA's efforts to attract new members by offering less expensive membership options. Nate reported on the notable resolutions considered by the House.

- 4.3 Petition to Create “Legal Entrepreneurs Section.”** A group of lawyers petitioned the Commission to create a new Bar section that will “organize, educate and unite lawyers seeking innovative and creative ways to leverage technology, organize their practices and build their firms to better serve the public.” After discussion, **Katie Woods moved to approve the creation of the Legal Entrepreneurs Section. John Bradley seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

**New Item:** Report and discussion regarding the March 5, 2018 email.

**5. Executive Session**

Discussion regarding endorsement of lawyer liability insurance provider postponed until April meeting.

**The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.**

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approved Minutes from the January 12, 2018 Commission Meeting.
2. Approved Policies on Diversity and Inclusion.