

**THURSTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.**  
**Virtual Meeting on Zoom**

Members Present: Jim Laukkonen, Trevor Zandell, Amy Perlman, Michael Young, John Kesler III, Bill Pope, Matt Huot, Heidi Raedel Magaro, Patrick O'Connor, Geoff Hulsey and Wayne Graham.

Members Absent: Laura Murphy

Others Present: Heather Ligtenberg

1. **Call to order** 5:33 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes of February 10, 2021 Board Meeting** Trevor asked Heather to add that “Meredith Gerhart is who we will nominate for the Local Hero Award” to the minutes under 4.1 Local Hero Award Nominations update. Michael moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Patrick. The motion carried without objections.
3. **New Business**
  - 3.1 Zoom Account – Renew? (Heather)- Geoff moved to approve the renewal of Zoom for another year, seconded by Amy. The motion carried without objections.
4. **Old Business**
  - 4.1 Annual Audit with Accountant update (Heather) – Heather shared that the annual audit will take place in April due to issues with the old TCBA laptop.
  - 4.2 Broaden Market of advertising in Legal Brief update (Jim) – Jim shared that he has written a letter that he will send to local CPAs, and bonding companies, bookkeepers, letting them know this is a way they can reach out to our members by advertising in the newsletter and will include the advertising rates. Jim asked for other places to send the letter to. Trevor suggested copy centers, insurance companies, and golf courses.
  - 4.3 Appoint Nominating Committee for 2021-2022 Board Officer Positions update (Jim) – Jim said the nominating committee has started the discussions but does not have all of the positions filled yet.
  - 4.4 Bylaws Amendment (Trevor) – Trevor discussed the bylaw amendment at the last meeting. He updated the bylaws and send it to Heather to send to the members by May 4<sup>th</sup>.
5. **Treasurer’s Report** (Heidi) – February 2021 Financial Report – Heidi shared the monthly expenses and income. Bill moved to approve, seconded by Wayne. The motion carried without objections.
6. **Monthly Luncheon Update** (Geoff) – No report. Geoff asked when we should start the monthly lunches again? This will be discussed next month.
7. **Committee Reports**
  - 7.1 Bench/Bar (President) – The next meeting is on May 6, 2021. We need agenda items. Heather will send an email to the members for agenda items.
  - 7.2 CLE (Bill, Heidi, Patrick, Laura, Geoff, Amy, Matt) – Jim shared that he has information about a Construction Law CLE possibly in August. Heidi shared the committee has not met yet, but they have been communicating via email. She reached out to Cynthia Worth who is interested in doing a CLE in June. Laura is working on a diversity and inclusion CLE. Wayne

- said the criminal law section is having a meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup> and someone from the Bupe clinic will be speaking about the services it provides. Patrick said the Chandler Court facility might be a good CLE for members.
- 7.3 Newsletter & Electronic version (Heather & Heidi) – Heidi said she came across the platform Flippingbook that she used for the January and March Legal Brief. It’s easy to use and easy to download the PDF version into the Flippingbook software. The free trial version ends on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$89/month or \$1086 per year. Do we want to try this maybe for a year and see what our members think? A discussion took place. Heidi said she can do another video to introduce it and give the members information about the new electronic newsletter. John moved to purchase the Flippingbook software for a year and to send out electronic copies only, seconded by Bill. The motion carried without objections.
- 7.4 New Courthouse (Matt) – Matt said there is no update tonight. The committee hasn’t met yet, but he will be reaching out to committee members soon. House Bill 1167 passed unanimously at the House and will be going over to the Senate for their vote.
- 7.5 Rules Committee (Michael) – There has been no meeting still, but he is willing to meet whenever the committee wants to meet.
- 7.6 Annual Meeting Planning Committee (Heidi, Patrick, Bill, Amy, Geoff, Jim) – Jim said the committee has made initial plans; selected a date, May 14<sup>th</sup>, and selected the restaurant, Jean Pierre three16.
- 7.7 Judicial Evaluation Survey (Trevor, Michael, Amy) – Trevor said we have received 58 surveys so far. Heather will send it to the members again a few days before the deadline.
- 7.8 Law Day (Patrick, Laura) – Patrick said the topic is “Free Speech and Digital Age.” The West Olympia Rotary Club is willing to co-sponsor the speech contest again this year. The final round will be on May 4<sup>th</sup> during a virtual West Olympia Rotary Club meeting. The budget is \$500 this year; \$250 for first place, \$150 for second place, and \$100 for third place. If you have any edits to the topic information, send them to Patrick. Bill said thank you to Patrick for doing a great job on the topic information. Patrick said we are shooting for April 22<sup>nd</sup> for the preliminary round via Zoom. Patrick will seek a judge and Laura said she will be a judge. We are trying to get as many kids as possible. Patrick will finalize the topic information tonight and will send it to Heather to send out to the members and local high schools.
- 7.9 Summer BBQ (Patrick) – The summer BBQ will be on August 7<sup>th</sup> at Burfoot Park. We will continue to monitor the situation until then regarding COVID restrictions.
- 7.10 Communicating with the Court about court administration (John) – John said the Court is going to take the information in the letter John sent to the Court under advisement. John said he talked to Jon Tunheim who was supportive. Jon asked to include Lindsey Trakel to the committee. John talked to Judge Murphy about it who was also supportive. The letter was sent to Judge Price who responded that he would send a response this week. There is a meeting tomorrow about unlawful detainer calendars.

## 8. Section Reports

- 8.1 Family Law (Meredith Gerhart) - We had our monthly meeting yesterday. It was a fairly brief meeting. The judicial officers clarified a few questions on entering agreed orders, exceeding calendar caps and how to do it, and how to make their review of proposed orders easier. We also discussed the cost of transcript fees and that there is no fee schedule. Judge Schaller reminded us to make sure we shephardize the case law we present to the court. Lastly, we discussed a new bill that codifies all of the protection order statutes into one statute.
- 8.2 Pro Bono (Geoff Hulsey) – Geoff said the meeting was canceled this month. The Amicus Brief issue came up but it was handled. The breakfast fundraiser is coming up so you may be receiving emails soon.
- 8.3 Young Lawyers (Brooke Frickleton) - No major updates. I am looking to get an outdoor event planned for the spring and met with their Capitol Chapter of the WWL to see about

- partnering with their organization for an activity.
- 8.4 Criminal Law (Lindsey Trakel & Angela Colauita) - We have set up a lunchtime ed session with the Capital Recovery Center's Bupe Clinic for March 30, 2021, at noon. The session will serve as an introduction to some of the local players in the treatment community and to explore the topic of harm reduction. We also have a date set for an ethics CLE on May 18, 2021, at noon with Professor Strait from Seattle U. Once we have collected the information for the CLE application, we will send it to you.
- 8.5 Real Estate, Land Use, and Environmental Law (Heather Burgess) – No report.
- 8.6 Diversity and Inclusion (Larry Jefferson & Jessica Shen) - D&I met on February 17th and we discussed the book "White Fragility". We would encourage everyone on the TCBA board to read it. We had 10-12 participants. I think we had a really fruitful and full filling discussions around the issue of white people learning the ability to listen without blaming the messenger and to remember that everyone has been affected by racism in a negative manner. Three Judicial Officers attended: Judges Amamilo and Murphy; and Commissioner Zinn. We had some younger attorneys for TCPD and the Prosecutor's office attend the meetings as well. All in all it was a great discussion. We are planning our next section meeting for March 24th, 2021 from Noon to 1:15 pm. We will have Mary Hall and Emmitt O'Connell from the Auditor's office to discuss Racial Covenants in Thurston County, Washington. I believe it will be a 15-20 minute presentation and request for attorney's to volunteer to help residents change the covenants on their property for free. TCVLS (Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services) reached out to us about having a D&I liaison on their Equity Committee so we can better coordinate on future events or issues. Nate Olson (a DPA in district court at the Thurston County Prosecutor's Office) volunteered to be the D&I liaison on the Equity Committee. We've also been in touch with Laura Murphy on co-sponsoring a TCBA CLE on diversity. That CLE is tentatively set for April or May. I asked Denise Diskin, the Executive Director of QLaw, to do a presentation at that CLE and she agreed. She had previously presented on LGBTQ+ issues in the law and the courtroom at a D&I meeting in December, which was very informative and I think would be helpful to the greater legal community!

9. **Additions to agenda**

- 9.1 Bill said we had bad internet connection for this meeting tonight. He thanked everyone for their participation tonight.

10. **Announcements**

11. **Date/location of next meeting:** April 14, 2021 on Zoom

12. **Adjourn** 6:42 p.m.