



BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

State Bar of Arizona
4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

Wednesday, October 13, 2021 - 4:00 p.m.
via Zoom on-line meeting

MINUTES

Approved: Nov. 10, 2021

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

P = Present; Z = Present via Zoom; T = Present Telephonically; A = Absent

Wendi Sorensen - Z

M. Maureen Anders - Z

James Anderson - Z

James Cross - Z

Robert Denison - Z

Michael Goldberg - Z

Georgette Hasiotis - Z

Kimberly Heldt - Z

Abe Lai - A

Phoebe Moffatt - Z

Blake Moscatello - Z

Jeffrey Neff - Z

Elizabeth Ortiz - Z

OTHER ATTENDEES:

State Bar Staff: Sarah Corpening, Connie Hay

Minutes taken by: Connie Hay

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Wendi Sorensen
4:02 p.m.

2. Call to the Public – None present.

3. Approval of minutes.

The minutes of the September 15, 2021 General Session meeting were reviewed.

Motion for approval by: Robert Denison

Second by: Jeffrey Neff

Chair call for Vote:

Maureen Anders abstains

Unanimous; Motion Passes

The minutes of the September 15, 2021 Executive Session meeting were reviewed.

Motion for approval by: Jeffrey Neff

Second by: Robert Denison

Chair call for Vote:

Maureen Anders abstains

Unanimous; Motion Passes

4. **Review of Criminal Law Standards.** As previously discussed in the spring, the current Standards require both felony trials and post-conviction work, and the Standards may need updating. An issue is that potential specialists cannot qualify as most work in either pre- or post- conviction matters, but not both. Elizabeth Ortiz and Michael Goldberg talked with the outgoing Chair of the Criminal Law Advisory Commission last spring, but no further discussion has been had.

Moving forward, Jeffrey Neff suggests inviting members of the Criminal Law Advisory Commission (CLAC) to an upcoming BLS meeting to discuss. Michael Goldberg believes we need the CLAC's feedback as well.

Action Item: Connie Hay to circulate back-up documentation

5. **Specialization Exam.** Wendi Sorensen states that due to subsection 5.c. of the Public Meeting Policy, we are moving into Executive Session for this because a question has risen regarding a specialization exam, results are being challenged, and examinations are exempt from the Public Records Policy.

6. **Executive Session.**

Motion to move into Executive Session by: Michael Goldberg

Second by: Jeffrey Neff

Chair call for Vote: Unanimous; Motion Passes

Convene into Executive Session

4:08 p.m.

Reconvene into General Session

5:05 p.m.

7. **Certification Approvals.**

Motion to approve the Estate & Trust Law Advisory Commission recommendation to approve the initial certification of Hillary Gagnon.

By: Jeffrey Neff

Second by: Maureen Anders

Chair asks for recusals: Phoebe Moffatt knows her. Knowing her is not a basis for recusal, as long as there is not a conflict in business or personal matters.

Chair call for Vote: Unanimous; Motion Passes

Motion to approve the Real Estate Law Advisory Commission recommendation to approve the initial certifications of Bert Millett.

By: Robert Anderson

Second by: Maureen Anders

Chair asks for recusals: None

Chair call for Vote: Unanimous; Motion Passes

Motion to approve the Real Estate Law Advisory Commission recommendation to approve the initial certifications of Charles Oldham.

By: Robert Anderson
Second by: Maureen Anders
Chair asks for recusals: None
Chair call for Vote: Unanimous; Motion Passes

Motion to allow an extension to Tuesday, November 19th for Kendra Deneau to submit her initial application for specialization in Real Estate.

By: Georgette Hasiotis
Second by: Maureen Anders
Chair asks for recusals: None
Chair call for Vote: Unanimous; Motion Passes

8. Administrator Updates. Connie Hay reporting.

- a) Most Advisory Commission vacancies have been filled, with the President approving all BLS recommended appointments. Three are remaining, including the Criminal Law Advisory Commission Vice-Chair and member opening, and one member vacancy on the Bankruptcy Law Advisory Commission where a previous applicant declined the appointment.

Action Item: Connie Hay to reach out to James Cross for possible replacements

- b) A marketing survey will be coming to your inbox soon for input regarding messaging.
- c) An inquiry was received from a Water Law attorney, who questions 'Water, Environmental and Mineral Rights' being included as part of the Real Estate Specialty. It is the consensus that this question should first be taken up by the Real Estate Law Advisory Commission (REAC), for their input and recommendations.

Action Item: Connie Hay to send the Water Law inquiry to the REAC for comment and recommendations

9. Date of next meeting:

November 10, 2021 – 4 p.m.

10. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn by: Phoebe Moffatt
Second by: Jim Anderson
Chair call for Vote: Unanimous; Motion Passes

**Adjourn
5:15 p.m.**