



Lane County Bar Association  
PO Box 11379  
Eugene, Oregon 97440

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 5, 2020

Board Meeting

Via Zoom Conference Call

In Attendance: Sebastian Tapia, President; Erin Fennerty, President-Elect; Brad Litchfield, Secretary/Treasurer; Amanda Husted, Hal Neth, Alexandra Hilsher, Hon. Curtis Conover, Raquel Hecht, and Felipe Alonso III.

Absent: none

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Tapia and 12:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from prior Board meetings were circulated and reviewed.

*Minutes from March 2020 discussed required corrections noted. Neth moved to approve the minutes as amended. Tapia seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with Husted and Hilsher abstaining for the March minutes and Conover abstaining for the April minutes.*

### 1. President's Report:

Because of the numerous topics on the agenda, President Tapia moved directly to the Secretary/Treasurer's Report.

### 2. Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

- a. Litchfield provided a general discussion of finances as there has been little change and few expenses during the pandemic.
- b. The Board discussed the LCBA credit card and the desired restrictions on what people would have a card. It was decided that Suzanne Long, the LCBA bookkeeper, would not have a card. Rather, the future Treasurer would have a credit card and he/she would review the statements monthly and report to the Board.
- c. LCBA costs are down, though we made a profit during our last event due to Tapia's purchase of the sound systems for the LCBA.
- d. Litchfield discussed how there have been significant outlays of deposits for Graduate catering and the Eugene Emeralds events. Those deposits are likely to be returned, but neither organization is responsive to Board member calls. Litchfield will follow up.
- e. Membership – Membership is up by three people this month.

### 4. New Business:

- a. *New Education Committee Chair.* The Board discussed Dennis Gerl as a potential new chair of the LCBA Education Committee. Tapia moved to approve Dennis as the chair and Fennerty seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Hilsher was asked to reach out to the new Committee chair to notify him of his appointment.
- b. *Additional Member for Program Committee.* The Board discussed the names of two individuals that had volunteered to serve for the single vacancy on this Committee. Both are excellent candidates and the Board would like to encourage both to be involved in LCBA activities. The Board discussed selecting Susan Eddy Jordan to serve as Co-Chair of the Program Committee. The Board also discussed that Chelle Haynes would be asked to serve as the Chair of the New Lawyer Committee. Tapia took a roll vote and the above proposals assignments were approved by the majority of the Board. Tapia was assigned to contact Chelle Haynes and Litchfield was assigned to contact Susan Jordan.
- c. *30/40/50 Awards.* The Board discussed how the current pandemic creates issues for meetings, including recognizing our 30/40/50 members. With substantial uncertainty about the resumption of LCBA luncheon meetings, the Board decided to defer a decision on this until later in the year, with the likely time when this will occur being the meeting where new members of the LCBA are introduced and possibly when the annual LCBA awards are presented.
- d. *Passing of the Baton.* The Board discussed how this generally occurs at the Spring Bash, and but for the pandemic, the new Board would transition at that time. Considering the current situation, Tapia discussed options for the Board to: (1) cancel the Spring Bash; (2) reschedule the Spring Bash for July; or (3) have the equivalent of the Spring Bash later in the year (probably September). After a general discussion of the options, Tapia moved to cancel the Spring Bash and Husted seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously. Fennerty agreed to schedule a programming meeting in late May to follow up on these matters.
- e. *District Attorney Elections in LCBA Newsletter.* Litchfield discussed how he was approached by the current candidates for the upcoming election to be able to have a candidate forum. Litchfield discussed how he confirmed to the candidates that the LCBA in the prior meeting opposed such a forum, but Litchfield consulted with Tapia to allow each of the two candidates to submit a 200 word candidate statement for inclusion in the current LCBA Bulletin. Both candidates opted to provide the statements, which are scheduled to appear in the upcoming bulletin.
- f. *Request for District Attorney Candidate Forum.* This agenda item was discussed as noted in paragraphs 4(e) and 4(g).
- g. *Request for LCBA Endorsement by DA Candidates.* The Board discussed generally whether traditionally the LCBA had endorsed candidates or whether there was an interest in endorsing a candidate this year. Litchfield moved that the LCBA provide no endorsements for in the current election and that the LCBA provide no forum or debate format for the district attorney candidates other than was provided in the Bar Bulletin. The motion was seconded by Fennerty and approved unanimously.

- h. Van Pounds' Request for Endorsement by the LCBA.* The Board briefly discussed the issue of Mr. Pounds' request for endorsement, but considering the motion that passed in paragraph 4(g) above, no additional motions were made by the Board.
- i. Program Committee Meeting.* The Board had a further discussion on scheduling next year's activities and events. Fennerty suggested a meeting occur on May 28, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. for this purpose. The Board decided that it would be appropriate to include the 2019-20 Board members who were concluding their Board service and also including new Board members and the program committee. The Board discussed whether an in-person meeting was necessary and it was ultimately decided that the meeting could proceed remotely.
- j. Change of Name of Committee.* The LCBA's Pro Bono Subsection Chair Judith Moman has proposed a name change of the Committee to now be called the "Access to Justice Committee." Hecht discussed the reasons for the proposed change to make the Committee's purposes clearer and encourage greater participation. Hecht then moved that the Committee name be changed consistent with the recommendation, and Tapia seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

5. Old Business:

- a. Update on Online Voting.* Tapia discussed that voting for the LCBA elections was proceeding well and he had 140 votes at this point, with the election to conclude Friday, May 8, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The Board discussed how electronic voting seemed to encourage greater participation and facilitated an easier voting process. There have been a couple "double" votes, but Tapia made clear that he is reviewing all voting to ensure that only the first vote is counted for each LCBA member.
- b. LCBA Annual Awards.* The Board discussed the ongoing challenge of dealing with this year's LCBA awards. After a discussion, the Board reaffirmed its desire to make these awards this year. The Board discussed the matter and, though no formal motion was made, the Board decided to proceed with the awards to be presumably presented in September 2020. Tapia and Litchfield will work on publication of the awards to the Bar and Fennerty and Litchfield will assist Tapia as needed for other aspects of the awards.

Good of the Order: Alonso inquired the Board about whether the Board would hold a meeting in July 2020, and Fennerty suggested that she believed it would be a good idea and consistent with past Board practices. The Board decided that a July meeting should occur on the regularly assigned meeting date. Tapia asked that the next Board meeting that would normally be scheduled on June 4, 2020 be delayed one week until June 11, 2020. The majority of the Board was available and the next meeting was scheduled for June 11, 2020 at noon by Zoom conference call.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:16 p.m.

s/E. Bradley Litchfield  
E. Bradley Litchfield, Secretary/Treasurer

June 5, 2020  
Date