

Oregon State Bar Government Law Section Executive Committee
November Board Meeting Minutes
Via Videoconference
December 8, 2020 1:30 pm

1. The meeting was called into order. In attendance were: Brad Anderson, Eric Blaine, Tommy Brooks, Eric DeFreest, Sarah Hanson, Chad Jacobs, Katie Kammer, Patty Mulvihill, Haley Percell, Spenser Rockwell, Kelly Sherbo and Hope Whitney.

2. Agenda Review- Eric DeFreest

Need to add budget review to agenda.

3. Minutes- Brad Anderson

- a. Review and approval of minutes

There was no Executive Committee quorum in September, October or November so no minutes were taken. Minutes for August need to be approved. Brad sent them out again for review. We will discuss at January meeting.

- b. Recap of Annual Section Meeting -Eric DeFreest

The Chair reviewed the annual Section Meeting held in October and the slate of new officers and members at large for 2021. Attached is a copy of the notice of the meeting that includes the slate (Attachment A). The Chair reported that the slate that was approved.

4. Treasurer's Report – Tommy Brooks

- a. Review of October financial summary – Tommy Brooks

Tommy presented a Treasurer's report for October. The numbers are roughly where we started with a contribution to the Campaign for Equal Justice as budgeted. Membership has held steady. We continue to hold a substantial reserve balance. Tommy does not have the latest numbers but expects to get them from the Bar soon. Chad moved and Brad seconded approval of the October financial summary. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. 2021 Budget – Tommy Brooks

Tommy reviewed the 2021 budget that he sent out. There was consensus amongst the officers to not raise dues for next year. Membership is expected to hold steady at approximately 464 members. The budget is similar to the current budget with some minor exceptions. Tommy is concerned about holding a reserve that is greater than two years of dues. We are currently under the limit for now. The Bar will remove its subsidy of the Section if we cross the threshold for reserve limits. The Bar subsidizes 50% of Section activities. Tommy reported that the Board

of Governors waived the carry-over limit this year. Tommy suggested ways to work down the reserve including providing CLEs at cost, pay fees to speakers, comp hotel rooms for speakers, or offer free food at CLEs. Chad moved and Eric Blaine seconded approval of the budget. The motion passed unanimously.

5. New Business – Eric DeFreest

a. Assemble Spring CLE Planning Committee and discuss format - Eric DeFreest

The Chair discussed options for a 2021 Spring CLE. We already have five topics that were scheduled for the 2020 Spring CLE that was canceled. The Chair discussed the topics. Eric Blaine, Doug McGeary, Tommy Brooks and Kelly Sherbo agreed to be on the planning committee. Eric Blaine agreed to chair this subcommittee.

The Chair discussed whether the CLE should be virtual again. There was discussion of doing a hybrid CLE at the Bar Center that is also a webcast. There was also discussion of using the Hotel Monaco credit (that was extended through the first quarter of 2021).

b. Executive Committee Meeting Time -Eric DeFreest

The Chair asked whether there was any interest in moving the meeting time of the monthly meeting. Brad stated that it is difficult for him to make the time because his board meetings are running late and conflicting with the monthly meeting. No other person had expressed any problems with the meeting time. The issue was tabled as there was no consensus to move the meeting time.

c. Oregon Minority Lawyers Association donation request – Eric DeFreest

The Oregon Minority Lawyers Association (OMLA) made a request for a donation from the Section. The OMLA was unable to do its annual fundraising this year due to COVID-19. They provide grants for bar exam costs. Tommy stated that he did not budget for 2021, but there is room to do within the balance we are carrying over. Hope supports the request. Eric Blaine stated that we donated last year. Eric DeFreest moved to make a \$500 donation to OMLA. Eric Blaine seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

d. OSB Public Affairs Letter re 2021 Legislation -Eric DeFreest

The Chair previously forwarded a letter from the Public Affairs Department at the Bar about how the Section can engage the Legislature in the 2021 session. He reviewed the guidelines and asked if there are any issues that we may want to weigh in on. Brad stated that there is a legislative concept being discussed by a workgroup to codify and perhaps go being the *Martin v. Boise* decision related to homeless on public property. Chad stated that he is on the workgroup and there will be a bill on this issue. Tommy stated that the virtual public meeting law rules will go away when the governor's emergency declaration ends. He suggested we keep that in mind.

Chad stated that the Bar may be interested in virtual meetings continuing as its meetings are public meetings. We decided that if a bill comes up on that issue, we will make sure it is sent to the officers.

6. Old Business

- a. Recap of Fall CLE program – The Latest in Local Government Lore – September 18, 2020 – Eric DeFreest

The Chair provided a recap of the virtual fall CLE. He reviewed the topics. He stated there were 78 registered for the CLE and it was attended by over 50 people. There was some live Q&A even though the CLE was virtual. The Chair stated that even with the pandemic we continued our Section’s track record of providing a CLE this year.

7. New Business (ADDED)

- a. 2020 Draft Section Report – Eric DeFreest

The Chair had previously sent out a draft of 2020 Section Report to the Bar. The Chair reviewed the report. The Committee okayed the draft Report.

- b. Appreciation of Chair Eric DeFreest -Eric Blaine

Eric Blaine extended his appreciation of the extraordinary efforts of Eric DeFreest in his role as Chair of the Committee in a very difficult year. The other members extended their appreciation to Eric as well.

8. Next meeting: January 12, 2020 at 1:30 by video/teleconference

Adjourn around 2:00 p.m.

**OSB Government Law Section
2020 Annual Meeting Notice**

Virtual or In Person: The annual meeting of the OSB Government Law Section will be on Tuesday October 13, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. at *(virtual platform, insert link, meeting ID, and password)*.

During the annual meeting the following nominations will be made for 2021 Executive Committee positions. Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor.

Officers

Terms ending December 31, 2021

Chair: Eric Blaine
Chair-Elect: Tommy Brooks
Past-Chair: Eric DeFreest
Secretary: Spencer Rockwell
Treasurer: Brad Anderson

Members-at-Large

Terms ending December 31, 2022

Lauren Sommers
David Doughman
Lauren A. King
Douglas M. McGearry

Members previously elected to the executive committee and continuing through December 31, 2021, include:

Hope S. Whitney
Haley E. Percell
Kathryn L. Kammer
Kelly Sherbo
Patricia M. Mulvihill
James K. Brewer

If you would like to request accommodations for a bar meeting or event, please contact Natalie Batiste at nbatiste@osbar.org as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the scheduled event.