

PARALEGAL DIVISION OF THE UTAH STATE BAR
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2021

12:03 p.m. Tonya Wright calls the meeting to order. The following attendees are present:

<u>Via Zoom</u>
Tally Burke
Deb Caletory
Julie Eriksson
Bonnie Hamp
Katie Lawyer
Shalise McKinlay
Kathryn Shelton
Rheane Swenson
Stefanie Ray
Greg Wayment
Tonya Wright

Excused:

Angie Jensen

Sarah Baldwin

Chair – Tonya welcomes board at 12:03 p.m.

General Updates and Discussion:

Tonya asks Deb Caletory for an update on election proceedings. Deb's call for nominations will be in mid-March, the forms are ready to go out, and she encourages members to reach out and start thinking and looking for nominees. Region 2 will open up once Shalise becomes chair. Deb thought it was best to have more chairs than directors, so a director can re-run, or someone else can fill the director position without disrupting the board too much. Tonya informs the board that Stephanie Ray wants to stay in her position, but would have to be on a committee for membership due to term limitations. Shalise would like to fill the Provo area director and is open to suggestions. The St. George director position is open as well.

Membership – Stephanie Ray

Nothing new to report since last meeting. Peter Vanderhooft, a LPP, has joined. No one seems to be having problems due to being laid off, CLEs are still being completed on time. There was a discussion regarding a request to approve hours of independent research at the applicant's job. The board voted not to grant the request, and instead recommend recordings of previous brown bags instead for self-study.

Continued discussion regarding membership fees for LPPs. Tonya has requested to add a tab during the annual renewal to make annual bar membership renewals easier. Bonnie wanted to know if current LPPs would be interested, Rheane mentioned that simplicity in renewal would increase membership. Tonya has talked to a few LPPs, most are working out of firms, and one said that they didn't want to pay both dues for an LPP and the bar. Tonya believes that membership would still be helpful because most still work as a paralegal while also being an LPP. Julie brought up the fee for Blomquist Hale, and didn't want LPP's to double pay their dues for that service through the bar. Tonya will do some research and see if the Blomquist Hale fee would be sent out with both the Paralegal Bar Dues and the LPP Bar Dues. The Bar's cost to add the tab to the renewal pages would be \$400.00.

Education –Julie Eriksson and Kathryn Shelton

Julie Eriksson reports that the Bar is still working on the scheduling for the Spring Convention. The Bar Planning Meeting is Friday from 10:15-11:15. The Summer Convention is July 29-31, in Sun Valley, Idaho. The Bar will decide by May 15 if it will be in person or virtual, or hybrid. Fall forum had 2500 participants due to the virtual delivery. The theme for this year is, Celebrate the Role of Law in the United States. They need Summer Convention ideas for speakers, and we were asked if we wanted to take a spot in the schedule. Overall, the consensus was if we are being offered a spot for a speaker, we should take it. Tonya has reached out to Tyra Patterson, and is meeting with her on February 25, to talk details about the Summer Convention. If we sponsor a speaker, we need to sort out what the bar will pay for, and what we need to cover. Discussion about having Tyra be a keynote speaker or a breakout speaker. Tonya will present Tyra Patterson's information and see what they think of her as a speaker.

We have a larger budget because the deposit for Paralegal Day is carrying over from last year, and we haven't had the same costs because of the virtual events.

Kathryn asked for speaker ideas for the 2021 CLE events, ideas can be sent to her via email. For the June events she is hoping that they will stay in person, but will keep everyone posted as what will happen. Kathryn will also follow up on current speaker invites, she will also make sure there is a qualifying ethics credit. Tonya updated the board about her conversations with Judge Willmore, and his presentation during Paralegal Day. Kathryn asked that Tonya pin him down either way by the third week of February.

Ethics and Professional Standards/Utah Paralegal Association Liaison – Bonnie Hamp:

Nothing new to report.

Community Service Report: Angie Jensen

Tonya reported for Angie, and asked for ideas for community service. She wants to reach out to the Rocky Mountain Innocence Center and see if they need paralegal help for scanning and organizing files. Please send community service ideas to Angie and Tonya.

Marketing: Greg Wayment

Tonya wrote a wellbeing article for the upcoming bar journal. Greg is preparing for the Paralegal of the Year award and plans to recreate last year's notification/request for nominees. Greg asked if we should use last year's nominees as well as this year's, board thought it would be best to use only this year's nominees. Greg will confirm that Sarah will be the voter for the Paralegal Bar. If we have article ideas please email them to Greg.

Finance Report: Tally Burke

Nothing new to report. Tonya asked what the budget was for board end of year thank you gifts. Tally recommended that we go with what Sarah spent the previous year. Budget for the retreat is around \$2,300, please send Shalise ideas of where to stay and what to do. Greg liked the idea of using the Heber location again, and that was well accepted by the board. Shalise would like to book two nights, or have a late check out so people who don't come the day before have an opportunity to enjoy the place the next day without being rushed out. Shalise is planning to hold the retreat the end of August.

Bar Commission Report: Sarah Baldwin

Sarah is on maternity leave; Tonya will cover her duties for the time being.

UPL Committee and Government Relations: Shalise McKinlay

Nothing new to report. Most of the bills will not affect paralegals, however, they talked about opening up xchange to the public to make it easier to search for sex abusers and domestic violence offences, so women can more easily vet men that they are considering to date. They need to nail down how much to charge, and how to handle opening it up. Tonya noted that there are some changes coming to stalking injunction petitions, that would make it harder for the petitioner to get a protective order. It is reviewed that the Paralegal Division has a vote during these government relations meetings, and that our opinion will matter and to not be shy when it comes to speaking up.

Open floor:

Kathryn mentioned sponsoring some members to go to convention if it will be in person. There is a plan to vote on the Scholarship for dues motion via email. Rheane reminded the board to approve the minutes from January.

1:00 pm – Rheane motions to close, Tally seconds. Meeting adjourned.



/s/Rheane M. Swenson

Rheane Swenson, Secretary