



*The WSBA Board of Governors met and held a retreat on July 27-29 in Union. Below is a recap of the meeting. As is common with the July and September meetings, many topics were taken up, discussed, and acted on. A full agenda can be found [here](#).*

## **Thursday, July 27:**

### **Interview and Selection of 2017-2018 District 4 Governor**

With Bill Pickett moving into the President-elect position unexpectedly early, the Board interviewed four candidates for the District 4 Governor seat. After dialogue with each candidate, the Board elected Daniel D. Clark of Yakima to the seat for a term to start immediately. Governor Clark will serve the remainder of Bill Pickett's term (ending in September 2018) and will be eligible to run for a second, full three-year term. Clark is a senior deputy prosecuting attorney at the Yakima County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. He was sworn in at the meeting by King County Superior Court Judge Barbara Linde. Congratulations to Governor Clark and welcome! (See [public materials](#) beginning at page 19.)

### **Election of 2017-2018 WSBA Treasurer**

As is customary at the July Board meeting, the Board elected its 2017-2018 Treasurer, District 1 Governor Kim Risenmay. Risenmay comes with excellent experience to serve as WSBA's Treasurer, having served on the WSBA Budget and Audit Committee for two years. Risenmay is a tax attorney and CPA practicing in Redmond. The Board thanked District 3 Governor Jill Karmy for her outstanding service as this year's Treasurer. Congratulations to Governor Risenmay! (See [public materials](#) beginning at page 68.)

### **WSBA Legislative Work Group Recommendations**

The Board discussed the recommendations of the WSBA Legislative Work Group and heard an overview of the Work Group's process and recommendations from Phil Brady, chair and former District 10 Governor. The recommendations cover several key issues with respect to the WSBA's current Legislative Committee. If adopted, the new system would reduce the size of the Legislative Committee and have it meet ad hoc when legislative proposals from WSBA need to be vetted. The new Committee would be named the WSBA Legislative Review Committee. The Board will vote on these recommendations at the next Board meeting in September. (See [public materials](#) beginning at page 69.)

## **Proposed Amendment to Article XI Sections re: Legislative Activity**

The Board heard from WSBA Director of Advancement and Chief Development Officer Terra Nevitt and Sections Program Manager Paris Eriksen on a proposed amendment to XI(f) of the WSBA Bylaws. The proposed amendment would support Sections taking action effectively and efficiently during the fast-moving legislative process by allowing action to be taken by Section Executive Committees via email under certain circumstances. The Board discussed the amendment and will vote on this issue at the next Board meeting in September. (See [public materials](#) beginning at page 73.)

## **WSBA Section Bylaws Alignment with WSBA Bylaws**

The Board applauds the work of WSBA's 28 sections and the sections team in their work to revise sections' bylaws to align with WSBA Bylaw XI, which was amended by the BOG in January. This project required an exceptional amount of volunteer and staff effort and the result was that 25 of 28 sections' bylaws were approved by consent at the July BOG meeting.

WSBA General Counsel Sean Davis reported to the Board that two WSBA sections submitted amended bylaws for BOG approval that conflict with one or more aspects of the WSBA Bylaws. The Board heard concerns from Executive Committee members of the Family Law Section who felt the Section was not able to adequately serve Limited License Legal Technician (LLLT) members and therefore had voted to disallow them as voting members of the Section. Because LLLTs are members of the WSBA, this proposed amendment conflicts with the WSBA Bylaws. The Antitrust, Consumer Protection and Unfair Business Practices Section's bylaws would have set the annual dues amount for law student members, which is a responsibility reserved to the Board under the WSBA Bylaws. Sections will have the opportunity to submit conforming bylaws for consideration at the September 2017 Board meeting. A third section, Indian Law, has not submitted revised bylaws as of yet. (See [public materials](#) beginning at page 87)

## **Local Hero Award**

WSBA President Brad Furlong presented the Local Hero Award to Shelton attorney Robert Wilson-Hoss during a luncheon at Thursday's Board meeting. The Local Hero Award is presented to an attorney who has exhibited an "above and beyond" approach toward their local community, by way of community involvement, pro bono, or other volunteer service. Mr. Wilson-Hoss was nominated by the Mason County Bar Association for contributing countless hours and counsel to organizations serving Mason County residents, including: Turning Pointe Domestic Violence Services; the Thurston-Mason County Dispute Resolution Center; the Mason County Bar Association; Pioneer and Shelton School District committees; the Criminal Justice Task Force; and the Mason County Counseling Network. A partner in Hoss & Wilson-Hoss, LLP, he has served several terms as a Mason County judicial commissioner and is known for his

expertise in property law and homeowner association law. Congratulations, Mr. Wilson-Hoss!

## **Friday, July 28:**

### **Proposed Mandatory Malpractice Insurance Task Force Charter**

The Board discussed the recommendation of the BOG Executive Committee to create a Mandatory Malpractice Insurance Task Force and adopt a draft charter. The Task Force would investigate proposals for mandatory malpractice insurance and would be comprised of WSBA members, industry professionals and members of the public. This item will come back for action in September. The Task Force's report to the Board, together with any minority report, is projected to be completed in 2019 after ample opportunity for WSBA member input. (See [public materials](#) beginning at page 84.)

### **Draft WSBA FY2018 Budget**

Treasurer Jill Karmy, Chief Operations Officer Ann Holmes, and Controller Mark Hayes presented the draft FY 2018 Budget, which reflects the cost of Board-directed programs, services, and operations. The draft budget includes General Fund Revenue of \$18,913,199 and expenses of \$19,528,210. As planned, we are projecting a net loss/use of \$615,011 in reserves. Based on efficiencies and savings seen at the end of FY16 and projected through FY17, and the budget presented, General Fund reserves will not fall below the \$2 million level at the end of FY18, consistent with WSBA fiscal policy.

The Budget and Audit Committee will make a final presentation of the budget to the Board for approval at the next Board meeting in September. (See [public materials](#) beginning at page 119.)

### **WSBA Bylaws regarding Officer or Governor Vacancy**

The Board discussed the upcoming vacancy of the Immediate Past President position at the end of the fiscal year since the 2016-2017 President had resigned in June. After discussion about whether to leave the position open for the coming year or not, the Board approved a motion directing that a draft bylaw be presented at September's Board meeting to allow the current Immediate Past President to serve another year-long term, or, in the event the current Immediate Past President is not able or willing to serve an additional year, to appoint another WSBA member to serve in the position, subject to majority vote by the Board. The proposed Bylaw change will be a first reading in September and action, if taken, will occur in November. (See [late materials](#) beginning at page 3.)

### **Appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs to WSBA Committees and Boards**

The Board appointed a slate of committee chairs for the 2017-2018 year. (See [late materials](#) beginning at page 6.)

### **Amendments to Admissions Policies**

The Board approved amendments to the Admissions Policies to align with recent amendments to the Admission and Practice Rules (APR) adopted by the Supreme Court that will become effective September 1, 2017. These amendments are the result of WSBA suggesting the amendments in order to create a coordinated system for admissions, licensing, and mandatory continuing legal education reporting requirements for all member license types. The new system will be more efficient since three different systems for the license types will not be separately maintained. (See [public materials](#) beginning at page 181.)

### **Board's Annual Retreat**

On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, the Board held its annual retreat. Topics discussed ranged from big-picture issues related to how best to prepare members for a rapidly changing profession as well as how better to engage members and provide more access and transparency of information that might be of interest to members.