



Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2025

Practice of Law Board Members in Attendance:

- ☒ Lesli Ashley, Chair
- ☒ John Dirgo Deweese
- ☐ Rory Hardy
- ☒ Melissa Kover
- ☒ Janelle Peterson
- ☒ Ellen Reed

- ☐ Ronald Satterthwaite
- ☒ Craig Shank
- ☒ Drew Simshaw
- ☒ Murugeshwari Subramanian
- ☒ Michael Terasaki
- ☒ Aaron Vanderpol

Liaisons in Attendance:

- ☒ Bobby Henry, WSBA Staff Liaison
- ☐ Kristina Larry, BOG Liaison

Other WSBA Staff in Attendance:

- ☒ Renata de Carvalho Garcia, Chief Regulatory Counsel
- ☒ Anne Trent, RSD Paralegal
- ☐ Cathy Biestek, Managing Regulatory Counsel
- ☐ Terra Nevitt, Executive Director

PUBLIC SESSION:

Chair Ashley called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Minutes

- March 19, 2025: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2025 meeting. The motion passed with Michael Terasaki abstaining.
- Administration:
 - Chair Ashley gave a reminder to the Board that the in-person retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, April 30, 2025 (10:00 a.m. - 04:00 p.m.) at the WSBA office with a Zoom option.
- Entity Regulation Pilot Project:
 - A brief update on the status of the work to implement the entity regulation pilot project was provided. Staff and a few members of the Practice of Law Board are forming working subcommittees for the different aspects of the implementation. The Board reviewed and approved of the Entity Regulation Project Brief which sets out the high level plan, tasks, and timeline for the project.
 - The Board reviewed and approved of the planned subcommittees for the implementation project. Board members were asked to inform WSBA staff if they would like to serve on any of the committees.

- The Board reviewed the entity regulation budget projections. Staff sought recommendations from the Board regarding application fees and annual fees. The Board recommended a lower fee for entities who are targeting low and moderate income clients including non-profits, public benefits corporations, and the like. The Board asked staff to define a category of entities that would qualify for the lower fees and bring it to the next board meeting for consideration.
- Based on the projections, the Board recommended setting fees as follows:
 - Annual fee \$5,000/\$2,500 for non-profit/legal aid
 - Application fee \$1,000/\$500 for non-profit/legal aid
- The Board reviewed and approved of the first update to the Washington Supreme Court regarding the entity regulation pilot project. Staff will finalize the letter, seek signature's from the WSBA Executive Director and the Board chair, and deliver to the Court.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board reviewed complaints regarding the unauthorized practice of law and took the following action:

- Two complaints were closed with no referral to an enforcement agency
- Two complaints were referred to enforcement agencies as appropriate

The meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.