

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2024

12:00 p.m.

[Zoom Meeting](#)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81154454627?pwd=aW14bkh3eERGbFNJdFNrbFJ1UGUxUT09>

Meeting ID: 811 5445 4627

Passcode: 2023

Quorum = 6 Directors

Quorum Met: Yes No

	Name	Position	Present
1	Bidtah N. Becker	Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	VACANT	Chair-elect / Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	John Verheul	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Melinda Branin	Past Chair / Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Kristen Burby	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Steve Hernandez	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Zachary Ogaz	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	Kari Olson	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	Thomas Paterson	Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	VACANT	YLD Liaison	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Vanessa Springer	UNM Student Liaison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Adrian Oglesby	UNM Faculty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Items on every agenda:

1. Happy New Year and board member introductions
Bidtah welcomed everyone and led the group in a round of introduction.
2. Approval of Minutes
Following minor corrections, the minutes were unanimously approved upon a motion duly made and seconded
3. Financial Review
A fiscal update was not possible as the State Bar was still processing the December financial reports. A budget does need to be set at the February meeting.

4. Old Business

a. NREEL 2023 Annual Institute (Laura Bassein)

The Institute went very well with 108 attendees (76 in person/32 online), more than last year's 92 attendees (66 in person/26 online).

Survey results show that the Atencio v. New Mexico, PFAS, and ethics presentations were well received.

The awards ceremony went well was done so the online attendees could view it.

The 2024 NREEL Institute is scheduled of December 13th. It was noted that the Board should try to get more School of Law students to attend. There is a new required CLE credit hour for Equity and Justice, which the CLE committee should consider int heir planning.

In addition, the mid-November event was a success with 25 attendees.

b. Review of 2023 (Melinda Branin's report)

It was a difficult year due to Board member turnover, but we accomplished a lot! Please see the annual report for details.

5. New Business

a. Elect Chair Elect: *assists in planning NREEL Annual Institute* Kari Olson

a. Elect Budget Officer: *The budget officer should draft a budget for board review and vote to approve. The deadline to submit budgets to the State Bar is Feb. 28.* Kristen Burby

b. Elect Secretary Zach Ogaz

c. Identify CLE committee members Kari Olson, Steve Hernandez, Adrian Oglesby, Bidtah Becker

d. Identify website liaison John Verheul

e. Attorney recognitions Tom Paterson

f. YLD Liaison

Vanessa will reach out to recent graduates to see if any are interested in serving as our YLD liaison.

- g. UNM Outreach Committee
Melinda Branin, Vanessa Springer, Adrian Oglesby, Bidtah Becker
- h. NREEL CLE
The Board hopes to partner with UNM for its first CLE of the year, possibly with Reed Benson.
- i. New Board Member Recruitment
Kari will reach out to Maslyn Locke. Yarithza Peña from the Modrall firm will join us at the next Board meeting.
- j. Reed Benson Retirement
The Board discussed sponsoring a going-away party for Reed. Adrian will check in with Reed and the School of Law to find out if they have celebration plans already.

6. Next Meeting Date: February 27, 2024 noon