



State Bar of New Mexico
Natural Resources, Energy
and Environmental Law Section

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

January 24, 2023

12:00 p.m.

[Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 811 5445 4627

Passcode: 2023

Quorum = 6 Directors

Quorum Met: Yes No

	Name	Position	Present
1	Melinda Branin	Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Steven Hernandez	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Zachary Ogaz	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4	Paula Vance	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5	Bidtah Becker	Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Thomas Paterson	Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Kristen Burby	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	Kari Olson	Director	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Louis Rose	Past Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	Prof. Joe Schremmer	UNM Faculty Liaison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Vacant	UNM Student Liaison	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Chandler Farnworth	YLD Liaison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Unanimously approved upon a motion duly seconded
2. Approval of the November 2022 meeting minutes
 - a. Unanimously approved upon a motion duly seconded
3. Introduce new board members
 - a. Introductions were made by Zachary, Kristen, and Chandler.
4. Election of 2023 Officers (Chair-Elect, Budget Officer, Secretary)
 - a. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, Paula Vance was unanimously nominated and elected to the position of Chair-Elect
 - b. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, Kristen Burby was unanimously nominated and elected to the position of Budget Officer
 - c. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, Joe Schremmer was unanimously nominated and elected to the position of Secretary
5. Committee Appointments (CLE, Lawyer of the Year, website, others?)

- a. Upon motions duly made and seconded, the following slates of candidates were nominated and elected to the following committees, respectively:
 - i. CLE Committee: Paula Vance (chair), Steve Hernandez, Joe Schremmer, Melinda Branin
 - ii. Lawyer of the Year Committee: Lou Rose, Tom Paterson, and Melinda Branin
 - iii. Website Committee: Paula Vance, Zachary Ogaz, and Melinda Branin
6. Summer 2023 student stipends
 - a. Joe gave some background information regarding last year's grant of \$4,000 to the UNM School of Law's NREL program to distribute as part of its existing summer stipend program to support students doing unpaid legal work in the NREEL field in or involving New Mexico.
 - b. Zachary asked whether the Board had any role in connecting law students with prospective summer employers. Discussion was had.
 - c. Lou posited that it might be helpful to have the current director of the school's stipend program, Prof. Gabe Pacyniak, join the Board at its February meeting to discuss the details of the program and to give the directors not present for the January meeting an opportunity to vote on the stipend grant proposal.
 - d. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, discussion of funding a grant for student stipends was tabled until the February meeting.
7. Goals and Objectives for 2023
 - a. Melinda shared that the 2022 Annual CLE was well attended with 90 attendees, making it one of the larger section CLEs of the year. She further solicited comments on the goals and objectives for the Board in 2023.
 - b. Joe mentioned that the law school might like to coordinate with the Board on some CLEs this year, including a legislative wrap-up following the 60-day session.
 - c. Lou reminded the Board that the section is co-sponsoring a special institute/CLE with the Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law (formerly the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation) that will take place in Santa Fe on May 25–26. Registration should be discounted for section members and our section has agreed to publicize it to our members.
 - d. Steve posited a possible CLE on the Texas v. New Mexico water law dispute. Zachary suggested that the timing might work near the end of the year. Discussion was had.
 - e. Lou mentioned that the Board might find opportunities to work with the Utton Center to publish or publicize administrative law decisions relating to water. Discussion was had.
8. New business
 - a. None raised

9. Next meeting February 28, 2023