



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

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

August 22, 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 type="checkbox"/>
4	Vacant	Director/Chair-Elect	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Bidtah Becker	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6	Thomas Paterson	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Kristen Burby	Director/Budget Officer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8	Kari Olson	Director	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	Louis Rose	Past Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	Adrian Oglesby	UNM Faculty Liaison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Vanessa Springer	UNM Student Liaison	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12	Chandler Farnworth	YLD Liaison	<input type="checkbox"/>

1. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Moved Tom Paterson and Seconded Lou Rose
 - b. Vote Passed

2. Approval of the July 2023 meeting minutes (Chandler Farnworth)
 - a. Kristen Burby had a correction to the July minutes
 - b. Moved Tom Patterson Seconded Lou Rose
 - c. Vote passed

3. 2023 Budget Update (Kristen Burby)
 - a. Up on section membership fees
 - b. Reflects retreat expenses (Board had previously approved Hotel expenses)
 - c. Wiggle room left for CLE expenses/stipends

4. CLE update including Texas v. New Mexico, Administrative Law, and Annual CLE (Melinda Branin)

- a. TX v. NM CLE on August 31 for 1 hr. Steve Hernandez and Jeff Wechsler/Zach Ogaz will be presenting. Bidtah will do introductions and is available to stay as moderator.
 - b. Admin Law- have a speaker but put on pause to complete TX. v. NM in August. Melinda will follow up after this month.
 - c. Annual CLE- mostly together. Have titles for all talks but Air. Melinda will follow up with Chandler on the status of the Air topic. Melinda plans to send agenda to the State Bar this week.
5. Potential Back to School event with UNM (Kari Olson)
 - a. ELS pitched September 27 (Wednesday). Discussed having Attorneys and students filling out surveys and then matching. Discussed having mixer instead of speed dating.
 - b. Lou- Move to sponsor UNM SOL mentorship event on September 27 and provide up to \$500 for from Misc. category in NREEL budget to Utton Center to arrange for food and non-alcoholic beverages to be provided at event. Bidtah seconded the motion.
 - c. Unanimously approved by those present.
6. UNM outreach committee
 - a. Melinda, Adrian, Vanessa, and Kari will be on outreach committee.
 - b. Committee will meet before next meeting to come up with additional events.
7. Practicing in NREEL panel discussion at UNMSOL November 14, 2023
 - a. Vanessa will moderate, practitioner members will present
8. FNREL request to promote programs to our membership
 - a. In past, when NREEL has agreed to promote or blast out to membership, FNREL provides acknowledgement at program to the NREEL Section.
 - b. Looking for promotion of programs.
 - c. Melinda will ask if we can get discount codes for attending. Board supports promoting events independent of whether we get discount codes.
9. Chair-elect selection
 - a. Lou moved appointment of Bidtah as Chair-elect.
 - b. Tom Seconded
 - c. Passed by vote.
10. New Business
 - a. Adrian Oglesby will be UNM Faculty Liaison for rest of year.
 - b. Adrian reported NRJ is planning symposium focused on climate change in disadvantaged communities, planned for later in the Fall but no date has been confirmed.

- c. YLD Request for \$300 for new lawyer reception.
 - i. Tom moved to provide \$300 from Misc. for YLD new lawyer event
 - ii. Lou seconded
 - iii. Motion passed by vote

- d. Tom Paterson will email Addie Sanchez at the State Bar to request Lawyer of the Year and Career Achievement award nominations be sent out in September this year.

11. Next meeting September 26, 2023