



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

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

May 23, 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	Paula Vance	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	Prof. Joe Schremmer	UNM Faculty Liaison/ Secretary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
11	Vanessa Springer	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 made and seconded.
2. Approval of the April 2023 meeting minutes (Joseph Schremmer)
 - a. Unanimously approved upon a motion duly made and seconded.
3. 2023 Budget Update (Kristen Burby)
 - a. Kristen reports that the Bar still has not provided a budget update.
4. New Mexico State Bar Annual Institute (Melinda Branin)
 - a. Melinda reported about her conversation with Bill Kramer regarding getting a CLE on the agenda of the Annual Bar Conference. He advised that there was no room for 2023 but that NREEL could receive a slot in 2024. Melinda informed Bill that NREEL is interested in presenting at future meetings.
5. CLE update (Paula Vance)
 - a. Melinda reported that the legislative update CLE saw an uptick in participation over last year by 10 participants. Paula received favorable feedback from participants.

- i. Lou stated that a 2-hour session (as we did this year) makes sense for a 60-day session but probably will be unnecessary following next year's short session.
 - b. She further reported that the CLE committee is meeting on May 31, 2023, to discuss the rest of the year including the annual CLE in December. We need to provide our topics and speakers for the annual CLE to the State Bar by August. It is also hoped that we will be able to hold a CLE on the decision pending in Texas v. New Mexico.
- 6. Retreat 2023 planning (Melinda Branin)
 - a. Melinda reminded the board that the retreat is scheduled for July 8. Breakfast and lunch will be served. The agenda will be emailed to the board approximately one week beforehand.
 - b. It was proposed to have Joe send an email to UNMSOL students inviting them to join the board for lunch on the day of the annual retreat. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the proposal was approved by the board. Joe will email the students in ELS and the NREL program generally and will report back to the board regarding the interest received.
- 7. New business
 - a. Melinda reminded the board that she and Paula will arrange for a raffle giveaway of an extra Nambe vase (previously purchased as speaker gifts at a prior annual CLE) to a member of the section who attends next week's Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law's Special Institute on the Permian Basin. The board is a co-sponsor of the Special Institute.
 - b. Steve updated the board on state agreements to cut back on water use and suggested further discussion at the retreat.
 - c. Brianna reported that the NREEL plaque is now hanging in the lobby toward the auditorium.
 - d. Joe reported about the two student recipients of the summer stipend that the board supplemented: Logan Stokes will be working for NMED and Lauren Hewitt will be with the Department of Interior Office of the Solicitor this coming summer.
 - e. Tom raised a potential topic for a future webinar or CLE: the impacts on surrounding states' cattle industries of Colorado's decision to release gray wolves within the state. He also noted the recent Supreme Court's decision in the Pork Producers case relating to state regulation of nationwide pork production.
- 8. Next meeting June 27, 2023