

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**

President Barnes called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24 via a Zoom video conferencing call.

Commissioners present:

Danielle Mason Anderson
David C. Anderson
Dennis M. Barnes, President
Joseph J. Baumann
Robert J. Buchanan, President-Elect
Aaron V. Burrell
Erika L. Butler
Hon. Clinton Canady III
B.D. “Chris” Christenson
Josephine A. DeLorenzo
Hon. Shauna L. Dunning
Thomas H. Howlett
Lisa J. Hamameh
Kara R. Hart-Negrich
Sarah E. Kuchon
Suzanne C. Larsen

James W. Low
E. Thomas McCarthy Jr.
Joseph P. McGill
Valerie R. Newman
Nicholas M. Ohanesian
Samantha J. Orvis
Hon. David A. Perkins
Barry R. Powers
Daniel D. Quick, Treasurer
Chelsea M. Rebeck
Thomas G. Sinas
Gregory L. Ulrich
Dana M. Warnez, Vice President
Erane C. Washington
Mark A. Wisniewski
Ryan Zemke

Commissioners absent and excused:

James W. Heath, Secretary

State Bar staff present:

Janet Welch, Executive Director
Marge Bossenbery, Executive Coordinator
Nancy Brown, Assistant Executive Director
Peter Cunningham, Assistant Executive Director and Director, Governmental Relations
Elizabeth Goebel, Public Policy Counsel
Kathryn Hennessey, General Counsel

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

President’s Report, Dennis M. Barnes, President

Mr. Barnes reported:

- The Redistricting/Reapportionment work group met and reviewed the data from the consultant. It was determined there were issues that were more complicated than originally thought which will prevent the work group from finishing its work on the reallocation of Board seats before the 2020 election. Mr. Barnes assured the Board he is committed to completing the reallocation by the end of the Bar year.
- At the recommendation of the Redistricting/Reapportionment work group, a proposed amendment to Article III Section 11—Limitation of Terms, of the State Bar’s Bylaws is before the Board for action. According to SBM policy, this proposed amendment was posted on the SBM website for comments before this meeting. A motion was offered and seconded to adopt the amendments as drafted. Discussion took place and a friendly amendment was offered and

accepted to add the language: "... a Commissioner appointed by the Board of Commissioner to fill a vacancy," as bolded, below. The motion was approved as amended.

Proposed State Bar of Michigan Bylaw Amendment Section 11—Limitation of Terms.

Except as otherwise ~~stated~~ provided herein, no Commissioner may serve more than three full ~~consecutive~~ elected terms on the Board of Commissioners. This limitation of terms does not apply to the time that Commissioners may serve on the Board of Commissioners in their capacity as officers of the Representative Assembly, officers of the Young Lawyers Section, a Commissioner appointed by the Board of Commissioners to fill a vacancy, or appointed Michigan Supreme Court representatives.

If the remaining term of a ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner elected vice president or president-elect will expire before the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner completes a term as president, the term shall be extended to allow the ~~commissioner~~ Commissioner to complete the term as president.

Public Policy, Robert J. Buchanan, Chairperson

Court Rules

ADM File No. 2002-37: Proposed Amendments of E-Filing Rules

The proposed amendments of MCR 1.109, 2.002, 2.302, 2.306, 2.315, 2.603, 3.222, 3.618, 4.201, and 8.119 are the latest proposed revisions as part of the design and implementation of the statewide electronic filing system.

A motion was offered and seconded to support the proposed amendment and authorize individual committees and sections to submit their position reports to the Court. The motion carried.

ADM File No. 2019-13: Proposed Amendments of MCR 7.118

This proposal, suggested by the Prisons and Corrections Section of the State Bar of Michigan, would require counsel to be appointed to an indigent prisoner when an application for leave to appeal a grant of parole is filed by the prosecutor or victim. The right to counsel also would be included on the notice to be provided the prisoner.

A motion was offered and seconded to support the proposed amendment. The motion carried.

Executive Director's Report, Janet K. Welch, Executive Director

Ms. Welch reported that:

- The entire staff has transitioned to working from home.
- An Executive Order of the governor was released and responded to the questions, concerns, and comments from the Board members.
- The SBM received about 30 calls from lawyers with concerns after the Executive Order was released.
- The SBM is working closely with the Court providing information beneficial to judges and lawyers and relaying questions to the Governor's Office.
- The SBM is participating in a roundtable with section leaders tomorrow.

- The sections are a wonderful source of advice and telling us what practice challenges need to be addressed. They have concerns about how to conduct business that requires in-person meetings such as notarizing and witnessing.
- The Judicial Qualifications Committee met via Zoom video conferencing today and was very successful.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.