

**OREGON STATE BAR – DEBTOR-CREDITOR SECTION
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, March 16, 2023, 4:00 pm
Via Zoom Only

Members present: Erich M. Paetsch (Past Chair), Cassie K. Jones (Chair), Douglas R. Ricks (Chair Elect), Stephen Raher (Secretary), Judge Theresa Pearson (non-voting member), Laura Zaro, Zachary Conway, Daniel Bonham, Holly Hayman, Tony Kullen.

Members not present: Rosemary Zook (Treasurer), Jeanne Sinnott, Belle Na.

Guests present: with Myah Osher Kehoe (BOG contact) and Karen Lee (OSB Liaison).

1. **Call to order.** The chair called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.
2. **General Introductions.** All attendees exchanged introductions.
3. **Minutes.** Review and approve minutes of November 30, 2022 meeting. Doug Ricks moved to approve the minutes as circulated, and the motion passed unanimously.
4. **Treasurer’s report.** The chair facilitated a discussion of the Section’s finances, referring to the reports (as of February 2023) posted on the OSB website. The cash reserve at beginning of 2023 is healthy and the Section has obtained a waiver obtained from the Bar’s new reserve requirement. Membership is down a bit from last year (ca. 24 fewer members), but the budget anticipates a reduction in revenue. Erich asked for update on the BOG discussion about possibly raising base OSB membership dues. Myah stated that no decision has been made by the BOG, but overall membership is trending downward and the Executive Committee should anticipate this trend to continue when planning for the future. Karen noted that other states are also experiencing a flattening of bar membership. Cassie will get a list of non-renewing members.
5. **Committee Assignments** – The members confirmed the following committee assignments:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>EC Liaison</u>	<u>Chair</u>
Annual Meeting & CLE	Rosemary Zook	Britta Warren & Tom Stilley
Consumer Bankruptcy	Vacant	Vacant
Legislative	Tony Kullen	Tony Kullen
Newsletter	Erich Paetsch	None
Nominating	Erich Paetsch	Erich Paetsch (Past Chair)
NWBI		Judge Pearson, Rich Parker, Danny Newman
Pro Bono: (Portland)	Holly Hayman	Rich Parker
Pro Bono: (Eugene)		

Pro Bono: Task Force (incl. Bend, Pendleton & Salem)		
Saturday Session/Other CLEs	Jeanne Sinnott	Loren Scott/Elayna Matthews
New Lawyers	Cassie Jones	Cassie Jones
Public Education (Portland and Eugene combined)	Cassie Jones	Britta Warren & Cassie Jones
Website	Laura Zaro	Laura Zaro/Kent Anderson
Local Rules and Forms	Douglas Ricks	Chris Coyle
Award of Merit	Past-Chair (Erich Paetsch)	
Federal Bar Association Rep.	Tony Kullen	Conde Cox
Donation Requests	Chair (Cassie Jones)	N/A
Newsletter Article Competition	Erich Paetsch	Margot Seitz

Liaisons provided the following updates on committee activity:

- Legislative. Section is sponsoring a bill to adopt the Uniform Avoidable Transfer Act, prospects for passage look good. The committee is also monitoring potential changes to homestead exemption (HB 2008).
 - Newsletter. The paid editor currently handles duty of committee chair, Erich would like to recruit a new chair. Articles needed for June issue.
 - Nominating. Active recruitment starts later in the year, but need for new members is more acute because term limits render many likely candidates ineligible. Three positions will need to be filled this year.
 - NWBI. Eighty-eight attendees registered as of today, 40 of those are complimentary (speakers, judges, etc.). Karen is still recruiting sponsoring firms.
 - Pro bono. Clinic sessions scheduled in Portland, the rest of the state is using direct-referral model.
 - New lawyers. ONLD is starting to ramp up from the pandemic hiatus, joint event with section is likely in the fall.
 - Public education. No events since start of pandemic, would be good to reactivate the committee.
 - Website. Laura is working on posting minutes from 2022 and event updates. Committee chairs and liaisons should check the committee information on the website to ensure accuracy.
 - Local rules and forms. New rules effective as of December 1. Committee meets on a regular schedule.
6. **2023 Goal Setting**. The Committee held a brief discussion regarding what we hope to accomplish this year, including the following agenda item.

7. **BarBooks.** Erich led a discussion regarding the possibility of updating debtor-creditor titles in the BarBooks collection. *Bankruptcy* is no longer available online (members requested a copy of the last edition). *Foreclosing Security Interests* has also been dropped from the online BarBooks collection (trust deeds and mortgages have been incorporated into *Real Estate Deskbook* and personal property liens have been incorporated into *Creditors Rights & Remedies*). Members discussed the possibility of a new volume on the Oregon Receivership Code. Publishing volumes in the BarBooks collection does not produce revenue for the section; requires substantial time, but can yield good educational value. Karen explained the process, which is led by the legal publications department. That department would organize an editorial board to plan changes and recruit volunteer chapter editors. Process typically takes 12-18 months at a minimum.
8. **Goal setting, continued.** Other goals discussed included the new newsletter article competition, and continuation of historical annual events including NWBI, the pro bono reception, the Section annual meeting, and Saturday Session.
9. **Meeting Scheduling for 2023 & OSB Requirements.** The next Executive Committee meeting will occur immediately following the conclusion of NWBI, 12:30 p.m. on April 15, location TBD. Approximate dates for subsequent meetings are July (remote), October 5 or 7 (in person, in conjunction with annual meeting), and November 28 (remote, budget meeting).
10. **Adjourn.** There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Stephen Rahe, Secretary