

**WEST VIRGINIA BAR FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
ZOOM  
DECEMBER 5, 2024-12:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the West Virginia Bar Foundation’s Board of Directors was called to order by President Ann Haight, at 12:05 PM.

Board Members participating were President Ann Haight, Vice President David Morrison, Secretary/Treasurer Judge Patrick Flatley, Immediate Past President Teresa Dumire, Judge Jack Alsop, Sandra Chapman, Judge Patricia Hill, Debra Kilgore, Olubunmi Kusimo-Frazier, Teresa McCune, Jill McIntyre, Suleiman Oko-Ogua, John Taylor, and Tom Tinder. Executive Director Tessa White was also present.

**REVIEW OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

The first item on the agenda was a review of the Minutes of the previous Board of Directors meeting, which had been held on September 6, 2024. A motion was duly made, seconded, and passed that the Minutes be approved with minor changes discussed.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

President Haight called upon Secretary/Treasurer Judge Flatley to present the financial report for the first five months of the 2024-25 fiscal year, July 1, 2024 – November 30, 2024. After questions from the Board members and responses, a motion was duly made, seconded, and passed to approve the year-to-date financial report as presented.

Secretary/Treasurer Judge Flatley presented the draft audited financial statements and draft Form 990 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. After questions from the Board members and responses, a motion was duly made, seconded, and passed to approve the draft audited financial statements and draft Form 990 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. Tom Tinder abstained from voting.

**JUSTICE FUND COMMITTEE REPORT**

On behalf of the Justice Fund Committee, Chair Dean John Taylor presented the report. The Justice Fund Committee recommends that the Board increases the ML Equity Growth Fund to 40. After some discussion, a motion was duly made, seconded, and passed to approve modifications to the investment portfolio and to continue retaining Jamie O’Connor of Merrill Lynch to manage the investment portfolio.

**REPORT OF GRANTS COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Grants Committee, Chair Debra Kilgore provided the report and recommendations from the Committee. The Committee recommends that the WV Bar Foundation make the following grant disbursements:

- Mountain State Justice - \$5,000 – to revise and update the organization’s website.
- Equal Justice America and Legal Aid of West Virginia - \$10,000 to place two summer law student fellows to work at Legal Aid of West Virginia to work pro bono to meet the civil legal needs of the poor and under-served.

- Child Protect of Mercer County - \$5,000 for its annual subscription for Guardify digital evidence management software.
- West Virginia Civic Education Foundation - \$2,700 to retain a consultant to build and publish a website and to provide training for WVCEF to maintain the website going forward.

Tom Tinder excused himself from the meeting, due to a conflict of interest. After some discussion, a motion was duly made, seconded, and passed to approve the recommendation presented by the Grants Committee.

**REPORT OF BAR FOUNDATION FELLOWS NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Foundation Fellows Nominating Committee, Judge Jack Alsop provided the report. Judge Alsop indicated that the recommended nominations represent individuals who promote the goals and mission of the organization and have made contributions to West Virginia’s communities and legal networks.

The list of recommended individuals for the WV Bar Foundation Fellows Class of 2025 are as follows:

J. Rob	Alsop	Morgantown
Jessica	Alsop	Morgantown
Alice	Chakmakian	Charles Town
David	DeJarnett	Martinsburg
Elizabeth	Elmore	Charleston
Judge Thomas	Ewing	Fayetteville
Alice	Faucett	Institute
Bridget	Furbee	Bridgeport
Brian	Gallagher	Morgantown
Honorable Joseph	Goodwin	Charleston
Judge Patricia	Keller	Huntington
Marilyn	McClure-Demers	Galena, OH
Judge Rudolph	Murensky, II	Welch
Judge Michael	Olejasz	Wheeling
Honorable Joseph	Reeder	Huntington
Camden	Siegrist	Charleston
Marc	Slotnick	Charleston
H. Toney	Stroud	Huntington
Judge Kevin	Stryker	Wheeling
Robert	Sweeney, Jr.	Huntington

After some discussion, a motion was duly made, seconded, and passed to approve the recommendation presented by the Foundation Fellows Nominating Committee. Judge Jack Alsop abstained from voting, due to a conflict of interest.

**REPORT OF STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE**

President Ann Haight called upon Vice President David Morrison to present the Development, Fundraising, and Finance Subcommittee report. The Development, Fundraising, and Finance Subcommittee recommends raising \$350,000 in the next five years and engaging a part-time administrative assistant.

After some discussion, a motion was duly made, seconded, and passed to approve the recommendations presented. President Ann Haight called upon Teresa McCune to present the Engagement, Collaboration, and Outreach Subcommittee report. The Engagement, Collaboration, and Outreach Subcommittee recommends exploring options to engage a third party to manage social media and adding a seat for certain Foundation Fellows nominees to pay a reduced financial commitment. The subcommittee will meet again to further discuss recommendations. The Strengthen from Within Subcommittee will meet and report at a later date.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Antero Resources dropped their Lawyer Leadership \$10,000 sponsorship. Board Members will brainstorm additional sponsors.

#### **NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS**

President Haight announced that the schedule for the upcoming events and Board of Directors Meetings is as follows:

- BOD Meeting – March 6, 2025 – 12:00 pm, Zoom
- Bar Foundation Fellows Dinner – Thursday, April 10, 2025 – Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Charleston
- Lawyer Leadership Institute – May 16-18, 2025 – Stonewall Resort
- BOD Meeting – June 5, 2025 – 12:00 pm, Zoom
- Lunch and Laughs with a Legal Legend – September 5, 2025 – Erickson Alumni Center in Morgantown
- BOD Meeting – September 5, 2025 – 1:00 pm, or immediately following the Lunch & Laughs event, Erickson Alumni Center, Morgantown, WV

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was adjourned.