

MINUTES  
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING

Honolulu, HI 96813

Thursday, December 16, 2021

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Levi Hookano called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. with a quorum present.

The following persons were present for all or part of the meeting:

Officers Present

Levi Hookano  
Shannon Sheldon  
Rhonda Griswold  
Russ Awakuni  
Alika Piper

HSBA Staff Present

Patricia Mau-Shimizu  
Iris Ito  
Sean Perez  
Brian Simon

Directors Present

Tristan Andres  
Steven Chow  
Vladimir Devens  
Jessica Domingo  
William Harrison  
Geraldine Hasegawa  
Kristin Izumi-Nitao  
Carol Kitaoka  
Jacob Lowenthal (via Zoom)  
Mark K. Murakami  
Ralph O'Neill  
Zale Okazaki (via Zoom)

Directors Absent

Craig De Costa  
Erin Kobayashi  
Paul Naso  
Christopher St. Sure

B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - A motion was made (by who?), seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2021 board meeting.

C. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Treasurer Alika Piper delivered the financial report as of November 30, 2021, including YTD revenues and expenses. She also recommended that \$30k from unexpended funds under Special Reserves be used to make an additional payment on the mortgage loan to further reduce its balance.

**Action taken:** A motion was made (Alika Piper?) and seconded to approve an extra payment of \$30k to pay down the mortgage loan on the HSBA office space.

After further discussion, the motion carried without opposition.

D. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Executive Director Patricia Mau-Shimizu reported on the annual attorney registration process and continuing email issues.

**Action taken:** A motion was made (Ralph O'Neill), seconded, and carried without opposition to recognize the HSBA Executive Director and staff for their hard work throughout 2021.

## E. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **House Concurrent Resolution 5 SD1 Establishing a Joint Committee on Judicial Selection Final Report** - President Hookano referred to the written report provided in the board agenda material noting that the report focused on the rules of the Judicial Selection Commission and recommendations to improve on its processes. He also reported that he agreed that HSBA would assist in the recruitment of applicants for judicial openings.

2. **The Fleck Working Group Update** - Co-Chair Mark K. Murakami gave an overview of the Working Group's work since its inception in 2019. He noted that bar members who are aware of the services provided by HSBA are generally content with the services, so the focus should be on educating members who are not aware of HSBA services. Also, the Committee realized a fundamental point: that older HSBA members and younger HSBA members communicate very differently. The Committee will plan to study its communications plan in 2022 and see what can be done to improve upon it. Another issue that needs to be addressed is the cost/benefit ratio. See also written "Ad Hoc Working Group Committee Report" from Mark K. Murakami and Vladimir Devens, Co-Chairs.

3. **Hawaii State Board Foundation Board Vacancies**

**Action taken:** A motion was made (Ralph O'Neill), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and HSBF Board reappoint/newly appoint the following individuals to the

Hawaii State Bar Foundation for terms beginning January 1, 2022 and expiring as indicated below:

- ◆ Nelisa Asato (new appointment) 12/31/2022
- ◆ Diane Ono (reappointment) 12/31/2023
- ◆ Bobby Senaha (reappointment) 12/31/2023
- ◆ Craig Wagnild (reappointment) 12/31/2022
- ◆ Ilana Waxman (reappointment) 12/31/2024

**Action taken:** A motion was made (Russ Awakuni) and seconded to adopt the recommendation of the Executive Committee to approve the suggestion to include the date of the judge's term for the particular evaluation period.

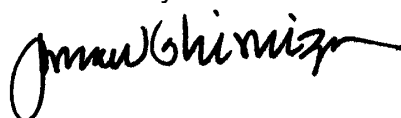
#### F. MAHALO

1. **Thank You to the 2021 HSBA Board** - President Hookano thanked board members for their service on the HSBA Board in 2021 and presented each with a memento (framed photo of the HSBA Board and digital smart notebook).
2. **Passing of the Gavel** - President Hookano presented a gavel to President-elect Shannon Sheldon and wished her well in the upcoming year.
3. **Certificate of Appreciation for HSBA Board Secretary** - President-elect Sheldon presented a certificate to HSBA Board Secretary Russ Awakuni thanking him for his 10 years of dedicated service to the HSBA Board and prior 3 years on the YLD Board (including YLD President).
4. **Gift for HSBA President** - On behalf of the HSBA, President-elect Sheldon presented a gift to President Hookano for his leadership and hard work throughout 2021 (Sig Zane aloha shirt).

#### G. ADJOURNMENT

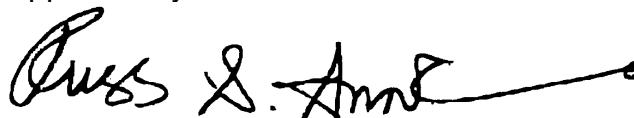
The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Submitted by:



Patricia Mau-Shimizu  
HSBA Executive Director

Approved by:



Russ S. Awakuni  
HSBA Secretary