

MINUTES
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

Via Zoom
Honolulu, HI 96813

Thursday, January 28, 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

Others Present

Kathy Bruce
Noah Gibson
Brandon Kimura
Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald

Directors Present

Steven Chow
Craig De Costa
Vladimir Devens
Jessica Domingo
William Harrison
Geraldine Hasegawa
Kristin Izumi-Nitao
Carol Kitaoka
Erin Kobayashi
Jacob Lowenthal
Mark K. Murakami
Paul Naso
Ralph O'Neill
Zale Okazaki
Christopher St. Sure

HSBA Staff

Patricia Mau-Shimizu
Iris Ito
Adrienne Hayashi
Brian Simon

- B. **HAWAII STATE JUDICIARY UPDATE** - Chief Justice Mark Recktenwald gave an update on Judiciary activities over the last year. He also discussed the Judiciary's legislative budget requests which will focus on no reductions to their operating budget. CJ emphasized how critical this is because of the increased demand for services, and the budget reduction already made through June 30, 2020, and from

July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 (current fiscal biennium). On the CIP side, the Judiciary is requesting funding to address obsolete fire alarm systems, leaky pipes and roofs, malfunctioning elevators, as well as security vulnerabilities in facilities statewide. He respectfully asked for HSBA's support on the Judiciary's proposed budget. He also gave a brief overview of other legislative bills affecting the Judiciary, one of which would authorize the CJ to temporarily fill ICA vacancies.

Note: See item I.5. for Board discussion and action on the Judiciary's budget and legislative priorities.

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to move into executive session.

[The Board resumed its regular monthly meeting.]

D. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2020 board meeting.

E. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Treasurer Alika Piper reported that the financials are now in a slightly more streamlined format. For the month of December, she reported that CLE revenue was higher than ever in 2020, exceeding \$100,000 in a month. This trend is expected to continue as more people work from home and are taking on-line courses. For the YTD December 2020 financials, HSBA had total income of \$1,905,454, and total operating expenses and capital expenditures of \$1,817,501.

F. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Executive Director Patricia Mau-Shimizu reported on the following items:

- Vaccinations for Criminal Law Practitioners - The HSBA officers approved of sending a letter to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Health Director bringing to their attention the increased risk faced by criminal law practitioners to the coronavirus due to their exposure to certain populations in the community.
- Federal PPP Loans - With the second round of the Paycheck Protection Program loans becoming available, an application was prepared and submitted after approval by the Executive Committee. If the application goes through, the issue will return to the Board before accepting the loan.
- License Registration Update - Despite COVID difficulties, the number of timely license renewals by December 31, 2020 are slightly up from prior years.
- HSBF Grant for Goal Group Projects & Events – The HSBF approved the HSBA request to rollover the unused portion of HSBF project grant funds to 2021.
- HSBF Grant for Pro Bono Celebration - Unused grant funds were returned to the HSBF.

G. **YLD PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - YLD President Christopher St. Sure reported that the YLD Board held its orientation meeting and have assigned committee co-chairs for each YLD project. He also reported that the High School Mock Trial project is underway and will be done virtually through Pacific Rim Concepts.

H. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None.

I. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Raymond James Investment Account with First Hawaiian Bank**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to deposit funds of \$135,000 from the Raymond James Investment Account into a new Merrill Lynch investment account that will be kept separate from other HSBA monies.

2. **Amendment to Banking Resolution & Signature Cards**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the amendment to the banking resolution that replaces the name of the former Director of Operations with the name of the new Director of Operations.

3. **Filling Oahu Director Vacancy on HSBA Board**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to fill the Oahu Director vacancy on the HSBA Board, created by the resignation of Jeen Kwak, with the next highest vote-getter, Tristan Andres, in the most recent election.

4. **2021 HSBA Committee Chair Appointments**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to ratify President Hookano's appointment of remaining 2021 HSBA Committee Chairs:

- Awards - Craig De Costa & Kristin Izumi-Nitao
- Diversity, Equality, and the Law - Trisha Nakamura & Clarissa Malinao
- Judicial Administration - Vladimir Devens [in addition to Justice Simeon Acoba (ret.)]
- Nominating - Calvin Young
- Professional Responsibility & Risk Management - Hayley Cheng & David Hayakawa & Judge Jill Otake

5. **2019 HSBA Nominating Committee Members**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to ratify President Hookano's appointment of the following individuals as 2021 HSBA Nominating Committee members: Calvin Young (chair), Trejur Bordenave, Judge Darien Nagata, Shannon Sheldon, Judge Michael Soong, Jesse Souki, Elmira Tsang, and Mark Valencia.

6. **HSBA Representatives on 2021 Supreme Court Nominating Committee**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to ratify President Hookano's appointment of the following individuals as 2021 HSBA representatives to the Supreme Court Nominating Committee: Sidney Ayabe, Sherry Broder, Carol Muranaka, and Stephanie Rezents.

7. **Ad Hoc Committee to Study LSP Opt-In on Dues Renewal**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to create an Ad Hoc Committee to study the inclusion of the legal service providers on the license renewal form, with Director Jessica Domingo serving as committee chair.

* 8. **2021 Judiciary Budget and Legislative Requests**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to determine that the issues of the FY 2021/2022 Judiciary budget and other legislation noted below are germane to the purposes of unified bar and would be generally supported by HSBA members, therefore, passes the *Keller* test.

- ◆ SB383/HB185 - Essential staffing for court/administrative operations
- ◆ SB1257 - CIP: Building repair and maintenance
- ◆ SB388/HB189 - Allows the Chief Justice to temporarily fill a vacancy on the ICA with other sitting or other retired judges

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to testify in support of these legislative bills when they are scheduled for hearings at the Legislature.

J. **ADJOURNMENT**

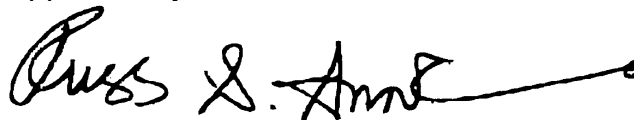
The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Submitted by:



Patricia Mau-Shimizu
HSBA Executive Director

Approved by:



Russ S. Awakuni
HSBA Secretary

* Addendum to agenda.