

## MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2025 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

**Call to Order by Chair Kolb at 10:01 a.m.**

**1. Attendance and Excused Absences**

See attached meeting attendance sheet.

**Motion** by Mills/Bluhm to approve excused absences; approved unanimously.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion** by Pastula/Fisher; approve; approved unanimously.

**3. Minutes of the October 2025, Regular Meeting**

**Motion** by Joppich/Forsyth to approve minutes; approved unanimously.

**4. Treasurer's Report: (Attachment A)**

Secretary-Treasurer Pastula noted that financial reports will be available the first two weeks of November. She expects to be able to update the Section at the December 2025 meeting.

- 5. Amicus Committee:** Attorney Chris Patterson joined to discuss the case Wineries of the Old Mission Peninsula ("WOMP") v Peninsula Township and request for amicus participation in the case on appeal. Patterson gave an overview of the case and identified several appellate issues. Eric Williams asked Patterson to identify the top 2 or 3 issues that GLS might address as amici. He identified (1) Preemption (Michigan Liquor Control Code); (2) Dormant Commerce Clause; and (3) Vagueness (due process claim). McGee did not participate in the discussion or the vote. Member McGee disclosed that he and Member Mithani represented the Plaintiffs in the litigation below and therefore, would need to abstain from voting. McGee did not participate in the discussion.

**Motion** by Williams/Joppich to authorize GLS to participate in the WOMP v Peninsula Township case as amicus and to author an amicus brief, at a total cost not to exceed \$15,000.00. Motion adopted by 2/3 vote in compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 4 of the State Bar of Michigan Bylaws (13-0 with 3 abstentions):

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
1	Bluhm, Lori 2027	x			
2	Brady, Michael 2024			x	
3	Chubb, Anthony 2026	x			
4	Fisher, Jerry 2026	x			
5	Forbush, Audrey 2027				x
6	Forsyth, Chris 2027 Chair	x			
7	Gibbs, Aimee 2025	x			
8	Joppich, Steve 2027	x			
9	Kim, William 202	x			
10	King, Dawn 2026 Vice Chair	x			

11	Kolb, Kristin 2026 Chair	x			
12	McGee, Mike 2025			x	
13	Mills, Lizzie 2026			x	
14	Mithani, Soni 2025				x
15	Nettleton, Mark 2025				x
16	Pastula, Julianne 2027 Secretary-Treasurer	x			
17	Sluggett, Jeff 2027				x
18	Thomas, Aaron 2025	x			
19	Watza, Mike 2026	x			
20	White-McDonnell, Elizabeth 2025				x
21	Williams, Eric 2025	x			

6. **Zoning Land Use and Local Control Committee:** Update  
Chair Fisher provided an update. Nothing new to report except that there is still an interest in reorganizing the Home Rule City Act. Fisher has been in discussions with George Ellworth and Chris Johnson, General Counsel for MML regarding same.

7. **Briefly:** Update  
New edition issue published on October 31, 2025.

8. **Old Business**

- a. Discussion of 2026 Winter Seminar to be held at the Troy Community Center (February 20, 2026)
- i. Discussion of proposed themes and topics
    - Ballot proposals
    - Security of Elections: workers and general public
    - Elections 101/201
    - Mid-term elections
    - Streaming/Social media
    - Flock cameras
    - Topics geared toward Young Attorneys Academy
  - ii. -Facility Rental Agreement. Venue to be provided at no charge.
  - iii. Catering to be provided by Cass Catering. Committee to reach out to Cass to obtain
- b. 2026 Joint Summer Educational Conference (June 18-21, 2026, Stafford Perry Hotel, Petosky). No updates at this time.

9. **New Business**

- a. Referral of ADM File No. 2022-31: Proposed Amendment of MCR 2.106 – No discussion.
- b. Notice of Amendment to Local Rules 83.32 – No discussion.
- c. Consider request to reimburse Chair Kolb for lunch expenses. **Motion** Chubb/Williams to reimburse Kolb \$99.11 for lunch expenses. Motion adopted by 2/3 vote in compliance with the requirements of Article VII, Section 4 of the State Bar of Michigan Bylaws (15-0 with 1 abstention):

	Motion to Reimburse Kolb for Lunch Expenses	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
I	Bluhm, Lori 2027	x			

2	Brady, Michael 2024	x			
3	Chubb, Anthony 2026	x			
4	Fisher, Jerry 2026	x			
5	Forbush, Audrey 2027				x
6	Forsyth, Chris 2027	x			
7	Gibbs, Aimee 2025	x			
8	Joppich, Steve 2027	x			
9	Kim, William 202	x			
10	King, Dawn 2026 Vice Chair	x			
11	Kolb, Kristin 2026 Chair			x	
12	McGee, Mike 2025	x			
13	Mills, Lizzie 2026	x			
14	Mithani, Soni 2025				x
15	Nettleton, Mark 2025				x
16	Pastula, Julianne 2027 Secretary-Treasurer	x			
17	Sluggett, Jeff 2027				x
18	Thomas, Aaron 2025	x			
19	Watza, Mike 2026	x			
20	White-McDonnell, Elizabeth 2025				x
21	Williams, Eric 2025	x			

## 10. **Council Comments**

- a. Lori Bluhm advised the Council about the recent Court of Appeals decision in Michigan Ass'n of Home Builders v. City of Troy, involving the City's assessment of building department fees and the implications of the Headlee Amendment. The Michigan Supreme Court denied the City's application for leave to appeal October 29, 2025.
- b. Mike Watza brought to the Council's attention several right-of-way issues being followed by PROTEC including:
  - i. \$150 million in Cable/Video Franchise fees at risk due to 3rd year of streaming industry seeking a legislative exemption;
  - ii. FCC started two proceedings September 30 seeking expansion of the Small Cell preemption doctrine to previously unrelated preemption of local government control over wireline Telecom access to our ROW and, Wireless telecom access to public lands and, our regulatory control over wireless facilities on private lands.
  - iii. Northville ROW Court battle regarding the ability of City Council to govern its ROW. An Amicus is likely to be sought. PROTEC may respond. GLS should consider filing an amicus brief as well.
- c. Anthony Chubb brought to the Council's attention the case Let's Open Northville v. City of Northville, where the City appealed the Circuit Court's decision and requested expedited review by the Court of Appeals. Chubb noted the City is also looking at proposing legislative amendments to resolve this matter for it and all other communities and sought thoughts from the Council on proposed legislative amendments.

- d. Chris Patterson thanked the Council for the opportunity to present on WOMP v Peninsula Township.

**Adjournment at 1:28 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: December 6, 2025, via Zoom.**

DRAFT