

**State Bar of Michigan  
Information Technology Law Section**

Council Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2011 6:30 p.m.  
Wayne State University Law School, Detroit

**1. Call to Order – Mark Malven, Chair.**

Council Members Present: Mark Malven, Charlie Bieneman, Karl Hochkammer, Ron Nixon, William Cosnowski, Bill Lamping, Carla Perrotta, David Syrowik, Susanna Brennan, Nilay Dave, Michael Gallo and Tatiana Melnik.

Council Members Absent: Mr. Malven noted the excused absences of Samuel Frederick, Brian Hall, Mary Ann Wehr, Jeannie Dunk, Vince Polley, Claudia Rast,

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:55 following a presentation on Net Neutrality by Professor Rothchild of Wayne State Law School.

**2. Reading and approval of minutes from the November 15, 2010 Meeting – Karl Hochkammer**

The minutes from the November 15, 2010 were read and unanimously approved.

**3. Treasurer’s Report – Ron Nixon**

Mr. Nixon discussed adjustments in the current year’s budget that are required to reflect adjustments in the way in which the State Bar accounted for revenue and expenses associated with the Section’s annual ICLE seminar in 2010. Going forward, the Section will have a separate line item for this seminar.

**4. Committee/Working Group Reports**

a. 2010 ICLE Seminar/Annual Meeting – Charles Bieneman

Mr. Bieneman reported on the plans for the 2011 ICLE Seminar and annual meeting. Mr. Kirkey of ICLE noted that the list of topics and speakers need to be finalized by the end of April 2011. The 2011 seminar and annual meeting will follow the format used in 2010 in which the seminar with the annual meeting of the Section are combined.

Mr. Bieneman, chair of the ICLE seminar/ annual meeting committee, presented a list of proposed topic and speakers which was discussed in detail. In addition, the need for sponsors was also discussed.

b. Newsletter Committee – Mike Gallo and Ron Nixon

Mr. Gallo noted the Michigan IT Lawyer is publishing on schedule and is seeking volunteers for the “Meet a Section Member” feature.

c. Writing Award Committee – Dave Syrowik

After discussion the counsel unanimously approved the following 2010 Edward F. Langs Writing Award winners and authorized the Secretary and Treasurer to contact the State Bar to authorize the issuance of the awards as follows:

First Place:	Alex R. Hess	\$750
Second Place:	Kate Mercer-Lawson	\$500
Third Place:	Daniel Ray	\$250

There was a lengthy discussion of potential ways in which the writing award could be better publicized. Mr. Syrowik noted that 2 of the winning papers were submitted by law students attending law school outside of the state of Michigan, with most of the papers being submitted by University of Detroit-Mercy students.

d. Proprietary Rights Committee – Dave Syrowik

Mr. Syrowik reported that the committee is working on a follow-up paper regarding Bilski v. Kappos.

e. IT-Themed SBM Journal – Mark Malven

Mr. Malven noted that the June 2011 issue of the Michigan Bar Journal will have an IT theme. Mr. Malven has three articles and is in need of a fourth article of approximately 2,000 to 2,500 words.

f. Bylaw Revision Committee – Mark Malven (for May Ann Wehr)

After discussion, Mr. Malven, Ms. Wehr, Ms. Rast and Mr. Bisdorf agreed to meet for the purpose of reviewing the current By-Laws of the Section and to make a recommendation to the Council at the next meeting on whether a Committee should be formed for the purpose of revising the By-Laws

Mr. Malven, acting in Ms. Wehr’s absence, reported on the meeting authorized at the November 2010 Council in which Mr. Malven, Ms. Wehr, Ms. Rast and Mr. Bisdorf met for the purpose of reviewing the current Bylaws of the Section. Mr. Malven conveyed the group’s recommendation to the Council that a Committee should be formed for the purpose of revising the Bylaws. A general discussion ensued in which it was noted that, pursuant to Article IX of the Section’s Bylaws, the bylaws may be amended at an annual meeting of section by a vote of 2/3 of the members present and voting, but only after the proposed amendments are submitted to the Council for its recommendation. Once approved by the members, the Bylaw amendments must be approved by the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar.

After discussion, there was a motion for the Council to authorize Mr. Malven, as Chair of the Section, to form a committee pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the Bylaws, to study possible amendments. Mr. Malven proposed to include Mr. Bisdorf, Immediate Past Chair, Ms. Wehr and Ms. Rast as the committee members. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

- g. Spring Section Event - Mark Malven (for Anthony Targan)

Mr. Malven discussed the current plans to hold the Section's Spring Network Event in conjunction with detroitnet.org's Pink Slip Party on Thursday, April 21, 2011 at the The Post Bar in Novi. The cost to the Section will be \$500.

- h. Social Media – Bill Lamping

Mr. Lamping discussed the Section's Facebook and LinkedIn pages. A general discussion of the use of social media to better publicize the Section ensued.

## **5. New Business**

- a. Job-Seeking Assistance

There was a general discussion of whether the Section should assist attorneys and law students with job search activities. Ms. Perrotta volunteered to prepare a short document on this topic, possibly with the assistance of the Kelly Law registry.

- b. Business from the floor

None.

## **6. Adjournment**

Upon a motion, which was duly seconded and unanimously approved, Mr. Malven adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:47 p.m.