

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN - BUSINESS LAW SECTION

COUNCIL MINUTES

This meeting of the Council of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan was held at the JW Marriott Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan on September 13, 2025 pursuant to notice duly given. Council members present were Bruce Courtade, Patrick Haddad, Laura Johnson, Loukas Kalliantasis, Carrie Leahy (via phone), Sharan Levine (via phone), Alexis Lupo, Michael Molitor, and Lita Popke (via phone)). Committee Chairs, Directors and Liaisons present were Mark High, Justin Klimko, Mark Rossman, John Schuring and Douglas Toering (phone). Others present were Tala Dahbour, Lisa Gehrin, and Terri Shoop.

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum. Section Chair, Ian Williamon, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:02 a.m. and determined that a quorum was present.
2. Nomination of Officers and Election of Officers. The nominations for officer positions are as follows: Michael Molitor, Chair; Carrie Leahy, Vice Chair; Patrick Haddad, Treasurer; Laura Johnson, Secretary. A motion was made by Mr. Kalliantasis to elect the following officers Michael Molitor, Chair; Carrie Leahy, Vice Chair; Patrick Haddad, Treasurer; Laura Johnson, Secretary. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lupo and passed unanimously, 9-0-0.
3. Approval of Minutes of June 5, 2025 Council Meeting. A motion to approve the Minutes of the June 5, 2025 Council meeting was made Ms. Lupo, seconded Mr. Kalliantasis and passed unanimously, 9-0-0.
4. Treasurer's Report and Proposed Budget. A written report and proposed budget was provided by the Treasurer. Mr. Haddad reported that the Section's fund balance is \$191,000, up from \$188,000 in August of 2024. The proposed budget projects a deficit of \$25,000 which is down substantially from budget projected deficits of the last two years. Dues will increase in 2025 to \$50, bringing an anticipated \$46,000 in additional revenue. We have decreased printing costs with respect to the Journal. A discussion ensued regarding the budget request of the Privately Held Business Forum of \$10,000. A motion was made by Ms. Johnson to approve the proposed budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year subject to one change which is increasing the Privately Held Business Forum's budget to \$10,000. Mr. Rossman will aggressively push ticket sales and consider bringing back sponsors for future programs. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lupo and passed unanimously, 9-0-0.
5. Council Approval of Committee Chair and Directorship Appointments. There are no new committee or directorship appointments at this time. Mr. Williamson reported that in-house counsel wants their own Section and the request is being considered by the State Bar.
6. Chair's Report. Mr. Molitor reported that his goal in the upcoming year is to stay on course with the Section's current programing and work on better supporting the committees. He will work on recruiting more people and helping the committees to be more active.

- a. Access to Justice Donation for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year - \$7,500. A motion was made by Mr. Haddad to approve a \$7,500 donation to Access to Justice. The motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson and passed unanimously, 9-0-0.
- b. Business Law Institute. Attendance numbers at the 2025 Business Law Institute decreased from 2024. We believe this may be because of the earlier date. ICLE will reserve space for the 2026 Business Law Institute at the JW Marriott in Grand Rapids on October 2-3, 2026. This is more in keeping with the traditional event timeframe.

7. Committee/Directorship Reports.

A. Standing Committees.

- (i) Business Courts Committee. A written report was provided by the Business Courts Committee.
- (ii) Commercial Litigation Committee. A written report was provided by the Commercial Litigation Committee.
- (iii) Corporate Laws Committee. A written report was provided by the Corporate Laws Committee.
- (iv) Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee. A written report was provided by the Debtor/Creditor Rights Committee.
- (v) Financial Institutions Committee. No report.
- (vi) In-House Counsel Committee. No report.
- (vii) Law Schools Committee. A written report was provided by the Law Schools Committee.
- (viii) LLC & Partnership Committee. A written report was provided by the LLC & Partnership Committee.
- (ix) Nonprofit Corporations Committee. A written report was provided by the Nonprofit Corporations Committee.
- (x) Privately Held Business Forum. A written report was provided by the Privately Held Business Forum.
- (xi) Regulation of Securities Committee. No report. Mr. Haddad reported that the Committee is responsible for the Spring issue of the *Journal*. He is looking for authors and asked the Council to encourage colleagues to contribute.
- (xii) Uniform Commercial Code Committee. No report.

B. Directorships.

(i) Communication & Development Directorship. No report. Mr. Schuring reported that the Directorship is concentrating on social media. The Directorship is searching for younger lawyers to assist.

(ii) Diversity & Inclusion Directorship. No report. Mr. Molitor reported that the Directorship is vacant. He spoke with a lawyer yesterday who may be interested.

(iii) Legislative Review Directorship. A written report was provided by the Legislative Review Director.

(iv) Nominating Directorship. A written report was provided by the Nominating Director.

(v) Programs Directorship. No report. The Directorship is working on ways to increase attendance at events. Boot camp is off for a year.

(vi) Publications Directorship. No report.

C. Liaisons.

(i) ICLE Liaison. No report. A motion was made by Mr. Haddad to appoint Mark Rossman as the ICLE Liaison. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kallantasis and passed unanimously, 9-0-0.

(ii) Young Lawyers Section Liaison. No report.

8. Other Business and Announcements. Mr. Molitor reported on the lovely tribute to Cyril Moscow yesterday. Honigman has gifted the Section \$10,000 in Cy's memory. Mr. Molitor will be writing a thank you note to Honigman for their generous donation.

9. Announcement of December 4, 2025 Council Meeting. The next meeting of the Business Law Section Council will be held on December 4, 2025 at 11 am via Zoom.

10. Meeting Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Council of the Business Law Section, upon motion duly made by Ms. Lupo and seconded by Ms. Johnson, the motion passed unanimously, 9-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10 a.m.

Laura Johnson
Secretary