



State of Nevada
Certified Court Reporters Board

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PEGGY ELIAS – Chairperson
HEIDI KONSTEN – Vice Chairperson
CHRISTINE ALAIMO – Board Member
DAN WAITE, ESQ., - Board Member
LORI JUDD – Board Member

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, June 12, 2017
Start Time: 5:33pm
End Time: 6:48pm

Location: Lewis Rothgerber Christie, LLP
3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Present: Peggy Elias Heidi Konsten Dan Waite Lori Judd
Christine Alaimo Asheesh Bhalla Debbie Uehara Heather Grech
Christine Carl

Present via Telcon: Carrie Hewerdine Karen Jones Mary Cox Daniel
Kevin Daniel Josie Roper Kathy Silva Bill LaBorde
Kim Farkas Peter Hellman Michel Loomis Matthew Spievak
Holly Larsen

ITEM #1: Meeting Called to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Peggy Elias:

Board Members:

Present: Peggy Elias, Chairperson
Present: Heidi Konsten, Vice Chairperson
Present: Christine Alaimo
Present: Dan Waite
Present: Lori Judd

ITEM #2: Public Comments: No public comments.

ITEM #3: Approval of the Agenda:

MOTION by Dan Waite: That the Board approves the agenda with the amendment to move agenda item #10 to a later meeting date. Motion seconded by Lori Judd, all in favor, moves forward.

ITEM #4: Approval of Meeting Minutes:

MOTION by Lori Judd: That the Board approves the April 6, 2017 open meeting minutes with the amendments made to item #10 by adding the word "to" after the word appreciation and adding the words "up to" before \$2,000.00. Motion seconded by Heidi Konsten, all in favor, motion moves forward.

State of Nevada Certified Court Reporters Board
Open Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2017
Page 2

MOTION by Lori Judd: That the Board approves the April 29, 2017 Exam & Grading Committee closed meeting minutes in its entirety. Motion seconded by Heidi Konsten, Dan Waite abstains, all others in favor, motion moves forward.

MOTION by Lori Judd: That the Board approves the May 25, 2017 Exam & Grading Committee open meeting minutes in its entirety. Motion seconded by Heidi Konsten, Dan Waite abstains, all others in favor, motion moves forward.

MOTION by Lori Judd: That the Board approves the May 25, 2017 Exam & Grading Committee closed meeting minutes in its entirety. Motion seconded by Heidi Konsten, Dan Waite abstains, all others in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #5: **Biennial Audit Services:** Pursuant to NRS 218G.400, the Board sought out the services of Heather Grech, C.P.A. from Bradshaw, Smith & Co. LLP to prepare the Board's biennial audit. Ms. Grech prepared the previous audits for the Board. Her proposal is attached and will be kept on file. No further comments.

MOTION BY Lori Judd: That the Board approves Bradshaw, Smith & Co., LLP proposal as submitted by Heather Grech, C.P.A. to prepare the Board's biennial audit pursuant to NRS 218G.400. Motion seconded by Heidi Konsten, Dan Waite abstains, all others in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #6: **Ratify April 29, 2017 Certification Exam Results:** Debbie Uehara reported 16 applicants registered for the April 29, 2017 exam. Of the 16 applicants, 1 applicant cancelled, 1 applicant transferred to the fall exam and 1 applicant did not appear. 13 applicants appeared on the day of the exam to sit for one or both sections of the exam. After the exams were graded by the committee, it was confirmed 1 applicant passed both sections of the exam and is eligible to register for their certificate. No further comments.

MOTION by Heidi Konsten: That the Board ratify the test results from the April 29, 2017 certification exam. Motion seconded by Dan Waite, all in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #7: **2017 Legislative Session Update:** Lori Judd presented an update and shared a brief history on SB-406. The formation of this bill began approximately 6 years ago and matters were added as the years passed when it failed to make it to floor in past legislative sessions. Senator Hammond agreed to serve as the Board's sponsor and present SB-406 at the 2017 Legislative Session where he successfully navigated our bill through its process. Ms. Judd expressed immense gratitude to Senator Hammond for his outstanding efforts at no cost to the Board and the licensees. The new statutes go into effect on January 1, 2018 and the Board has until then to update the regulations and make them consistent with the new statutes. Peggy Elias announced that any interested person(s) who would like to volunteer and serve on the Legislative Regulations Committee should contact Debbie Uehara. No action taken, no further comments.

ITEM #8: **Withdraw R001-17:** Peggy Elias clarified that Nevada Revised Statutes does not allow the Board to seek outside legal counsel, therefore, it is no longer required to amend NAC 656.460 to allow the Board to hire outside legal counsel. No further comments.

MOTION by Lori Judd: That the Board rescind their request with the Legislative Counsel Bureau and rescind R001-17. Motion seconded by Heidi Konsten, all in favor, motion moves forward.

State of Nevada Certified Court Reporters Board

Open Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2017

Page 3

ITEM #9: Seeking Attorney General's Opinion: Peggy Elias presented a query from the public; she was asked if it presented a conflict of interest if a licensee rented an office space from an attorney or vice versa. She questioned if this request warranted an Attorney General's Opinion. Asheesh Bhalla, D.A.G. will consider this matter and respond to the Board. No action taken, no further comments.

ITEM #10: Certificate and License Holder's Fees: This agenda item was moved to a later meeting date.

ITEM #11: Update on Former Executive Secretary Dawn Jackson: Asheesh Bhalla shared an update on Dawn Jackson, former Executive Secretary who was charged with 1 count category B felony of theft and 1 count category D felony of forgery of a public officer on May 30, 2006 and charged her with a 5-year suspended probation and restitution of \$38,000. Subsequently, Ms. Jackson was dishonorably discharged along with her remaining restitution of approx. \$33,000. The Board can choose to seek the remaining restitution through civil court. Ms. Jackson remains unlocatable. No further comments.

MOTION by Lori Judd: That the Board allow Debbie Uehara to utilize the Attorney General's Office investigatory services to locate Dawn Jackson and not to exceed more than 5 hours or \$500.00 to locate Ms. Jackson. Motion seconded by Christine Alaimo, all in favor, motion moves forward.

ITEM #12: Review Disciplinary Procedures Pursuant to NRS Chapter 656 and NAC Chapter 656: Asheesh Bhalla clarified the disciplinary process as outlined in NRS Chapter 656 and NAC Chapter 656. No action taken, no further comments.

ITEM #13: Open Meeting Law Presentation: Asheesh Bhalla shared a comprehensive presentation on the Nevada Open Meeting Law. A copy is attached and will be kept on file.

ITEM #14: Executive Secretary Report: Debbie Uehara presented the financial report, a copy is attached and will be kept on file. Ms. Uehara is investigating 1 potential complaint and no written comments received by the office. She provided an update on the license and certificate renewals due on June 30, 2017 as follows:

48 Firms – 16 Did not renew and/or submit their Report of Compliance Form
281 Court Reporters – 22 Did not renew and/or submit their Report of Compliance Form
55 Inactive Court Reporters – 3 Did not renew

ITEM #15: Board Member Comments: No Board member comments.

ITEM #16: Schedule Next Open Meeting and Requests for Agenda Items: The next scheduled open meeting date and agenda items will be determined later. No further comments.

ITEM #17: Public Comments: Kevin Daniel referenced NAC 656.390(2)(3) to agenda item #9. Mr. Daniel shared Mary Cox Daniel located Dawn Jackson on Facebook under the name of Dawn Marie Acocella. Holly Larsen sought clarification on SB-148. Karen Jones responded to Ms. Larsen's query and stated SB-148 covers notary laws. No further comments.

Adjournment:

MOTION by Lori Judd: That the Board adjourn the meeting at 6:48pm. Motion seconded by Heidi Konsten, all in favor, motion moves forward.