

**The West Virginia State Bar  
Young Lawyer Section - Young Lawyer Board Meeting  
Erickson Alumni Center  
Morgantown, West Virginia  
August 10, 2024**

**Minutes**

- 1. Call to Order** – Chairperson Taylor Coplin.
  - **Meeting started:** 9:04am
- 2. Ascertainment of Quorum** – Secretary John Isner
  - Attendance:
    - i. *Executive Board Present:* Chairperson Coplin; Chair-Elect Gordon; Secretary Isner
    - ii. *Committee present:* Elliott (2); Williams (3); Mills (4); Kidd (6); West (7); Urban (8); Robinson (African American Rep); Thomas (13); Moore (14).
    - iii. *Guests Present:* Shannon Smith, Mary Jane Pickens, Kenadee Murphy
    - iv. *Absent:* Herrmann (1); Elliott (6); Pecora (7); Wessels (8); Spolarich (9); Pfeifer (10); Graybeal (11); Mallow (12), McIntosh (Past Chair).
- 3. Review/Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting (Charleston)**
  - The Executive Board electronically disseminated the minutes from the last YLB Meeting, which was held at the Embassy Suites in Charleston, WV.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Young Lawyer Board approved the minutes without any changes or corrections.

- Moved: Moore
- Seconded: Robinson

**4. Committee Reports and Old Business**

**a) Young Lawyer Education and Mentoring-** Mr. Moore

- Mr. Moore informed us that he has been working on contacting the university regarding their role on this board, etc.
- Mr. Moore will continue to work on Lunch and Learns with WVU.
- WV are waiting for the appointment of new law school rep.
- Mr. Moore discussed Steptoe & Johnson's role in updating the practice handbook. The firm focused on redlining articles, etc. Summer Associates worked several hours on this handbook and plan is to have WV attorneys to review.
- The firm updated appellate procedure, HIPPA, medical malpractice, labor, real estate, eminent domain, extraordinary remedies, and insurance.

- Williams and Elliott will contact an attorney in Parkersburg, WV regarding eminent domain. Robinson will contact attorneys in his office and discuss if someone will cover the insurance portion.
- Trombley is assisting the ADR committee in creating a practice handbook section on that topic.

**b) Law Student Education and Mentoring – Mr. Moore**

- **Lunchtime Lecture Series** – Will plan a new lunch and learn with new law school representative for fall semester.
- **Law School Outreach** – Mr. Moore invited SBA president, but they were unable to attend. Discussion of how to assist Career Services at WVU connect with smaller firms that have a need to summer law student associates.

**5. Reports of Officers:**

**a) Chairperson Coplin**

- i. Review of her attendance at ABA Conference
  - Discussions regarding challenges facing mandatory bar association.
  - Will be attending additional leadership event with Shannon Smith.
  - BOG update: Dean of WVU reports that they're hiring a couple positions, new class orientation coming (102 students), currently understaffed.
  - Mary Jane gave update on current rules pending in the Supreme Court.

**b) Chair-Elect Gordon**

- i. No new report.

**c) Secretary Isner**

- i. Reviewed attendance policy and stressed being on time.

**6. Report of WVU Law School Representative –**

- a) No new update: WVU Law Rep is currently vacant.

**7. Committee Reports and Old Business Part II**

**a) Young Lawyer Education and Mentoring**

- i. **Bridge the Gap** – Chair-Elect Gordon
  - 1. Bridge the Gap will take place 10.4.24.
- ii. Volunteers for BTG in general: Isner, Gordon, West, Robinson, Moore, Trembley.

**b) YLS Technology Committee – Secretary John Isner**

- i. Website has been updated, some photos missing.
  - ii. Still has not received social media credentials.
- c) **Upcoming District Events or Plans**– District Representatives
- d) **Community Outreach** –
  - i. Victoria and Sophia are working to plan a project in connection with CASA, potentially Children First. Eastern Panhandle CASA has been contacted as well.
- e) **Budget Committee - Chair-Elect Coplin**
  - i. Coplin provided the budget breakdown (tab 4).
  - ii. Two events occurred within last couple weeks.
  - iii. YLS spent roughly 81% of funds.
  - iv. Budget is the same as last year. Coplin stressed that Board needs to ensure we're using funds.
  - v. The WV Bar has now asked that we ask for permission to spend funds first rather than reimbursement.
- f) **JLAP Liaison – Secretary Isner and Chair Coplin**
  - i. Conference was held on May 17, 2024. 121 attorneys were there.
  - ii. JLAP is moving from the current space at the WV State Bar.
  - iii. Mary Jane informed us that a substantial portion of fees goes to ODC and JLAP.

## 8. New Business:

- a) Potential Keller challenge.
- b) Update on Pecora's events given by Coplin. Council connections, etc. Robinson added that Mr. Pecora's Charleston event was beneficial for himself and others. Large turnouts.
- c) Discussion about examples of possible events.

## 9. Next Executive Committee Meetings and Bridge the Gap: Save the dates!

- Oct. 4, 2024 – Bridge the Gap (Hotel Morgan, Morgantown, WV).
- Oct. 14, 2024 – Day at the Club (Women in the Profession) – Bridgeport, WV.
- Nov 1-2, 2024: - BOG and YLB meetings – Adventures on the Gorge – Fayetteville, WV
- Jan 10-11: BOG and YLB meetings – Bavarian Inn – Shepherdstown, WV

- Spring 2025: the Greenbrier. (Will be a Thursday and Friday this year).

#### **10. Announcements:**

- The WV Bar has hired a new CLE Coordinator.
- Bar is asking YLB to send in info regarding the “Get to know.”
- The WV Bar awarded a fellowship and 20 stipends to law students.
- Regional Meetings: District Representatives should attend their local meeting and report on their attendance at the November 2, 2024, meeting.
  - September 6, 2024 - Morgantown - WVU College of Law
  - September 12, 2024 – Charleston – Hale Street Center
  - September 13, 2024 - Chapmanville - Giovanni's
  - September 20, 2024 - Huntington – Vandalia Crowd House
  - September 27, 2024 - Fayetteville - The Gaines Estate
  - October 10, 2024 - Shepherdstown - Bavarian Inn
  - October 11, 2024 - Moorefield - South Branch Inn
  - October 18, 2024 - Bridgeport – Bridgeport Country Club
  - November 7, 2024 - Parkersburg - The Blennerhassett
  - November 8, 2024 - Wheeling - Oglebay Resort
  - Hannah West “The Best” will do overview of meeting.

#### **11. Adjournment**

- a) Meeting adjourned at 11:41am.
- b) First: Moore
- c) Second: West