

**The West Virginia State Bar  
Young Lawyer Section - Young Lawyer Board Meeting  
The Greenbrier  
White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia  
March 26, 2023**

**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order – Chairperson Bias-Harrell**

- a. **Meeting started:** 12:03 pm

**2. Ascertainment of Quorum – Secretary Coplin**

- a. Attendance: Bias-Harrell, McIntosh, Coplin, Brunicardi-Doss (in attendance for Secretary election, attended BOG meeting as newly elected District 3 representative), Isner, Browning, Cisco, Robey, Ford, Spolarich, Graybeal, Thomas, Moore, Gordon, Thaxton.
- b. Guest: Julie Merow

**3. Review/Approval of Minutes from January 20, 2023, Quarterly Meeting**

Secretary Coplin electronically disseminated the minutes from the last YLB Executive Committee Meeting, which was held on January 20, 2023, The Blennerhassett Hotel in Parkersburg, West Virginia.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The Young Lawyer Board will be asked to approve the minutes with any changes or corrections. Mitch Moore moved, and John Isner, seconded.

**4. Introduction of Newly Elected Board Members:**

- a. District 1 – Katie Herrmann
- b. District 2 – Kyle Elliot
- c. District 3 – John Isner
- d. District 4 – Ryanne Ball
  - i. Ms. Ball was elected, but after election changed jobs and now no longer practices in District 4 so she had to withdraw her name, District 4 remains vacant.
- e. District 5 – Julian Pecora
- f. Existing Members introduced themselves

**5. Reports of Officers:**

**a. Chairperson Bias-Harrell**

- i. Information on Annual Banquet
  - Headshots: 6:00 at Colonial Hall
    - a. Be there around 6 for a group photo
  - Reception begins at 5:30 p.m.
  - Banquet begins at 7:00 p.m.
  - Name tags were given to members.
- ii. ABA Midyear Meeting Recap

1. New Orleans with Mary Jane Shannon and Ben
- iii. Ensure you save the dates for the 2023 Regional Meetings.
- b. Chairperson-Elect McIntosh**
  - i. Reviewed the YLS Attendance requirements and Duties and Responsibilities.
  - ii. Reimbursement policy with the State Bar for travel.
    1. <https://mywvbar.org/expensereport>
  - iii. Vacancies 13.10 Young Lawyer Board vacancies
    1. A vacancy on the Young Lawyer Board shall be filled for the unexpired term. The vacancy shall be announced by the State Bar in an email to eligible members, therein seeking applications for appointment to the vacant office. The applications submitted shall be distributed to the Young Lawyer Board, which shall fill the vacancy by appointment from the applications submitted. Any member so appointed to the Young Lawyer Board shall continue to serve in that capacity for the remainder of the term vacated.
- c. Secretary Coplin**
  - i. Bridge the Gap Updates – see below
  - ii. Save the Date – Fall Bridge the Gap October 27, 2023 – Bridgeport Conference Center
- 6. Update on Board of Governors’ Meeting – Chairperson Bias-Harrell**
  - a. **No update-** The Young Lawyer Board and the Board of Governor’s meeting were both at noon. Chairperson Bias-Harrell attended portions of both meetings.
- 7. Report of ABA Representative – Julie Merow**
  - a. ABA young lawyers’ section proposed and passed a number of new rules.
  - b. Currently a law school cannot be accredited as a law school if it doesn’t require the LSAT
    - i. After 2025 will the LSAT will not longer be required for admission for law schools accredited.
  - c. ABA is trying to restructure and give more resources to ABA members
  - d. Podcast for Young lawyers: Young Lawyer Rising
- 8. Report of WVU Law School Representative – MacKenzie Thaxton**
  - a. Mr. Moore and Ms. Thaxton have a Lunch and Clean planned for April 21<sup>st</sup>
  - b. School held a new student day for incoming 1L students.
  - c. New student day past Friday for incoming 1L
  - d. Ms. Thaxton will remain WVU Law School Representative for the next school year.
  - e. To help increase bar passage rates the law school has started to integrate bar skills into classes.
- 9. Committee Reports and Old Business**

**a. Young Lawyer Education and Mentoring**

- i. Bridge the Gap – Secretary Coplin
  - 1. Bridge the Gap will take place, tomorrow March 27<sup>th</sup>. Assigned members shifts for coverage for the day of the event.
  - 2. October 27<sup>th</sup> in Bridgeport will be the fall BTG.
- ii. Practice Handbook – Status Update
  - 1. Mr. Pfeifer not present for an update.
  - 2. Mr. Moore indicated Steptoe and Johnson summer associates could potentially help assist with research for updates.
  - 3. Members to review handbook before next meeting to determine if they have contacts to assist in updates.
    - i. <https://wvyounglawyers.com/practice-handbook/>
- iii. Upcoming Admissions Ceremonies – Chairperson Bias-Harrell
  - 1. No updates.
- iv. Lunchtime Lecture Series – Mr. Moore
  - a. See WVU Law School Representative report above.
- v. Bar Exam Box Lunches – Ms. Robey
  - 1. Box lunches were not provided at February test, WVU College of Law does not provide assistance for funding for the February test. Ms. Robey and Ms. Thaxton are to work together to see if the law school will help to fund July lunches/snacks.

**b. Law Student Education and Mentoring**

**c. Community Outreach**

- i. Special Projects/Public Service Committee – Ms. Spolarich and Mr. Gordon
  - 1. Ms. Graybeal collected items from members for the Family Refuge Center in Greenbrier County.
- ii. 2023 Holiday Project
  - 1. Liam's Place and district Holiday projects were completed successfully.

**d. YLS Technology Committee – Chairperson-Elect McIntosh**

- i. YLS Website – Group Photo for Website - There will be a photographer at 6:00 p.m. near the Colonial Hall. Please wear business attire for the photo.
- ii. Social Media
  - 1. Facebook and Instagram

**e. Budget Committee – Ms. Thomas**

- i. **Budget** –Audit showed nothing significant

- ii. Last meeting discussed some proposed change benefits stat employees that work for the bar- still outstanding.

f. **JLAP Liaison** – Ms. Ball – Upcoming 2023 WVJLAP Conference & Retreat

g. **Upcoming District Events or Plans**– District Representatives

**10. New Business:** a. Overview of Election Rule and Process

a. Nominations

- i. Jay Ford nominated Nick Gordon , John Isner seconded. No other nominations.

b. Elections

- i. Nick Gordon was elected Secretary.

c. Farewell Remarks and Thank You to our past district representatives

**11. Next Executive Committee Meetings and Bridge the Gap: Save the dates!**

- July 14-15, 2023 – YLS Board Meeting – Stonewall Resort – Roanoke, WV
- October 13-14, 2023 – YLS Board Meeting – Twin Falls State Park – Mullens, WV
- **\*\*\*October 27, 2023 – BTG Bridgeport Conference Center**
- January 26-27, 2024 – YLS Board Meetings – Canaan Valley – Davis, WV
- April 7, 2024 – Board of Governors and Young Lawyer Board Meetings – Embassy Suites, Charleston, WV
- April 7-8, 2024 – State Bar Annual Meeting – Embassy Suites – Charleston, WV

**12. Announcements:**

- **Regional Meetings:**

- Sept. 8 - Morgantown – WVU College of Law
- Sept. 14 - Chapmanville - Giovanni's
- Sept. 15 - Huntington - The Peddler
- Sept. 20 - Fayetteville - The Gaines Estate
- Sept. 22 - Charleston - Four Points Sheraton
- Oct. 5 - Shepherdstown - Bavarian Inn
- Oct. 6 - Moorefield - South Branch Inn
- Nov. 3 - Bridgeport - Bridgeport Country Club
- Nov. 8 - Parkersburg - The Blennerhassett
- Nov. 9 - Wheeling - Wheeling Country Club

**13. Adjournment**

Mr. Moore made motion to adjourn, Mr. Ford seconded. Adjourned at 1:46