



## Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2025

Members Present: Chair Lesli Ashley, Rory Hardy, John Dirgo Deweese, Professor Drew Simshaw, Aaron Vanderpol, Craig Shank, Janelle Peterson, Melissa Kover, Ellen Reed, Ronald Satterthwaite

Members Excused: Murugeswari Subramanian, Sharon Hytnen, Michael Terasaki

Also Attending: Thea Jennings (WSBA Assistant General Counsel), Emily Crane (WSBA Paralegal), Governor Kristina Larry (BOG Liaison), Renata de Carvalho Garcia (WSBA Chief Regulatory Counsel), Cathy Biestek (Managing Regulatory Counsel), Bobby Henry (Associate Director for Regulatory Services), Anne Trent (RSD Paralegal), Leah Snyder

---

Chair Ashley called the meeting to order once a quorum was established at 01:01pm.

### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

1. Introduction and Minutes
  - February 19, 2025: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2025 meeting. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
2. Public comment session: overall public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker: no public comments.
3. Action Items: no action items.
4. Updates
  - Administration:
    - Chair Ashley gave a reminder to the Board that the in-person retreat is scheduled for Wednesday, April 30, 2025 (10:00am-04:00pm) at the WSBA office.
    - The Board discussed retreat agenda items. A discussion on the Legal Checkup was added to the agenda. A Board member recommended that an update on the Legal Technology Task Force should be added to the retreat agenda.
  - Innovation:
    - Thea Jennings announced that the Practice of Law Board will now be staffed by the Regulatory Services Department (RSD).
    - Entity Regulation Pilot Project update: an internal WSBA team has drafted a project plan on the entity regulation project. The first phase is focused on the application with a tentative launch date for this fall. Part of the project plan involves the creation of various subcommittees, including subcommittees focused on the application, data collection,

policy development, and communication strategies. The application subcommittee has already been formed. Additional meetings with different jurisdictions have also been held. Recommendations included the importance of creating a complaint process, initiating client surveys upon completion of the pilot, and conducting audits. A letter describing progress to date will be submitted to the Court. A Board member requested that the WSBA staff liaison continue to notify the Board of updates to the pilot project as well as to specifically notify the Board when the various subcommittees are created.

- Education:
  - No update
- Coordination:
  - No update

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board reviewed complaints regarding the unauthorized practice of law and took the following action:

- One complaint was closed with no referral to an enforcement agency
- One complaint was referred to enforcement agencies as appropriate

The meeting adjourned at 02:02pm