SENIOR LAWYERS SECTION
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 4, 2026

This meeting was conducted via Zoom. The following Executive Committee members and WSBA personnel were present at this meeting: Chair David Sprinkle, Carole Grayson, Bill Cameron, Jenny Rydberg, Al Armstrong, Joe Gordon, Laurin Schweet, WSBA Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor, WSBA Education Programs Lead Rachel Matz, and BOG Liaison Lester Parvin Price, Jr. and New Member Liaison Ruth Apahidean.

CHAIR'S WELCOME

David welcomed the attendees.

This meeting involved consideration of several handouts that were distributed to the meeting attendees prior to today's meeting. David, Joe, Rachel, Carolyn, Al and Carole supplied following documents to the Executive Committee members:

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Draft of the Minutes of our last meeting
3. Financial Information
4. Live Attendance and on-demand sales figures
5. WSBA Executive Committee Volunteer Position Descriptions and 2026 Section Election Set-Up Form
6. Senior Lawyer Section Membership Survey Results
7. Survey from WSBAs Member Engagement Council (to Section Officers)
8. Grant Solicitation Information from the WSBA

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Al's Minutes of our January 7, 2026 meeting were approved by Motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Joe indicated that the WSBA had forwarded to him our Section's financial figures as they stood through December 2025: As of the end of August, our fund balance was $12,926.19; end of September, $16,404.66; end of October, $17,532.44; end of November, $17,551.19, and at end of December, $17,551.19. Some happy news: our Section netted the sum of $3,996.29 from our recent CLEs. "We are in decent financial shape," noted David.

Carole asked if we could get a breakdown of our CLE receipts-live attendance versus on-demand purchases. Rachel said she could find out. David asked if the on-demand purchases are still trickling in, and Rachel said yes, they are. Jenny remarked that we had 13 attendees at our May CLE. She added that 45 people have purchased the on-demand version. Rachel told us that, of late, the WSBA is changing on-demand CLEs to a new platform, which should be up soon. Rachel also said that it takes about two months to make a given CLE's presentation available to purchase on an on-demand basis. The on-demand production remains available for three years. Rachel mentioned that our on-demand CLEs are selling as well as those of other sections.

DISCUSSION RE FUTURE CLEs

There was some discussion about partnering with other sections to present CLEs. David mentioned the RPPT Section (Real Estate, Property, Probate and Trust) as well as the Elder Law Section as appropriate co-presenters. Laurin speculated on whether other sections would want to join with us in such a venture. She suggested that we may wish to propose an arrangement whereby, we supply, for example, 20% of the speakers and in turn receive 20% of the net profit. Rachel noted that it would probably be more work for a main, presenting section to allow us to join them in a CLE program.

It was suggested by Carole, David and Laurin that we may wish to define our specific mission before we propose this arrangement with another section. Rachel indicated that other sections are also in the process of redefining their respective missions.

So, what is to be our purpose, our mission? David proposed forming a subcommittee to address this question. Discussion turned to our current mission statement, set forth on our WSBA Section website. Carolyn read to us our current statement. Laurin remarked that our mission statement seemed in part too broad and in other respects too narrow. David remarked that the mission statement itself acts as a recruiting tool, and that our current statement may not be sufficient.

Discussion turned to subjects or issues that our Section might want to address, both what we could offer the WSBA membership and what future topics might reflect our mission. In this respect, Laurin recalled that she was surprised, in her practice days, how few attorneys appreciated the need for an operating agreement between partners, and that perhaps we could address this in our CLE programs. She also felt attorneys would appreciate some exposure to the basics of "S corp. or C corp." advantages or disadvantages. Rachel thought that '101-level' courses are popular. Mentorship was mentioned. Ruth recalled that she enjoyed a mentorship program she had attended some years ago.

It was decided to formally establish a subcommittee to rethink our mission. Laurin, Carole and Jenny volunteered to serve on this subcommittee. A Motion to create this subcommittee passed. Carole indicated that this subcommittee would 'explore, refine and

enhance' our mission. The subcommittee decided to meet in the near future, before our March meeting. It was also decided that if the subcommittee needed more meetings and/or more time, that would be fine.

SECTION ELECTIONS

Carolyn mentioned that our Section Elections set-up form is due February 9. She noted that we do have several vacancies on our Executive Committee. Accordingly, Carolyn said we need to put together a Nominating Committee for this election, as called for in our Section Bylaws. Carolyn noted that our Bylaws are quite specific as to the make-up of this Committee; it must be composed of two Executive Committee members and one non-member. David and Carole volunteered serve, and Carole said she would reach out to Mike Frost (who has so acted in the past) to be the non-member. A possible role for former Executive Committee member Jeanine Lutzenhiser on the nominating committee was discussed, but Carolyn noted that the Bylaws only permit one non-member on this Committee. Carole wondered whether Jeanine would be interested in serving as an "unofficial" member of the mission subcommittee instead. Carole said she would contact Jeanine and offer her the opportunity to help with the mission subcommittee, on an informal basis.

A Motion was made to appoint David, Carole and (if he agrees) Mike Frost to the Nominating Committee. The Motion passed.

David took a quick, impromptu survey of the attendees, asking if those present anticipated serving at least another year, through the end of the next fiscal year, September 30, 2027. Most attendees indicated they intended to serve; at least no one said no.

THE WSBA's MEMBER ENGAGEMENT COUNCIL'S SURVEY

Carolyn called attention to the Member Engagement Council's survey, which she had emailed to us in January. Carolyn said they conduct these surveys every quarter; this survey focused on WSBA sections and they are seeking section officers' feedback. David remarked that he liked the ranking procedure set forth in the survey. "It took me about five minutes, and was pretty painless," he added. Carolyn asked Al and Joe to please get their responses in. The responses were due by Friday, February 6.

BOG LIAISON REPORT

Parvin reported on the main topics taken up at the most recent BOG meeting, held in Seattle on January 16. He focused on three major issues addressed at that meeting:

1. The BOG met with the Access to Justice Board. The BOG formed a working group to discern, relative to the Access to Justice Board, "where are the gaps, what are

the solutions, and what should we do next?" He emphasized that this working group was tasked with reporting to the BOG within four months of their first meeting with specific solutions/recommendations.

2. Concern was voiced about the WSBA Bylaws provision that requires any WSBA section with less than 75 members to submit to a "viability study' by the BOG. The Membership and Engagement Council is looking at, specifically, two sections in this regard, the Liquor, Cannabis and Psychedelic Law Section, and the Legal Assistance to Military Personnel Section. There is some feeling that section membership numbers alone shouldn't determine the "viability" of a particular section; that a smaller section could indeed be helpful to the WSBA and to the public.

3. BOG members are questioning the prohibition against their holding political office during their terms on the BOG. There is some feeling, on the part of Parvin and others, that the rule in this regard should be relaxed. At present, the rule addresses potential conflicts of interest problems as well as political activity. Carole asked if it is possible for a BOG member to temporarily step out of a BOG seat to run for office. Parvin said no. Parvin also added that the prohibition would not extend to a BOG members running for, say, a faculty senate seat, as the rule only would apply to public office. Jenny recalled that, some years ago, although she felt strongly about abortion rights, she did not like the WSBA jumping into the abortion question and didn't feel that the WSBA should be entering a politically charged debate that is attempting to change society.

NEW MEMBER LIAISON REPORT

Ruth said she didn't have anything to report but apologized for not being able to attend last month's meeting.

THE WSBA'S SMALL TOWN AND RURAL (STAR) COUNCIL'S GRANT PROPOSAL

Carole brought to our attention the Small Town and Rural (STAR)'s solicitation of grants from the WSBA's sections to fund internships for law student placements in rural prosecutors' offices or tribal legal departments. Since constitutional restrictions prohibit the WSBA funding these programs directly, any grants so allocated must come from the various sections themselves. The grant amounts would be $5,000 per intern. It would be possible for us to co-fund with another section to provide a full $5,000 grant, but each grant must be for the full $5,000. It was mentioned that, if we are interested in participating, the application included in the materials is due by February 27. David noted that we now have a robust fund balance and he was wondering "just how are we going to spend all this money?" Carole said she has been following the workings of this project for some time She remarked that Gonzaga has been acting as the lead law school for this project.

It was remarked that there are "vast [legal] deserts" out there in rural Washington, with few practicing attorneys. Carole opined that we really don't need to fund prosecutors' offices, but that grants to tribal authorities might make some sense. Al said he agreed. Carole wondered whether any particular grant could be "targeted" at a specific expenditure, Carolyn said that may be possible. Jenny said we should define our Section's purpose and mission before we decide. Bill said that as long as we are not sure where or how this grant money would be spent, he couldn't make an intelligent decision. Some attendees agreed, and Al and Carole suggested that we defer our decision on this matter until the following year.

EDITORSHIP OF OUR NEWSLETTER

Relative to assuming the editorship of our newsletter, Jenny said she was still undecided.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bill added a gloomy note at the end of our meeting, remarking that the oldest of Generation Alpha, those born in 2010, will now be on the road as licensed drivers.

ADJOURNMENT

David adjourned the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will take place on a remote attendance basis on March 4, 2026 at 10:30 am.