

OREGON STATE BAR
BUSINESS LAW SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

June 5, 2025

TIME AND PLACE

Upon notice duly given, a meeting of the Executive Committee (the “**Committee**”) of the Business Law Section (the “**Section**”) of the Oregon State Bar (the “**Bar**”) was held at Ballard Spahr Lane Powell, 601 SW Second Avenue, Suite 2100, Portland, Oregon 97204 on June 4, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. Pacific time.

PRESENT

Present were Committee members Joe Cerne (*Chair*), Krista Evans (*Chair-Elect*), Michael Walker (*Past Chair*), Matt Larson (*Treasurer*), Blake Bowman (*Secretary*), Tim Crippen, Leigh Gill, Justin Monahan, Jennifer Nicholls and Kimberly Boswell. Mike Williams (*Bar Liaison*) and Jackie Kranz (*Newsletter Editor*) were also present.

Berit Everhart, Taylor Gersch, Ben Pirie, Melanie Choch and Melissa Jaffe were not present at the meeting.

Mr. Bowman acted as Secretary and kept the minutes.

MEETING

Mr. Cerne called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

1. Approval of Prior Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the Committee’s meeting held on May 1, 2025. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Committee’s May 1, 2025 meeting are approved.

2. Bar Liaison Report

Mr. Williams reported regarding activities at the Bar. He informed the Committee that the Board of Governors elections were coming up. The Bar has candidates for all positions but is still looking for public members, ideally candidates with a finance background.

3. Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Larson provided the report. Mr. Larson reviewed the April 2025 financial report. He indicated that the Section had revenues of \$525 dollars in April against expenditures of \$182 for a

net profit of \$343. He also noted that Section membership was slightly higher than this time last year, increasing to 835 paid members from 823.

4. Subcommittee Reports

A. CLE Subcommittee. Mr. Crippen provided the report. The Subcommittee is currently reviewing a contract from the Nines for the annual CLE. It has a sponsor packet almost ready to go out to law firms and legal vendors. The Committee discussed what's included in the sponsorship package and options for increasing value for potential sponsors, including adding a booth in the gathering area outside the meeting room. Mr. Crippen also noted that the Subcommittee has a quarterly CLE lined up for mid-July about tariffs and their impact on Oregon businesses.

B. Newsletter and Communications Subcommittee. In Ms. Everhart's absence Ms. Kranz provided the report. She indicated that the Q2 newsletter was on track for publishing in the next few weeks. The Q3 newsletter is in process and has a solid confirmed articles count, but the Subcommittee is considering adding some additional articles/topics if noteworthy. Current Q3 articles include an additional article for the mergers and acquisitions series and an article about tariffs.

C. New Business Lawyers Subcommittee. Ms. Evans provided the report. The Subcommittee is scheduling panel events with the Oregon law schools and working to get speakers lined up. The Subcommittee is also sorting out a situation with the intended stipend recipient since that individual recently accepted a part-time job that may longer allow them to qualify for the stipend. Ms. Evans also reported that Ms. Gersch set up a Section booth at the new lawyer swearing in ceremony in May. While only a few new lawyers engaged with Ms. Gersch at the booth one of those new lawyers did sign up to join the Section.

D. Legislative Subcommittee. Mr. Gill provided the report. The Subcommittee had not heard much more about SB 164 (the LLC Act modernization bill). Mr. Walker indicated that it was stalled in Joint Ways and Means Committee, perhaps because the Oregon Sec. of State wants to add another position to help with updates to forms that may be required, so the bill is creating some budget review issue. Mr. Gill indicated that SB 426 (making owners and upstream contractors liable for wage claims of downstream workers) and SB 951 (restrictions on the corporate practice of medicine) both passed in the legislature and were awaiting signature from the governor. The Subcommittee will work on a communication strategy for new laws that pass during this legislative session.

E. Outreach Subcommittee. Ms. Evans provided the report. The Subcommittee planned the social with the Oregon Society of CPAs (taking place immediately follow this Committee meeting). Approximately 80 people registered for the social. Depending on how this social goes and final costs the Subcommittee may add a few more small happy hour events. Ms. Evans also indicated that the Subcommittee is beginning preliminary planning for the 2026 Committee annual retreat.

F. Castles Leadership Award Subcommittee. Mr. Walker provided the report. The list of past Committee chair has been a great resources. The Subcommittee reached out to them and got many past chairs to agree to join the Subcommittee and provide assistance in sourcing nominees. The Subcommittee plans to start meeting in August and will hopefully get a potential recipient approved by October, if there are any qualifying nominees.

G. Nominating and Member Recruitment Subcommittee. Mr. Cerne provided the report. He indicated that the Subcommittee was connecting with people in the Corvallis area and working to get Committee members as well as speakers or participants at other Section events. The Subcommittee would like to add more members to the Committee in general, but with a focus on geographic diversity.

5. Other Business

Mr. Williams noted that the Bar is asking for people to help proctor the bar exam and that the Bar is still working on email spam/filtering issues.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business of the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m. Pacific time.