

OREGON STATE BAR
BUSINESS LAW SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

November 4, 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 Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt P.C., 1211 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 1800, Portland, Oregon 97204 on November 4, 2025 at 12:00 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, Jennifer Nicholls, Berit Everhart, Kimberly Boswell, Ben Pirie, Justin Monahan, Taylor Gersch and Melanie Choch. Mike Williams (*Bar Liaison*) and Ankur Doshi (*Oregon State Bar*) were also present.

Melissa Jaffe was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Bowman acted as Secretary and kept the minutes.

MEETING

Mr. Cerne called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

1. Approval of Prior Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the Committee’s meeting held on October 9, 2025. Mr. Cerne suggested an adjustment to reflect that the Civics Learning Project made a request for the Committee to make a donation, not just individual member donations. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Committee’s October 9, 2025 meeting are approved, subject to the adjustment noted above.

Mr. Bowman noted that he would make the adjustment before saving the minutes to the Section records.

2. Bar Liaison Report

Mr. Williams provided the report. He noted that the Bar is still looking for Board of Governor candidates, as well as candidates for other volunteer positions. The Bar is currently busy working on budgeting with the various sections.

3. Treasurer's Report & Approval of 2026 Budget

Mr. Lason provided the report. He reviewed the September 2025 financial report. He noted that the Section saw a net cash inflow of about \$11,400 in September due to annual CLE sponsorships and registrations.

Mr. Larson reviewed the proposed 2026 budget for the Section. The Committee discussed each line item, with particular detail on the revenue and costs associated with the annual CLE, the annual Committee retreat and the stipend program.

The Committee agreed that certain adjustment should be made to budgets for annual CLE sponsorship, annual CLE costs, and other items. The Committee noted issues with the current stipend program and discussed ways that it could be improved, including potentially converting it to a scholarship program coordinated by the law schools. The Committee agreed that a similar amount should nonetheless be budgeted for a stipend or scholarship program in 2026, with specific details for the program to be discussed at the Committee's retreat in January 2026.

Based on recent donation requests from the Civics Learning Project and SMART Reading, the Committee discussed whether to budget amounts for charitable giving and how to potentially run such a program. Ultimately the Committee agreed not budget amounts for charitable giving by the Section in 2026.

Mr. Larson completed the review of the 2026 budget by summarizing the adjustments that were discussed during the meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Section's 2026 budget is approved, subject to the adjustments agreed to by the Committee during the meeting and subject to the Treasurer's discretion, after consultation with the Bar, to allocate approved budget amounts to new and more appropriate line items for accounting purposes.

4. Subcommittee Reports

A. CLE Subcommittee. Mr. Crippen provided the report. He noted that the annual CLE was fully planned and that he looked forward to seeing Committee members at the event on Friday.

B. Newsletter and Communications Subcommittee. Ms. Everhart provided the report. She noted that the Q4 newsletter is on schedule. The Subcommittee needs articles and authors for the Q1 newsletter. In particular, the Subcommittee is looking for someone to write about new licensing requirements for Professional Employment Organizations.

C. New Business Lawyers Subcommittee. Ms. Evans and Ms. Everhart explained there was no material update on Subcommittee activities.

D. Legislative Subcommittee. Mr. Gill explained that the Subcommittee meetings had been suspended. Mr. Walker noted that the Oregon Law Commission met and may be trying

to open a line of communication with Secretary of State staff to address the budget item that was added to the bill for the new LLC Act, which made it difficult to pass.

E. Outreach Subcommittee. Ms. Evans and Ms. Everhart provided the report. They indicated that the happy hour event at Tryon Creek Bar and Grill was a success and well attended.

F. Castles Leadership Award Subcommittee. Mr. Walker explained that, with the award having been made, the Subcommittee had no further business.

G. Nominating and Member Recruitment Subcommittee. Mr. Cerne provided the report. He noted the work that he and the Subcommittee had undertaken to determine the intentions of existing officers and Committee members and review officer and Committee member candidates. He presented the proposed officers and Committee members for 2026, as recommended by the Subcommittee. The Committee reviewed and discussed the foregoing. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, the proposed candidates for Section officers and Committee members are approved as presented.

Mr. Cerne stated that the candidates will be presented to the Section for final vote and approval.

5. Other Business

Mr. Cerne noted that the next meeting will be at the Committee retreat in January 2026 under new leadership. Mr. Cerne thanked all officers and Committee member for their time and contributions this year.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business of the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m. Pacific time.