

**OREGON STATE BAR**  
**BUSINESS LAW SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**April 2, 2026**

**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 April 2, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. Pacific time.

**PRESENT**

Present were Committee members Krista Evans (*Chair*), Blake Bowman (*Chair Elect*), Leigh Gill (*Treasurer*), Matt Larson, Jennifer Nicholls, Berit Everhart, Taylor Gersch, Mark Reinhardt, Paul Britton and Alex Hutchison. Mike Williams (*Bar Liaison*) and Jackie Krantz (*Newsletter Editor*) were also present.

Joe Cerne (*Past Chair*), Kimberly Boswell (*Secretary*), Justin Monahan and Tim Crippen were not present at the meeting.

Mr. Bowman acted as Secretary and kept the minutes.

**MEETING**

Ms. Evans called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**1. Bar Liaison Report**

Mr. Williams provided the report. He explained that the Bar is still looking for volunteer members for each of the House of Delegates (HOD) and Board of Governors (BOG). He advised the Committee on the functions and responsibilities of the HOD and BOG. Mr. Williams also shared that the deadline to submit proposals for legislative improvement recently passed.

**2. Approval of Prior Minutes**

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the Committee’s meeting held on March 5, 2026. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Committee’s March 5, 2026 meeting are approved.

**3. Other Business**

Ms. Evans explained that Dylan Lowe recently submitted his resignation from the Committee. The Committee discussed Mr. Lowe’s resignation and its impact on the Committee.

The Committee agreed to accept Mr. Lowe's resignation and to leave his position on the Committee vacant for the remainder of the year.

Ms. Evans explained that the Committee's June 4, 2026 meeting at Farleigh Wada Witt was being moved to June 3, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. at Miller Nash to align with a Section-sponsored social event being hosted by Miller Nash on that same date. There were no objections from the Committee to moving the date and location of the meeting.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Gill provided the report. He reviewed the February 2026 financial results of the Section. There was \$1,890 of revenue in the month due to additional membership fees and \$916 of normal operating expenses. Total membership for the Section was at 751, about 50 less than this time last year. The Committee discussed the reduced headcount and its implications on the Section budget. Mr. Williams noted that overall Bar membership is about 2% lower, driven largely by retirements.

#### **4. Subcommittee Reports**

*A. CLE Subcommittee.* Mr. Bowman provided the report. He provided details on upcoming quarterly CLEs. The Subcommittee is planning to collaborate with the Outreach Subcommittee for a July 16, 2026 CLE and happy hour event in Bend. The annual CLE is scheduled for November 5, 2026 at The Nines. Mr. Bowman provided initial details on the speakers, sponsorship plans and agenda. The Committee discussed communication strategies for the annual CLE and plans to send out "save the dates" through various channels.

*B. Newsletter and Communications Subcommittee.* Ms. Everhart asked Ms. Krantz to provide the report. She explained that the Q1 newsletter is complete. The Q2 newsletter has three confirmed articles and a fourth in the works. All newsletters have included, and will include, information on the Castle's Award nomination process and Section social events. The Committee discussed possible articles for future newsletters.

*C. New Business Lawyers Subcommittee.* Ms. Gersch provided the report. She noted that the Subcommittee was working on the handout for the scholarship program. Mr. Williams explained that the law schools tend to have their own handouts and information process and suggested the Subcommittee coordinate with the law schools on this. Ms. Gersch clarified procedures for selection of scholarship recipients and award funding. Ms. Gersch also noted that the Subcommittee has been hosting "First Thursday" happy hours, which were being driven in large part by non-Committee members of the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee will continue to host these throughout the year.

*D. Legislative Subcommittee.* Mr. Gill provided the report. He explained that the short legislative session is complete. A few of the bills the Subcommittee was tracking were passed, but most of them were related to the creation of task forces. The Subcommittee will review the passed legislation and update the Committee accordingly. Mr. Gill expects

that Michael Walker will provide an update on the proposed new LLC Act at the next Subcommittee meeting.

*E. Outreach Subcommittee.* Ms. Evans and Ms. Everhart provided the report. Ms. Evans explained that the Subcommittee is working on planning an event to be co-sponsored by the Section, the Oregon Tax Law Section and the Oregon Society of CPAs. The event will be held on June 3, 2026 at Miller Nash and will follow the Committee meeting on that same date. Ms. Everhart noted that the Subcommittee is planning an event on July 16, 2026 in Bend that will follow the Committee meeting on the same day, as well as a CLE event on that same day being planned in collaboration with the CLE Subcommittee.

*F. Castles Leadership Award Subcommittee.* Ms. Evans provided the report in Mr. Cerne's absence. She noted that the Subcommittee was beginning to solicit nominations. The solicitation process will ramp up in a few months.

*G. Nominating and Member Recruitment Subcommittee.* Ms. Evans explained that the Subcommittee's nominating efforts will begin in earnest later in the year.

## **6. Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m. Pacific time.