

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS  
March 23, 2012**

1. Call to Order/Determination of Quorum/Excused Absences. The meeting of the Board of Law Examiners was convened in open session by John Simpson, Chair, on Friday, March 23, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. in the Board's offices, located in the Tom C. Clark Building, 205 W. 14th Street, Suite 500, Austin, Texas.

Members present and constituting a quorum were: John Simpson, Michael Sokolow, Dan Pozza, Lee Parsley, Sandra Zamora, Al Odom, Augustin Rivera, Jr., Teresa Ereon Giltner and Laura R. Swann.

2. Approval of Minutes and Certified Agendas. Upon motion made and seconded, the Board voted to approve the minutes and/or certified agendas of the following meetings:

January 12, 2012 Hearings Panel (Simpson);

January 12, 2012 Hearings Panel (Parsley);

January 13, 2012 Board Meeting (as amended to include Ms. Swann's exam site assignment of Waco for February 2012);

February 10, 2012 Hearings Panel (Simpson) and

February 10, 2012 Accommodations Review Committee.

3. Investment Report. Rod Shaheen, Accountant, summarized, and the Board reviewed, the Investment Report as of February 29, 2012.

4. Financial Reports. Rod Shaheen explained, and the Board reviewed, the Financial Reports for the period September 1, 2011 through February 29, 2012.

5. Review Independent Audit Proposals. Finance Committee Chairman Lee Parsley reported that two audit proposals had been received for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2012. Current auditor Rupert & Associates bid \$9,000 and Anna Swenson, CPA, (formerly with Padgett, Stratemann & Co. LLP) bid \$10,000. Rod Shaheen explained that Rupert & Associates performed the audit last year, with Padgett, Stratemann & Co., LLP the previous two years.

The Finance Committee recommended that the Board accept Rupert & Associates' bid. Upon motion made and seconded, by unanimous vote, the Board agreed to accept the bid of Rupert & Associates to perform an independent audit for the Fiscal Year ending August 31, 2012 in accordance with the terms of the proposal contained in the meeting book.

6. Report of Executive Director.

a. Calendar update. Julia Vaughan reported that Teresa Ereon Giltner, John Simpson and Laura R. Swann will be attending the April NCBE meeting to be held in Savannah, Georgia. Ms. Vaughan also reported that the NCBE Grading Workshop is scheduled for September 6 - 8, 2012 in Madison, Wisconsin, and that Mr. Rivera, Ms. Ereon Giltner and Ms. Swann are scheduled to attend. Ms. Vaughan asked if one of the newer board members

would be willing to represent the Board at the Swearing In Ceremony on Monday, May 14, 2012. Ms. Swann volunteered to represent the Board, and agreed to check her calendar to confirm availability. Lee Parsley volunteered to serve as a backup in the event Ms. Swann is unavailable.

- b. Supreme Court Task Force on International Law Update. Ms. Vaughan reported on the status of the Task Force and topics being reviewed, including admission requirements for foreign trained lawyers, as well as the rules governing foreign legal consultants and foreign lawyers seeking pro hac vice admission. She also summarized the results of the Task Force's questionnaire sent by the Supreme Court to various attorneys and law firms in the State of Texas, as contained in the meeting book.

Assistant Attorney General Ted Ross arrived at 9:30 a.m.

7. Report of Assistant Director of Eligibility & Examination on iPad grading pilot project. Joyce Newton Ham presented an update on the iPad grading pilot project as detailed in the meeting book. Michael Sokolow and Sandra Zamora both expressed their opinion that the pilot project has been successful and there have been only a few tweaks to the system required for it to meet their expectations.

Laura Swann asked if the project would be available to other Board members and graders to use in the future. Ms. Ham explained this is still a work in progress, with the goal to add additional Board members and graders when additional equipment can be purchased and other individuals can be trained. Lee Parsley indicated that he had additional specifications for Darrell and Joyce to incorporate to meet his needs.

Josh Henslee thanked Joyce Ham for all of her work on the iPad project and all Board members responded with spontaneous applause for Ms. Ham.

8. Report of Director of Character and Fitness- Conversion of Licenses. Lori Adelman, Director of Character and Fitness, summarized her report on the conversion of Probationary Licensees to Regular Licensees, as contained in the meeting book.

9. Report of Director of Eligibility and Examination. Josh Henslee, Director of Eligibility and Examination, reviewed the Question Preparation schedule and reminded Board members that questions will be sent to the Editors next week for review.

10. Report of Staff Attorney. Bruce Wyatt introduced Assistant Attorney General Ted Ross who summarized the Litigation Update report contained in the Meeting Book.

John Simpson thanked Mr. Ross for being present at today's meeting and for the outstanding job of representing the Board.

11. Communications from the Public. The Chair called for communications from the public. No members of the public were present.

12. Question Review. At approximately 9:55 a.m. John Simpson, Chair, declared the meeting closed to the public, pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 82.003(b), Tex. Gov. Code

Ann., and Mr. Simpson called a brief recess. The meeting was reconvened at 10:15 a.m. with all members present. The Board proceeded to meet in executive session for the purpose of reviewing and editing the questions to be used on future Texas Bar Examinations.

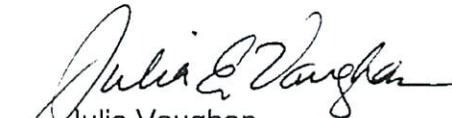
Two smaller groups were formed for question review, consisting of Michael Sokolow, Teresa Ereon Giltner, Al Odom and Augustin Rivera, Jr. in Group A. Laura Swann, Lee Parsley, John Simpson, Sandra Zamora and Dan Pozza met in Group B.

At approximately 12:00 Noon, Laura Swann was excused from the meeting, having completed her editing assignment.


At approximately 12:10 p.m., Teresa Ereon Giltner, Al Odom and Michael Sokolow were excused from the meeting, having completed their editing assignments.

13. Adjournment. There being no further business, the executive session of the Board of Law Examiners was concluded at 12:30 p.m., and the meeting reconvened in open session with John Simpson, Dan Pozza, Lee Parsley, Augustin Rivera, Jr. and Sandra Zamora constituting a quorum. Adjournment was called at 12:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Julia Vaughan,  
Executive Director

APPROVED:

  
John Simpson, Chair