

First Meeting of the 2004-05 Board

The meeting was called to order by President Diehl at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 30, 2004, in the Governor's Room at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan. Commissioners present were:

Lori A. Buiteweg	Richard D. McLellan
Kimberly M. Cahill, Vice President	Angelique Strong Marks
Bruce A. Courtade	Hon. William B. Murphy
Thomas W. Cranmer, President-Elect	Stephen J. Murphy III
Nancy J. Diehl, President	Lambro Niforos
Kim Warren Eddie	Edward H. Pappas
Brian D. Einhorn	Randolph P. Piper
Elias J. Escobedo, Jr.	D. Andrew Portinga
Julie I. Fershtman	Kurt E. Schnelz
Edward L. Haroutunian	Hon. Cynthia D. Stephens
Elizabeth A. Jamieson, Assembly Chair	Scott C. Strattard
W. Anthony Jenkins	Charles R. Toy
Allyn D. Kantor	Gregory L. Ulrich
Ronald D. Keefe, Secretary	Debra A. Walling
Jeffrey E. Kirkey	Rodger D. Young
Craig H. Lubben	

Commissioner Michael S. Hohausser was absent and excused.

State Bar Staff Present:

John T. Berry – Executive Director
Lisa Allen-Kost – Director, Programs & Services
Nancy Brown – Director, Communications
James C. Horsch – Director, Finance and Administration
Victoria Kremski – Deputy Regulation Counsel
Elizabeth K. Lyon – Legal Secretary
Susan McMann – Sections and Committees Coordinator
Catherine O'Connell – Assistant Regulation Counsel
Glenna D. Peters – Executive Coordinator
Chad E. Sluss – Member Services Manager
Anne Smith – Administrative Assistant, Executive Office
Naseem Stecker – Media Specialist
Janet K. Welch – General Counsel

President's Report

President Diehl welcomed and introduced new Commissioners: District C – Bruce Courtade, District I – Brian Einhorn, Commissioner at Large – Scott Strattard, and Young Lawyers Section Chair Elect Jeff Kirkey. The Clerk of the Assembly will be elected on October 1st and will join the Board at its November Board meeting.

President Diehl reported that Board orientation would be held following the November 19th Board meeting and noted that it is for all commissioners, not just new commissioners. She also noted that group commissioner and officer photos would be taken that day so plan accordingly. A new pocket-size directory is

being prepared that will be distributed at orientation. A draft was distributed for commissioners to review and make any changes on the form.

Executive Committee Appointment

Upon a motion made and seconded, the Board approved the appointment of an Executive Committee by the President in accordance with Article III, Section 9 of the State Bar Bylaws. Motion carried. Its ten members will also become members of the Representative Assembly.

Fiscal Matters

Signature Authorizations – Upon a motion made and seconded, the Board approved the authorization that effective with the 2004-05 fiscal year, all checks that are \$15,000.00 or more must have the signature of Executive Director John T. Berry, and one of the Officers of the State Bar as well as Lansing Commissioners Eddie, McLellan and Toy.

2004-05 Commissioner Committees

President Diehl announced the appointment of the following 2004-05 Commissioner Committees that was distributed at the meeting and is attached.

- A. Executive
- B. Finance and Human Resources
- C. Professional Standards
- D. Programs and Services
- E. Public Policy, Image and Identity
- F. Justice Initiatives

Ms. Diehl discussed the role of the commissioner liaison, noting the importance of the role in an effort to better communicate with sections and committees. She reported that commissioners would be receiving a letter explaining the role of the liaison and that a similar letter would be sent to the committee and section chairs. She asked that commissioners establish contact with their chair as soon as possible and plan to attend at least one committee and one section meeting in coordination with the chair. She expressed timely contact with the chair and will be interested in hearing responses at the Board meeting on the 19th. Additionally, in lieu of commissioners writing a liaison report, the committee and section chairs will be invited to a board meeting and will join the Board for lunch.

2004-05 Board Meeting Dates

President Diehl announced the following dates for the 2004-05 Board meetings:

- September 30, 2004
- November 19, 2004
- January 21, 2005
- March 16-18, 2005 (Strategic Plan Retreat)
- April 22, 2005
- June 10 & 11, 2005 (Mackinac)
- July 29, 2005

She also reported that a strategic planning retreat is planned for sometime in January and to keep that in mind for scheduling purposes. Details will be sent as soon as a date is determined.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10.