

**NEBRASKA LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE FIRST BOARD MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018  
April 30, 2017  
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary**

**Call to Order.** The first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association was held on Sunday, April 30, 2017, at the home of Tina Scully in Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was called to order at 9:25 a.m. by President, Lori Chapman. Lori Chapman welcomed everyone in attendance at the Board Meeting and Teresa Hartwig read the Mission Statement and Standing Rule No. 17.

**Roll Call.** Roll call was taken by Secretary, Teresa Hartwig, as follows:

<b>Roll Call of Officers:</b>	<b><u>Present/Absent</u></b>
Lori Chapman, President	Present
Jennifer Elkins, Vice President	Present
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary	Present
Alicia Hunt, Treasurer	Present
Carol Paige, Parliamentarian	Present

**Roll Call of Chapter Representatives and Chapter Count:**

	<b><u>Present/Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Chapter Count</u></b>
CNLP – Karen Niedfelt	Present	2
LLPA – Sandie Smith, PLS	Present	6
OLPA – Donna Olson	Present	7
<u>Members-at-Large</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>1</u>
Total		16

A quorum was established.

**Other Chairpersons/Members-at-Large/Members/Guests Present.** Sharon Huber, Kathy Bass, CP, Sherry Mitchell, PLS, Bonnie Kudron, Jody Weinmeister, Jean Roeder, Kathy Eidenmiller, and Tina Scully.

**Officer Reports:**

**President:** Lori Chapman stated she's excited about the new year and thanked the outgoing officers and chapter representatives. Lori also thanked the incoming members of the Board for taking on new responsibilities.

**Vice President:** Jennifer Elkins, no report at this time.

**Secretary:** Teresa Hartwig, no report at this time.

**Treasurer:** Alicia Hunt, no report at this time.

**Parliamentarian:** Carol Paige, no report at this time.

**Committee Reports:** Please see Annual Convention booklet for committee reports.

Bonnie Kudron asked for an update on the status of the Ways and Means plan for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, which was to solicit donations from organizations and companies, beginning with the State Bar Association, and diverting from raffle sales. It was noted there was no Ways and Means report in the convention booklet. Kathy Eidenmiller stated no donations were received. Unfortunately, no further solicitations were extended. Kathy Eidenmiller noted it will be the responsibility of next year's Ways and Means Committee (OLPA) to decide what to do as a ways and means project for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

**Old Business.** Minutes of the April 29, 2017 Annual Meeting were distributed. Several corrections were made as to the spelling of names. Bonnie Kudron moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Carol Paige seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**New Business.**

Committee assignments were noted as follows:

- a. Audit Committee – Members from LLPA (To be Announced)
- b. Historian – To be Announced
- c. Legal Education – To be Announced
- d. Legal Professional of the Year – Teresa Hartwig, CNLP
- e. Nominations and Elections- Jennifer Hague, LLPA
- f. Publication – *The SideBar* – Kathy Bass, CP, OLPA
- g. Roster – Jennifer Elkins, OLPA
- h. Scholarship – Jody Weinmeister, Member-at-Large
- i. Ways & Means – OLPA
- j. Webmaster – Lisa Bryan, OLPA
- k. Fall Seminar – CNLP
- l. Spring Seminar – LLPA
- m. Annual Convention – OLPA

**Calendar for Term.** The following dates were determined:

Board Meeting – June 17, 2017 – Chances “R” in York  
Fall Seminar – September 30, 2017 – CNLP (location to be announced)  
Board Meeting – January 20, 2018 – In Lincoln (location to be announced)  
Spring Seminar – March 17, 2018 – LLPA (location to be announced)  
Annual Convention – April 27, 28, 29, 2018–OLPA (location to be announced)

Carol Paige inquired as to the possibility of reinstating a stipend in the amount of \$150.00 to each chapter to encourage the recruitment of new members. Discussion then ensued. It was noted the balance in the NLPA treasury is adequate to fund stipends for this amount and purpose, and that the funds could be distributed at this

time for use by each chapter for their membership drives. The respective chapters would be allowed to use the funds at their own discretion and not be limited to a specific timeline. It was noted reinstatement of the stipend would be for this year only. Jody Weinmeister moved to reinstate the membership stipend in the amount of \$150.00 to each chapter to use as a means of encouraging new membership growth. Kathy Eidenmiller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Annual Meeting Report.** Tina Scully stated 39 registrations were received for the Annual Convention, and 43 registrations were received for the banquet. Kathy Eidenmiller will contact Charlotte Contatore regarding payment for her two guests attending the banquet. A full report regarding the final budget of the Annual Convention will be given at the June 20, 2017 Board Meeting.

Kathy Bass, CP, stated the deadline for submitting reports to her for the *SideBar* is May 10, 2017.

Kathy Eidenmiller will distribute copies of the Power Point presentations of Tom McClung and Sharon Fenn, and will ask Mary Douglas to do the same for Diane Mendenhall.

Sandie Smith, PLS, stated she would like to see some changes made to the NLPA website to enable it to be more user friendly. It was suggested this be discussed at a future meeting.

**For the Good of the Organization.**

**Acknowledgements/Celebrations:** Congratulatory greetings were extended to the new Board members, and the recipient of the NLPA Legal Professional of the Year, Teresa Hartwig.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. The next Board Meeting will be held at Chances "R" in York, Nebraska on Saturday, June 17, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

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Teresa Hartwig, Secretary

**NEBRASKA LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018  
June 17, 2017  
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary**

**Call to Order.** The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association was held on Saturday, June 17, 2017, at Chances “R” in York, Nebraska. The meeting was called to order at 11:11 a.m. by President, Lori Chapman.

Lori Chapman welcomed everyone in attendance at the Board Meeting and Teresa Hartwig read the Mission Statement and Standing Rule No. 17.

**Roll Call.** Roll call was taken by President, Lori Chapman, as follows:

<b>Roll Call of Officers:</b>	<b><u>Present/Absent</u></b>
Lori Chapman, President	Present
Jennifer Elkins, Vice President	Absent
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary	Present
Alicia Hunt, Treasurer	Present
Carol Paige, Parliamentarian	Present

**Roll Call of Chapter Representatives, Members-at-Large, and Chapter Count:**

	<b><u>Present/Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Chapter Count</u></b>
CNLP – Karen Niedfelt	Present	3
LLPA –Sandie Smith, PLS	Present	5
OLPA – Donna Olson	Present	4
Member-at-Large – Jody Weinmeister	Absent	-
(Membership Pending)		
<hr/> Total		12

A quorum was established.

**Other Chairpersons/Members/Guests Present.** Lisa Bryan, Kathy Eidenmiller, Sandy Kendall, Sherry Mitchell, PLS, Brandi Phillips (Guest-Lori Chapman’s daughter), and Jean Roeder.

**Officer Reports:**

**President:** Lori Chapman had no report at this time.

**Vice President:** Jennifer Elkins was absent and had no report at this time.

**Secretary:** Teresa Hartwig-Get Well cards were sent to Lori Chapman, Jennifer Elkins, and Carla Englund (CNLP).

**Treasurer:** Alicia Hunt distributed the Treasurer's Report. The balance on hand as of April 1, 2017 was \$10,976.37 and the balance on hand as of June 16, 2017 was \$11,644.92. There were receipts in the amount of \$4,468.33 and disbursements in the amount of \$3,799.78. It was noted there are several outstanding checks, to-wit: Check #1034, #1047, #1048, and #1049, for a total of \$100.00 in outstanding checks. Karen Niedfelt will check on Check #1034, which was payable to GI Habitat for Humanity (Julie Markvicka), who was a speaker at the Spring Seminar. It was noted the other three outstanding checks were fees paid to the scholarship judges.

There was some discussion regarding paying scholarship judges a fee. Standing Rule 20 was reviewed. It was noted there is no indication in the Rule stating the judges are to be paid or not paid a fee. Past Treasurer, Karen Niedfelt, stated in previous years, scholarship fees for the judges have been paid; however, she noted fees were not requested every year.

<b>Total Membership Count as of 06-17-2017</b>				
<b>Chapter</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Honorary</b>	<b>Total</b>
CNLP	9	0	5	14
LLPA	47	2	1	50
*OLPA	30 (40)	1(2)	5 (6)	36 (48)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>86 (96)</b>	<b>3 (4)</b>	<b>11 (12)</b>	<b>100 (112)</b>

\*OLPA membership numbers were not completely available at the time of the meeting; however, updated numbers became available on Monday, June 19, per Jeanne Mangimelli, and are referenced above.

Treasurer, **Alicia** Hunt, then distributed a budget spreadsheet indicating Budget/Actual for FY 2015-2016, Proposed/Actual for FY 2016-2017, and Proposed/Actual for FY 2017-2018. Each line item was reviewed and discussed in its entirety. Changes to the following line items were noted (highlighted):

<b>Changes (Highlighted in Yellow) to Budget for FY 2017-2018</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>2017-2018 Proposed</b>		<b>2017-2018 Actual</b>	
	<b>Debits</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Debits</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Membership Dues (110 members)*	\$450.00	\$2,750.00	\$469.12	\$2,144.12
Annual Seminar/Meeting	\$2,727.47	\$2,322.76	\$2,727.47	\$2,322.76
Chapter Representatives' Travel	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$22.50	\$0.00
Courtesy	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations/Sponsorships	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fall Seminar	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Historian	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Installation	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest on Account	\$0.00	\$7.50	\$0.00	\$1.45

Legal Professional of the Year	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$37.45	\$0.00
Marketing/Media	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$311.03	\$0.00
Memorials	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Nominations/Elections	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Officers' Travel	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Postage/Copies/Supplies	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
President's Foundation Award	\$60.00	\$0.00	\$59.52	\$0.00
Filing Fees	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Scholarships	\$2,080.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00
Spring Seminar	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$97.69	\$0.00
Ways/Means	\$350.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Website	\$785.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,202.47</b>	<b>\$8,380.26</b>	<b>\$3,799.78</b>	<b>\$4,468.33</b>
		<b>(\$822.21)</b>		<b>\$668.55</b>

\*\$150.00 to each chapter

Carol Paige moved to approve the budget with the changes noted, and Donna Olson seconded the motion. Motion passed. It was noted the Treasurer's report will be filed subject to audit. Alicia will send out an updated Budget.

**Parliamentarian:** Carol Paige had no report at this time.

### Committee Reports:

1. **Annual Convention.** Kathy Eidenmiller, LLPA, on behalf of Tina Scully, distributed the financials for the Annual Convention. Credits received amounted to \$2,322.76. Debits incurred amounted to \$2,677.47, which resulted in a loss of \$354.71. Kathy will send a final financial report setting out the number of attendees.
2. **Audit.** Members of (LLPA) had no report at this time.
3. **Budget.** Please see above report.
4. **Historian.** Vickie Starr (LLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.
5. **Legal Education.** Position open.
6. **Legal Professional of the Year.** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) had no report at this time.
7. **Nominations and Elections.** Jennifer Hague (LLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.
8. **Publication.** Lori Chapman reported on behalf of Kathy Bass, CP that *The SideBar* will be published three times this year, which will be once after each seminar. The deadline for getting reports to Kathy for each issue will be the second Friday after the seminar for the three issues. The issues will include the minutes from the Board Meeting following the seminar. Kathy will provide exact deadlines once the dates for the seminars have been confirmed. Kathy requests

updates and corrections from the Board and Committee lists. Please send photos from your different chapter events or celebrating individuals to Kathy and she will include them with the Chapter Reports. All other Committee Reports are also welcome and encouraged.

9. **Scholarship.** Jody Weinmeister was absent and had no report at this time.
10. **Seminar-Fall.** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) reported on behalf of seminar chairpersons, Ali Stefanini and Erica Wilsey, that the seminar will be held Saturday, September 30, 2017 in Grand Island. The tentative location is Grand Island Police Department Conference Room; however, chairpersons are looking for an alternative location. The theme of the seminar is “Keep Calm and Carry On”, and more details will be forthcoming. Kathy Eidenmiller stated a budget for the Fall Seminar is generally approved at the June EC meeting; however no budget was available. It was noted a budget will be generated and will be approved via email/conference call prior to the seminar.
11. **Seminar-Spring.** Tina Scully (LLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.
12. **Website/Web Master.** Lisa Bryan (OLPA) reported Wild Apricot will be switching to a new hosting provider in Amazon Web Services (AWS), and Lisa and Shelly Nielsen will switch everything over. There was some discussion regarding what should be on the website. It was suggested *The SideBar* be on the website; however, home/office addresses and email addresses will be eliminated. It was also noted the membership roster information will remain confidential. Lisa will update the website with the above information.
13. **Ways & Means.** Donna Olson (OLPA) reported they are working on possible ideas for a fundraiser for the scholarship fund.

### **Chapter Reports:**

**CNLP:** Karen Niedfelt reported CNLP held their planning meeting in May and will not have a formal meeting until September. A member/family picnic will be held the first week in August.

**LLPA:** Sandie Smith, PLS, reported LLPA had met May 11, 2017 at the U.S. Bank Conference Rom. This was their annual membership meet and greet. Approximately 50 people were in attendance to hear Bill Williams with Patriotic Productions talk about the Nebraska Honor Flights. Their summer activity was a tour of Robbers Cave on June 15, 2017. Twenty-seven members signed up to attend, and 18 took the tour of the cave. This cave has been purchased by Blue Bloods Brewery for a place to store their beer. It is owned by police officers so the cave gives the brewery a “cops and robbers” atmosphere. The cave has a lot of local history for Lincoln. After the tour the group enjoyed food and beverages in the Tap Room.

**OLPA:** Donna Olson reported OLPA met on May 2, 2017. OLPA was well represented at the Omaha Bar Association's Law Day Luncheon. OLPA presented the winners of the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Law Day Essay contest, as well as assisted with check-in of the attendees. On May 17, the general meeting was held at the Regency Lodge where George F. Lynch, spoke to them about accident reconstruction. With the changes in

automobiles such as computers, black boxes and ABS brakes, the reconstruction field has changed dramatically over the last 20 years. Members will go to Boys Town for their general meeting on the June 21. Natasha Robinson and Jodi Gasper will give them a tour featuring the Chemical Use Program at Boys Town. On July 29, OLPA will have their summer social. Members will meet for breakfast at Summer Kitchen in La Vista and then tour the Holy Family Shrine Catholic Church in Ashland, Nebraska. Donna noted OLPA member, Mary Baker, suggested purchasing polo/golf shirts with the scales of justice printed on them as their fundraiser for their scholarship fund.

### **Old Business:**

**Approval of Board Meeting Minutes.** The minutes of the April 30, 2017 Board Meeting were reviewed and corrected to reflect today's meeting date as June 17, 2017 instead of June 20, 2017 referenced in the last paragraph of the minutes. Carol Paige moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Alicia Hunt seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Web Site Discussion.** Please see above.

**Web Site Permissions.** Karen Niedfelt (CNLP interim Treasurer) will be granted permission to the website.

### **New Business:**

**Committee Assignments.** Please see above committee reports.

### **For the Good of the Organization.**

#### **1. Acknowledgements/Celebrations.**

Please see above Secretary's report.

Lisa Bryan stated she would like seminar presentations to be 50 minutes in length to allow for continuing education hours.

#### **2. Care/Concerns.**

Please keep Carla Englund in your thoughts as she works through health issues.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m. The next Board Meeting will be held in Grand Island on Saturday, September 30, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary



**NEBRASKA LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018  
September 30, 2017  
Karen Niedfelt for Teresa Hartwig, Secretary**

**Call to Order.** The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association was held on Saturday, September 30, 2017, at the Law Enforcement Center community room at 110 Public Safety Drive, Grand Island, Nebraska. The meeting was called to order at 1:16 pm. by President Lori Chapman.

Lori Chapman welcomed everyone in attendance at the Board Meeting and Karen Niedfelt read the Mission Statement and Standing Rule No. 17.

**Roll Call.** Roll call was taken by Karen Niedfelt, as follows:

<b>Roll Call of Officers:</b>	<b><u>Present/Absent</u></b>
Lori Chapman, President	Present
Jennifer Elkins, Vice President	Present
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary	Absent
Alicia Hunt, Treasurer	Present
Carol Paige, Parliamentarian	Absent

**Roll Call of Chapter Representatives, Members-at-Large, and Chapter Count:**

	<b><u>Present/Absent</u></b>	<b><u>Chapter Count</u></b>
CNLP – Karen Niedfelt	Present	5
LLPA – Sandie Smith, PLS	Present	3
OLPA – Bonnie Kudron, Pro Tem	Present	9
Member at Large – Jody Weinmeister	Present	1
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Total		18

A quorum was established.

**Other Chairpersons/Members/Guests Present.** Erica Wilsey, Ali Stefanini, Shelly Nielsen, Lisa Bryan, Jean Roeder, Sharon Huber, Lori Ready, Cherie Sempek, PLS, CLA, Kathy Bass, CP, Lynda Henningsen, and Mary Baker.

**Officer Reports:**

**President:** Lori Chapman had no report at this time.

**Vice President:** Jennifer Elkins reported NLPA has a total of 119 members. She also reported that LLPA held their 11<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament on September 9 and would like to have more members from Grand Island and Omaha attend next year's annual tournament.

**Secretary:** Karen Niedfelt presented Teresa Hartwig's report. Sympathy cards were sent to Bonnie Kudron for the loss of her brother-in-law, Jim Kobza; to Deb Hubbs for the loss of her mother-in-law, Emma Hubbs; and to Terry Englund for the loss of his wife, Carla Englund, who was a member of CNLP and NLPA.

**Treasurer:** Alicia Hunt distributed the Treasurer's Report. The balance on hand as of June 16, 2017 was \$11,644.92 and the balance on hand as of September 29, 2017 was \$11,009.83. The bank balance as of September 29, 2017 was \$11,154.05. Receipts during this time were membership dues totaling \$425.00 and interest of \$1.53. Disbursements totaled \$1,061.62 for Chapter Rep travel, Officer's Travel, postage, photocopies and office supplies, and scholarships. It was noted there are three outstanding checks for \$25 each for scholarship judge donations, chapter rep travel in the amount of \$19.22, and replacement check #1064 for Habitat speaker donation at the spring seminar. Check #1034 is presumed lost but still shown as outstanding and will be off the list since it was replaced with #1064.

Alicia presented the Membership Count by Chapter and category as follows:

Total Membership Count as of 9-30-2017				
Chapter	General	Students	Honorary	Total
CNLP	10	0	5	15
LLPA	50	2	1	53
OLPA	41	3	6	50
MAL	1	0	0	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>119</b>

Alicia requested that the chapters forward updated rosters to her as changes occur so she can keep the NLPA roster current.

The Treasurer's report will be filed subject to audit.

**Parliamentarian:** Carol Paige was absent and had no report at this time.

### Committee Reports:

1. **Annual Convention.** Bonnie Kudron reported that she and Sherry Mitchell will be chairing the 2018 annual meeting that will be held at the Double Tree Omaha Southwest, 3650 South 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Omaha April 27 through 29 and that a number of members from OLPA have agreed to be on sub-committees. The phone number for the Double Tree is 402-905-9414 for those who wish to make early reservations. The theme will be "Twenty-One and Legal". OLPA has a number of good ideas for speakers but have no confirmations yet. The budget will be presented at the January meeting. The committee plans to keep the registration fee at \$60 and members are soliciting contributions from Omaha area law firms, the Omaha Bar Association and the Nebraska Bar Association. All events for the weekend will be held at the Double Tree – Friday evening social; Saturday seminar, board meeting, and banquet; and the Sunday morning breakfast and board meeting.
2. **Audit.** Members of (LLPA) had no report at this time.

3. **Budget.** No report at this time.
4. **Historian.** No report at this time.
5. **Legal Education.** Position open.
6. **Legal Professional of the Year.** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) provided report that noted information regarding the Legal Professional of the Year will be sent out after the first of the year.
7. **Nominations and Elections.** No report at this time.
8. **Publication.** Kathy Bass, CP noted that the deadline for the next issue of *The SideBar*, to be published following the fall seminar, is October 13. This deadline for getting reports to Kathy for the fall issue follows the established schedule of the second Friday after the seminar for each issue. The minutes from the Board Meeting following the most recent seminar are to be included. Kathy again requests updates and corrections from the Board and Committee lists and that chapters please send photos from different chapter events or celebrating individuals to Kathy and she will include them with the Chapter Reports. All other Committee Reports are also welcome and encouraged.
9. **Scholarship.** Jody Weinmeister asked if NLPA would have a fundraiser to support the scholarships totaling \$2,000 to be awarded in the spring and Bonnie stated there will be a ways and means project as part of the annual meeting but there are no details at this time. Jody requested clarification of the scholarship amounts for the letters she will be sending out in January. Kathy Bass moved to confirm that the scholarship amounts are \$1,250 and \$750 for first place and second place, respectively, for a total of \$2,000 for the year. Bonnie Kudron seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
10. **Seminar-Fall.** Bonnie asked for a report on the budget for the fall seminar. Ali and Erica reported there were 19 paid registrations at \$25 for a total of \$475; expenses of \$200, speaker fees for \$75, and lunch at \$290, for total expenses of \$565, resulting in a net loss of \$90.
11. **Seminar-Spring.** Tina Scully (LLPA) was absent but LLPA noted that she is presently working on speakers for the spring seminar. Lisa suggested that the spring seminar and annual meeting chairpersons work together to assure that the speakers and topics don't overlap relative to content. Further discussion ensued as to whether or not we really need a spring seminar so close in time with the annual meeting and perhaps this issue should be revisited. It was noted this has been discussed a number of times in the past and that our mission is education. Other thoughts were to consider having the spring seminar earlier and/or the annual meeting later. However, this would create other issues such as NLPA's fiscal year and all changes inherent with making that type of change. It was then suggested that Lori Chapman appoint a task force consisting of members from each of the three chapters, our member-at-large, and the website committee to create a survey to poll the membership online to determine best options for continuing the spring seminar and possible changes in times to be held. Kathy Bass, CP, moved that Lori Chapman appoint a task force to develop an online survey to poll the members concerning this issue.
12. **Website/Web Master.** Lisa Bryan (OLPA) noted the website is quite an expense (has been \$756 a year) and it will be coming up for renewal very soon. Mary

Baker noted that, considering the annual fee spread among the three chapters, the per-member cost of just over \$6 per person is quite reasonable. It's taken NLPA some time to get to this point with many hurdles along the way -- and do we really want to change things again? It seems there are still questions as to what should or shouldn't be on the website and who should be able to access specific components of information. Access to *The SideBar*, in particular, on the website was again discussed. Lisa talked about branding – who are we and what are we about? She stated OLPA is looking into branding and NLPA should consider branding also. Bonnie stated our Mission statement has always defined who we are and what we are about. Lisa then stated there is no point of contact on the website. It was also noted the website has again undergone changes and isn't as user friendly as previously.

13. **Ways & Means.** As noted above, Bonnie reported there will be a Ways and Means project but details are unknown at this time.

### **Chapter Reports:**

**CNLP:** Karen Niedfelt reported CNLP met for their annual picnic on August 3 at George Park. September was the annual Mr. Habitat dinner which has become a tradition for CNLP and sponsoring a table for the benefit of Habitat is one way CNLP supports the community. It was an enjoyable evening. Our October meeting will be a tour of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center and the speaker will be David Stolz.

The November meeting will be at the Saddle Club with the speaker being Lori Moss or Lisa Hageman who are Court Reporters. December will be our annual Christmas Event/Party, with plans to be determined. Our January speaker at Perkins will be Vladimir Bazam, Court Interpreter. Ali Stefanini related that CNLP is preparing for the Goldilocks Trials to be held April 24, 25, and 26 in Judge Teresa Luther's Courtroom at the Hall County Courthouse and invited NLPA members to come to Grand Island and witness the event. They would be welcome to serve as a bailiff if so inclined.

**LLPA:** Sandie Smith, PLS, reported LLPA held their July 13 General Meeting at U. S. Bank Conference Room. The meeting was hosted by Baylor Evnen. Speaker for the meeting was Michelle Paxton, the Director of Legal Training at UNL's Center for Children, Families and the Law. She spoke about the program that teaches law students about being advocates for children.

The August 10 General Meeting was held at the Wells Fargo Center Fifth Floor Conference Room. The meeting was hosted by the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court and Mattson Ricketts Davies. Zachary Thompson with the Ralph Mueller Planetarium spoke about solar and lunar eclipses and the upcoming total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017.

In September, the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Ladies Golf Scramble was held at Pine Lake Golf Course. Nine people attended and enjoyed golfing, prizes, and wine. The September 14 General Meeting was at Rembolt Ludtke, who hosted the meeting. Kristine Lemons and

Nate, a zookeeper with the Lincoln Children Zoo, spoke. Nate brought Fuzzy, the 3-band Armadillo, and Miss Scarlett the skunk for the attendees to pet and watch as they ate treats. Ms. Lemons spoke about the expansion happening at the zoo and what new animals will be arriving. Fuzzy and Miss Scarlett were a big hit with everyone.

On October 5, LLPA will host a Vendor and Vino event at BarVino. This event will allow people to look over merchandise from several different vendors while enjoying a glass of wine. Proceeds from sales will be donated to LLPA for their scholarship. LLPA is trying this type of event instead of selling raffle tickets. The October General Meeting will be held on October 12 at the Nonprofit Hub. The speaker will be Danielle Conrad, Executive Director of ACLU of Nebraska. The topic will be The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment: Transforming American Democracy. This meeting will be hosted by Woods & Aitkens.

**OLPA:** Bonnie Kudron, pro tem for Donna Olson, reported OLPA members enjoyed breakfast at the Summer Kitchen on July 14 before proceeding on to the Holy Family Shrine near Gretna. The weather was ideal for a summer outing. A few members went on to Cellar 426 and enjoyed refreshments before making the trip back to Omaha. It was a nice adventure, the site was peaceful and serene, and the view was inspiring. Several members would like to return when the trees and foliage have turned. Photos can be found in OLPA's Legal Pad.

There was no General Meeting in August. The September 13 General Meeting was held at the Regency Lodge with guest speaker Richard P. Jeffries with Cline Williams Law Firm. Rick spoke about the use of Adobe Acrobat Pro and various applications in the program that not everyone knows about. Also at the September meeting, OLPA collected \$273 for the Texas Diaper Bank in support of hurricane relief.

OLPA's fundraising event is underway – they are selling various items from Scarlet Thread. Mark Weber with the Nebraska Supreme Court Counsel for Discipline will be the guest speaker at OLPA's October 18 meeting and will be speaking on ethics.

OLPA committee members are working on the details for the NLPA Convention for April 2018. Several items have been taken care of but other areas are still in the planning stages.

#### **Old Business:**

**Approval of Board Meeting Minutes.** The minutes of the June 17, 2017 Board Meeting were previously approved.

#### **New Business:**

Web Site Costs and use of Websites – previously discussed.

Shelly Nielsen asked a question about Article VI, Section 5. of the Nebraska Legal Professional Association Bylaws as it pertains to Honorary Members and specifically as

to why honorary members “shall not be eligible to hold office or chair committees but shall be eligible to co-chair committees”. Bonnie Kudron responded that Section 5. was adopted into the Bylaws to keep retired members in the chapters and the state association to share in the benefits of networking and having access to information regarding seminars and legal education – that they had “admirably served their time as dues-paying members” and that as honorary members they deserved the honorary status without the responsibilities.

Duties of scholarship chair. Reference Standing Rule 20.

Membership rosters – See above Treasurer’s report.

### **For the Good of the Organization.**

#### **1. Acknowledgements/Celebrations.**

Please see above Secretary’s report relative to sympathy cards sent to and on behalf of members

#### **2. Care/Concerns.**

Donna Olson’s father passed away. A card will be sent.

Bonnie noted Standing Rule No. 23 provides for a \$25.00 memorial to be given by NLPA to a deceased member’s immediate family or designated charity upon the member’s death and that it would be appropriate for NLPA to send a memorial to Carla Englund’s husband Terry in remembrance of Carla who was a member of CNLP and NLPA and had been installed as CNLP treasurer on April 4, one week before being diagnosed with cancer. (Her funeral service bulletin states that a memorial fund will be established in memory of Carla).

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m. The next Board Meeting will be held in Lincoln on Saturday, January 20, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen M. Niedfelt for Teresa Hartwig,

Secretary

On September 30, 2017 Bonnie Kudron moved via email vote to approve the September 30, 2017 NLPA Board minutes. Mary Baker and Alicia Hunt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**NEBRASKA LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018  
January 20, 2018  
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary**

**Call to Order.** The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association was held on Saturday, January 20, 2018 in the Lincoln Room of the Cornhusker Hotel, 333 S. 13<sup>th</sup> St., Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:17 a.m. by President, Lori Chapman.

Lori Chapman welcomed everyone in attendance at the Board meeting and Teresa Hartwig read the Mission Statement and Standing Rule No. 17.

**Roll Call.** Roll call was taken by Secretary, Teresa Hartwig, as follows:

**Roll Call of Officers:**

	<b>Present/Absent</b>
Lori Chapman, President	Present
Jennifer Elkins, Vice President	Absent
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary	Present
Alicia Hunt, Treasurer	Present
Carol Paige, Parliamentarian	Present

**Roll Call of Chapter Representatives and Chapter Count:**

	<b>Present/Absent</b>	<b>Chapter Count</b>
CNLP, Karen Niedfelt	Present	4
LLPA, Sandie Smith	Present	5
OLPA, Donna Olson	Present	4
Member-at-Large, Jody Weinmeister	Absent	-
<hr/>		
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>

A quorum was established.

**Other Chairpersons/Members/Guests Present:** Sherry Mitchell, Lynda Henningsen, Sandy Kendall, Lori Ready, Kathy Eidenmiller, and Bonnie Kudron.

**Officer Reports:**

**President:** Lori Chapman had no report at this time.

**Vice President:** Jennifer Elkins was absent and had no report at this time.

**Secretary:** Teresa Hartwig reported she sent out 11 sympathy cards, to-wit: Carol Sperry for the loss of her husband; Donna Olson for the loss of her father; Mary Baker

for the loss of her mother-in-law; Michelle Dirks for the loss of her father; Jody Weinmeister for the loss of her father; Marcia Jewett for the loss of her mother; Jean Roeder for the loss of her husband; Karen Bortz for the loss of her mother-in-law; Nancy Meyer for the loss of her father; Sheryl Agner for the loss of her husband; Linda Henningsen for the loss of her brother.

**Treasurer:** Alicia Hunt distributed the Treasurer’s Report. The balance on hand as of September 30, 2017 was \$11,009.83 and the bank balance as of January 19, 2018 was \$9,262.07. Disbursements totaled \$2,411.46 for Chapter Representatives’ Travel, Fall Seminar, Memorials, Officers’ Travel, Scholarships, and Website. It was noted there is one outstanding check in the amount of \$19.22. It was also noted check #1034 does not need to appear on the report as this check has been replaced with check #1064, which has been cashed. This leaves an adjusted balance on hand as of January 19, 2018 of \$9,242.85.

The Treasurer’s report will be filed subject to audit.

Total Membership Count as of 9-30-2017				
Chapter	General	Students	Honorary	Total
CNLP	10	0	5	15
LLPA	50	2	1	53
OLPA	47	3	6	56
MAL	1	0	0	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>125</b>

Lori Ready noted CNP actually has eight full members and five honorary members for a total of 13 total members. However, the roster for the current year remains as updated January 17, 2018. Once members pay their dues, they remain on the roster for the entire year.

**Parliamentarian:** Carol Page reported the Bylaws and Standing Rules are now on the NLPA website. There was some discussion concerning the correct date for the most recent amended Bylaws and Standing Rules. (Teresa Hartwig subsequently reviewed past minutes and found the most recent date for the amended Bylaws was October 3, 2015, and Standing Rules were last amended on June 26, 2016 with the inclusion of the President’s Award in Standing Rule No. 4).

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Annual Convention.** Bonnie Kudron and Sherry Mitchell reported on plans for the Annual Convention to be held April 27-29, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Omaha SW and presented a proposed budget. The theme for the convention is, “21 and Legal”. Most of the speakers have been confirmed. Plans are in process regarding the fundraiser, and Bonnie and Sherry shared some of their ideas. Letters will be sent out to solicit funds. More details will be forthcoming. Bonnie noted the budget was based on attendance at previous conventions. Following a



brief discussion, Bonnie then moved to approve the proposed budget. Alicia Hunt seconded the motion, and the motion carried. A block of five rooms have been reserved at the Holiday Inn Omaha SW. Group code for the convention at the hotel is "NLP" and the phone number at the hotel is 402.905.9414. Cost of each room is \$94.00.

2. **Budget.** Please see above information regarding Alicia Hunt's Treasurer's report.
3. **Historian.** Vickie Starr (LLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.
4. **Legal Education.** Position open.
5. **Legal Professional of the Year.** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) reported information and forms for each chapter's Legal Professional of the Year award were distributed to Laura Cejka (OLPA) and Jennifer Hague LLPA) via email on January 9, 2018. Completed forms are due to Teresa by April 1, 2018 to allow time for the judges to review. Teresa is in the process of selecting the judges at this time.
6. **Nominations and Elections.** Carol Paige (LLPA) reported on behalf of Jennifer Hague that acceptance letters for President have been mailed out and due by January 31, 2018. Submissions for Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are due to Jennifer by February 9, 2018.
7. **Scholarship.** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) reported on behalf of Jody Weinmeister that scholarship checks have been mailed out and have been cashed. Checks for the scholarship judges have also been cashed. Notices for this year's scholarships have been distributed.
8. **Fall Seminar.** Alicia Hunt distributed the final budget for the Fall Seminar which was hosted by CNLP on September 30, 2017. Total expenses were \$564.69 and total income was \$467.65 resulting in a loss of \$97.04.
9. **Spring Seminar.** Alicia Hunt distributed the proposed budget for the Spring Seminar which is to be hosted by LLPA on March 17, 2018 at the Lincoln Community Foundation. The theme of the seminar will be "NLPA - Going Green" (Recycle, Repurpose, Restore). She noted a flyer is on the website at this time. Speakers will be of an environmental nature and are currently pending. Members were asked to wear green as the seminar will be held on St. Patrick's Day. Alicia Hunt moved to approve the proposed budget. Carol Paige seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
10. **Website/Web Master.** Alicia Hunt will report more information later in this meeting.

11. **Ways and Means.** This had been previously discussed in the Annual Convention report.

12. **SideBar Report.** Teresa Hartwig reported on behalf of Kathy Bass that the next edition of The *SideBar* will be published two weeks after the Spring Seminar. The deadline will be the Friday following the Spring Seminar (March 23, 2018) for all reports from Board members and committee chairs, and as soon as the minutes from that Board meeting can be submitted. The next edition of The *Sidebar* will be published two weeks after the Annual Convention. All chapters should send photos of their events, meetings, etc. for inclusion in the newsletter.

## **Chapter Reports.**

**CNLP:** Karen Niedfelt reported CNLP awarded our 2017 scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 to Megan Tofflemire of Shelton who planned to major in criminal justice with a Spanish minor at Wayne State. In searching on Wayne State's website for contact information to confirm her enrollment in college, we learned that Wayne State had established an inaugural Rural Law Opportunities Program for the 2017-18 academic year. Five incoming freshmen and three current students made up the class, and Megan was accepted into the program. This program is a partnership between Wayne State College and University of Nebraska College of Law where students are recruited to pursue legal studies and return to their communities, similar to the Health Opportunities Programs. CNLP is delighted.

We met at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center Thursday, October 5 for a tour led by William J. Muldoon, Director. We were shown the large theatre-style classrooms, a gym, commons area, and a huge training room with many strength-building machines. We had hoped to see a "night drill" (cars were running with flashing lights on, but the sky didn't get dark very quickly and we would be late for our dinner reservations if we waited to hear the barking of orders on the megaphones and guns being fired).

We met at the Saddle Club on Thursday, November 2. Lori Moss, Court Reporter, was to have been our speaker but she was ill so six members enjoyed dinner and conversation in conjunction with our business meeting.

For our Christmas party, four CNLP members and their guests attended the Grand Island Little Theater performance of "My Three Angels", which was delightful, and we then had dinner at the Olive Garden.

Our January meeting was held at Perkins and was strictly a business meeting. It was purposely rescheduled for one week later with the hopes that more members would be able to attend for the purpose of discussing the future of Central Nebraska Legal Professionals. Eight members were in attendance – in fairness to those not able to attend, the frigid weather and road conditions were factors. Many thoughts, concerns,

and emotions were expressed among us. Lori will expand on the January meeting in the New Business portion of today's meeting.

For the remainder of the fiscal year:

The February 1 meeting will be at the Grand Island Saddle Club and Duane Burns will be our speaker for the evening.

Bosses' Night will be March 8, also at the Grand Island Saddle Club. Instead of hosting our usual Boss of the Year and Legal Professional of the Year event with hors d'oeuvres and a bar, we felt it would be appropriate to honor our bosses by treating them to dinner in recognition of their continuous support of our group that began as the Grand Island Legal Secretaries Association in 1956 and reorganized as the Central Nebraska Legal Professionals in 1998. CNLP will recognize the dedication our current members have devoted to CNLP this year and every year as well as all members who have received the Legal Professional of the Year designation in the past. We will not be nominating a Boss of the Year or Legal Professional of the Year this year.

Annual Membership Night (our annual tea party) will not be held.

Goldilocks Trials – scheduled for April 24, 25, and 26, 2018 – will be hosted by members of the Grand Island legal community instead of Central Nebraska Legal Professionals. Attorneys Grady Erickson of the Mayer Burns Law Firm and Amber Rowley will be leading this event.

Scholarship – Teresa, as Scholarship chairperson, has sent 37 letters to schools announcing our scholarship, to be judged by a panel of three community leaders of her choosing.

**LLPA:** Sandie Smith reported LLPA's November General Meeting was held on November 9, 2017, at the US Bank Building. William Olson, partner with Olson, Zalewski, Wynner, LLP, spoke on the "Dark Web". The meeting was hosted by Berry Law Firm; Olson, Zalewski, Wynner; and Anderson, Creager and Wittstruck. On December 14, 2017, they held their annual Christmas party at the home of their member, Deb Thompson. They did not have a general meeting for December. Their January General Meeting was held on January 11, 2018. Ruth Karlsson had a presentation on a program through the Nebraska Prison System called "Released and Restored". This program helps inmates get prepared to be back in society after their release. The meeting was held at Rembolt Ludtke and was hosted by Johnson Flodman and Legal Aide of Nebraska. LLPA will be hosting NLPA's Spring Seminar on Saturday, March 17, 2018. The theme is "NLPA – Going Green" (Recycle-Repurpose-Restore). It will be held at Lincoln Community Foundation.

**OLPA:** Donna Olson reported that OLPA met on October 18, 2017, for their General Meeting, which was held at the Regency Lodge. Our guest speaker was Mark Weber with the Nebraska Supreme Court Counsel for Discipline. This office investigates

concerns and calls regarding possible violations of the Professional Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics by attorneys. Attorneys are encouraged to use their services when they believe they might have a problem.

On November 15, 2017, our meeting was held at Regency Lodge. Members heard from Patrick McNamara, a sole practitioner, about his Estate Planning practice and tips for dealing with wills and estates.

On December 6, 2017, we had our Jingle and Mingle social gathering at the Embassy Apartments clubhouse. Mr. and Mrs. Claus joined us, played by Cheri Sempek and her husband. Members generously contributed gloves, hats and blankets to the mitten tree with the donations going to the children at Project Harmony.

Our January, 2018 meeting was held on the 17<sup>th</sup> at Regency Lodge. Mallory Hughes with Dornan, Troia, Howard et al., was our guest speaker. Mallory is a criminal defense attorney as well as a juvenile attorney. She shared with us how she uses paralegals and assistants to help her stay organized in big criminal cases.

In February, we will have Sara English from Mutual of Omaha speak to us about the law and Social Media.

In March we will hold elections and in April we will have our Awards Banquet and Boss Appreciation at Arbor Hall on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Our Ways and Means collected \$111.91 with Mary Baker's embroidered clothing and totes project. We collected about \$225 from the sale of Village Inn Pie Cards. We still have a few available so contact Sherry Mitchell if interested.

Bonnie Kudron reported she recently delivered to the Ronald McDonald House 195,750 pop tabs and have now collected a total of 633,000 on behalf of NLPA, so we are well on our way of reaching the million tab goal!

## **Old Business.**

**Discussion regarding death of a member.** Standing Rule No. 23 regarding memorials was reviewed, to-wit: The Nebraska Legal Professionals Association has adopted the following procedures to acknowledge the death of a member or member's immediate family:

- (a) A \$25.00 memorial will be given by NLPA to a deceased member's immediate family or designated charity upon the member's death;
- (b) A sympathy card from NLPA will be sent at the time of death of a current member's spouse or significant other, child, parent or sibling.

After some discussion it was determined there were no further questions/concerns regarding the Standing Rule.

**Survey Outcome.** Alicia Hunt distributed the results of the recent survey requesting input on whether to continue the Spring Seminar beginning in 2019. The results indicated 66.67% want to cancel the seminar completely and only have the Fall Seminar and Annual Convention; 16.67% want to keep it as-is (in March); 14.29% want to move the Spring Seminar from March to June; 2.38% want to move the Spring Seminar from March to July. It was noted a total of 42 responses were received. At this time Lori Ready (CNLP) suggested we table any further discussions until after she gives her report regarding the CNLP update.

**Using email through website.** Alicia Hunt reported some members are using the email function on the NLPA website and emails are being forwarded to attorneys, as well. Members are able to utilize the “All Everyone” button as well as “All Members” button and suggested we set a precedent as to the usage of this email function and possibly set up a “G” mail account instead. At this time Lynda Henningsen stated OLPA has consulted with two different agencies about raising money for their organization and both looked at our website and suggested OLPA have their own website/domain as this might possibly provide more income for their organization. OLPA would like to do something in addition to the NLPA website. Bonnie Kudron stated NLPA is paying for the website and Lynda Henningsen noted the cost for OLPA would be \$225.00 per year for their own website and OLPA feels they could make back that amount in donations. Lynda stated OLPA hasn’t completely decided to go this direction and she will report back to her Board and discuss this issue further. No definitive action was taken at this time.

## **New Business.**

**2018 Convention.** Please see Bonnie’s and Sherry’s previous report contained in these minutes.

**CNLP Update.** Lori Ready, President of CNLP, then presented her report as follows:

Currently CNLP has 13 members. Of those members five are honorary members, who are not allowed to be an officer of CNLP or chair a committee. That leaves eight members and of those eight members, three do not regularly attend (two of those live out of town). This leaves five members to do all of the work. We have been talking about what to do for the last several months and brought it up for discussion and a decision was made at our January meeting. We had eight members attend the January meeting. It was unanimous that CNLP will need to dissolve. For those that wish to be involved, they can be a member-at-large and then can still serve as an officer on a State level, and pay the State dues. For those that do not want to be involved as much, they can still attend the Seminars and just pay the higher amount as a non-member of NLPA. Attorney, Duane Burns will facilitate with the dissolution of CNLP. He will speak at our February meeting. The applications for our CNLP scholarship are due back on March 1, 2018. We will review those at our March 8 meeting and are considering giving out two scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 each. It just depends on the quantity and

quality of the applications. Instead of doing our normal Boss of the Year and Legal Professional of the Year on March 8, we will be hosting a dinner at the Saddle Club on that date to honor our bosses and to honor our current members of CNLP. We will not have a state nomination for Legal Professional of the Year. After our March meeting, we will have a meeting to complete our responsibilities and decide what to do with our remaining funds. We will follow the guidelines under Article XVI of CNLP's Bylaws. This was a very hard decision to make as our group has been in existence for many years and the majority of the members have been active members of CNLP and NLPA for many years. CNLP's target date for totally dissolving the organization is tentatively set for March 31, 2018, contingent on whether everything can be finalized at that time. This date may need to be extended due to the disbursement of our scholarship(s).

NLPA members in attendance then expressed their sadness that CNLP is dissolving; however, understood why the dissolution was necessary.

Teresa Hartwig then expressed her concern that Article VIII, Section 2 (Other Officers) of the NLPA Bylaws states, "Each nominee shall be an elected officer or member in good standing of a local chapter." As the Bylaw is written this would not allow CNLP members to be considered for a state office. A lengthy discussion then ensued. It was noted according to Article XIX (Amendments), Section 1, that, "These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board present at any annual meeting or Board meeting of the members; provided, the proposed amendment or amendments have been submitted to the parliamentarian at least 60 days prior to the date of such meeting, and to all officers, each chapter representative, and members-at-large at least 30 days prior to such meeting." After further discussion, Alicia Hunt moved to amend the Bylaws and Standing Rules so that members-at-large can serve as state officers. Donna Olson seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Carol Paige will update the Bylaws/Standing Rules to reflect the above-mentioned change.

The Spring Seminar survey was then brought back to the table for discussion. It was noted since the development of CNLP dissolving as well as the fact only 42 members out of 123 total memberships responded; this does not give a legitimate view of how all members wish to proceed with continuing the Spring Seminar or discontinuation of the Spring Seminar. Members were asked to take this discussion back to their respective chapters for further discussion and it will be then be discussed at the next Board meeting following the Spring Seminar on March 17, 2018.

### **For the Good of the Organization.**

**Acknowledgements/Celebrations/Care/Concerns.** Please see above information contained in Teresa Hartwig's Secretary's report provided in these minutes.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m. The next Board Meeting will be held in Lincoln, Nebraska at the Lincoln Community Foundation on Saturday, March 17, 2018 immediately following the Spring Seminar.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Hartwig, Secretary

On January 29, 2018 Karen Niedfelt moved for approval of the January 20, 2018 Executive Meeting minutes. Donna Olson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

**NEBRASKA LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
 MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018  
 March 17, 2018  
 Teresa Hartwig, Secretary**

**Call to Order.** The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association was held on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at the Lincoln Community Foundation, 215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Carol Paige, Parliamentarian, stated that if no one objected, Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA), former NLPA President, will chair the meeting. As no one objected, Kathy Eidenmiller called the meeting to order at 1:55 p.m.

Kathy Eidenmiller welcomed everyone in attendance at the Board meeting and thanked LLPA for an excellent Spring Seminar. Teresa Hartwig read the Mission Statement and Standing Rule No. 17.

**Roll Call.** Roll call was taken by Kathy Eidenmiller, as follows:

**Roll Call of Officers:**

	<b>Present/Absent</b>
Lori Chapman, President	Absent
Jennifer Elkins, Vice President	Absent
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary	Present
Alicia Hunt, Treasurer	Present
Carol Paige, Parliamentarian	Present

**Roll Call of Chapter Representatives and Chapter Count:**

	<b>Present/Absent</b>	<b>Chapter Count</b>
CNLP, Karen Niedfelt	Present	2
LLPA, Sandie Smith, PLS	Present	8
OLPA, Donna Olson	Present	9
Member-at-Large (Jody Weinmeister)	Present	1
<hr/>		
<b>Total</b>		<b>20</b>

A quorum was established.

**Other Chairpersons/Members/Guests Present:** Tina Scully, Mary Douglas, Jennifer Hague, Sharon Huber, Jean Roeder, Carol Sperry, Sherry Mitchell, Lynda Henningsen, Jackie Sundberg, Nadine Ostrow, Sheila Anderson, Anne Mohri (guest), and Valentina Saavedra.



**Officer Reports:**

**President:** Lori Chapman (LLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.

**Vice President:** Jennifer Elkins (OLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.

**Secretary:** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) reported she sent one sympathy card to Jody Weinmeister for the loss of her father, and a retirement card was sent to Jean Roeder.

**Treasurer:** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) distributed the Treasurer’s Report. The balance on hand as of January 19, 2018 was \$9,217.85 and the bank balance as of March 16, 2018 was \$9,207.72. Disbursements totaled \$39.34 for Chapter Representatives’ Travel and \$15.75 for Officer’s Travel for the January 19, 2018 Board Meeting.

The Treasurer’s report will be filed subject to audit.

Total Membership Count as of 9-30-2017				
Chapter	General	Students	Honorary	Total
CNLP	10	0	5	15
LLPA	50	2	1	53
OLPA	47	3	6	56
MAL	1	0	0	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>125</b>

**Parliamentarian:** Carol Paige (LLPA) reported the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules will be discussed later in this meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

- Annual Convention.** Sherry Mitchell, PLS, (OLPA) reported on plans for the Annual Convention to be held April 27-29, 2018 at the Holiday Inn Omaha SW and information was distributed. The theme for the convention is “21 & Legal”. She noted a full scrip ticket is \$60.00; Saturday only seminar is \$30.00; Banquet only is \$35.00. A block of five rooms have been reserved at the Holiday Inn Omaha SW. Group code for the convention at the hotel is “NLP” and the phone number at the hotel is 402.905.9414. Cost of each room is \$94.00. Registration deadline for the convention is April 20, 2018. Cut-off date for room reservations is April 13, 2018. Sherry discussed the three raffle items which will be \$200.00 in cash (Item #1); two tickets to a Nebraska football game (TBD) and two tickets to a College World Series game (June 17, 2018) (Item #2); Twenty-one assorted gift cards valued at \$10.00 each (Item #3).
- Audit.** The audit will be conducted by Sheila Anderson (LLPA) and Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA), and the date will be determined.

3. **Historian.** Vickie Starr (LLPA) was absent and had no report at this time.
4. **Legal Education.** Position open.
5. **Legal Professional of the Year.** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) reported information and forms for each chapter's Legal Professional of the Year award were distributed to Laura Cejka (OLPA) and Jennifer Hague (LLPA) via email on January 9, 2018. Completed forms are due to Teresa by April 1, 2018 to allow time for the judges to review. Judges are as follows, to-wit: Susan Koenig of Mayer, Burns & Koenig, Grand Island, Alison Larson, VP Marketing, Equitable Bank, Grand Island, and Darla Burnham, Retail Director and Branch Manager, 1<sup>st</sup> National Bank, Grand Island.
6. **Nominations and Elections.** Jennifer Hague (LLPA) stated that acceptance letters had been received for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer; however, after some discussion, it was decided to table the election of President until the April 27, 2018 Board Meeting as an oral acceptance for the office of President had not been received from Lori Chapman.
7. **Scholarship.** Jody Weinmeister (Member-at-Large) reported that as of this date she has received three applications. The question was posed as to whether or not the scholarship could be awarded to part-time students. It was noted the Standing Rules and Bylaws do not indicate whether the student needs to be full-time or part-time; however, the application indicates full-time student. After some discussion it was decided since the application indicates full-time student, it would be appropriate that the scholarship be awarded to a full-time student; however, the application for next year will be changed to reflect full-time or part-time student status.
8. **Spring Seminar.** Tina Scully (LLPA) reported on the Spring Seminar stating 28 registrations had been received. More details concerning the cost of the seminar will be reported at the Annual Convention.
9. **Website/Web Master.** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) reported she will post the Annual Convention information/registration on the website.
10. **Ways and Means.** This had been previously discussed in the Annual Convention report.
11. **SideBar Report.** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) reported on behalf of Kathy Bass, CP, (OLPA) that the deadline for submission of reports for the next edition of The *SideBar* will be March 30, 2018. All chapters should send photos of their events, meetings, etc. for inclusion in the newsletter.

## **Chapter Reports.**

**CNLP:** Karen Niedfelt reported CNLP held their grand finale event on March 8, 2018 with 18 members and bosses attending a dinner at the Saddle Club in Grand Island. She noted it was a pleasant evening and very much enjoyed by all those in attendance. CNLP is in the process of awarding its final scholarship and will have more details to share at Annual Convention.

**LLPA:** Sandie Smith, PLS reported the following:

Our February General Meeting was held on February 8, 2018, at the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Wells Fargo Building. The speaker was Amy Van Horne. The topic was "Strategies for Successful Mediation". The meeting was hosted by Wolfe Snowden.

Our March General Meeting was held on March 8, 2018. It was held at the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Wells Fargo Building. It was our Election meeting. Our new officers for 2018 are:

Rachel Wulf Schmidt – President  
Morgan Myers – Vice President  
Debra McGinty – Secretary  
Alicia Hunt – Treasurer  
Sandie Smith, PLS – Chapter Representative

On April 5, 2018, we will have our annual Bosses' Night. It will be held at Windsor Stables in Lincoln. We will install our new officers, announce our Boss of the Year, Legal Professional of the Year and our Scholarship winner.

In May, we will host our Membership Appreciation Meeting. It will be held on May 10, 2018. Our speaker will be a representative from Teammates.

**OLPA:** Donna Olson reported the following:

Our February Board meeting was held on February 7<sup>th</sup> at Erickson & Sederstrom Law Firm. I reported the results of the NLPA survey from the NLPA January 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. By a show of hands, all board members supported a reduction of events each year from three to two (fall seminar and an annual convention in the spring.)

I also shared the news of CNLP's closing of their chapter. Discussion was held with the OLPA board members noting that the impending dissolution will leave NLPA as a statewide umbrella organization comprised of two chapters roughly equal in size and located only 60 miles apart. As far as a course for its future, OLPA suggests that NLPA consider forming an ad hoc committee to address the challenges facing NLPA, and also that the committee include CNLP members so they can provide their input and assist with the transition.

On February 21, 2018, OLPA held its annual membership drive. The meeting was held at the Regency Lodge. Sara English, Assistant General Counsel and technology lawyer with Mutual of Omaha, spoke to us about Blockchain Technology. Blockchain will be an unalterable database for transaction validation and is being touted

as being "unhackable." We had 14 guests, along with many members, attend the meeting who enjoyed our guest speaker, as well as a taco bar dinner.

Our March Board Meeting was held on March 7<sup>th</sup> at Erickson & Sederstrom Law Firm. Discussion was held about our upcoming Elections meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup> and that anyone running for office must have their dues paid before installation at our upcoming banquet.

We will hold our Annual Banquet awarding our Boss of the Year, Legal Professional of the Year, Scholarships, and Oscar Award on April 18<sup>th</sup> at Arbor Hall. The Honorable Laurie Smith Camp, Chief United States District Judge, District of Nebraska will serve as our Master of Ceremonies.

## **Old Business.**

**Spring Seminar-Online Survey.** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) stated this matter was discussed at LLPA and OLPA meetings and it was unanimous to cancel the Spring Seminar; however, after some additional discussion, it was decided to further discuss this agenda item at the Annual Meeting on Sunday April 29, 2018, and make a final determination at that time.

**Standing Rules/Bylaws for Members-at-Large.** Carol Paige (LLPA) distributed the proposed changes to the Standing Rules and Bylaws. Proposed changes to the Bylaws were reviewed first. Carol stated the proposed changes would allow members-at-large the opportunity to hold an office on the state level and the Vice President would be responsible for casting a vote on behalf of the members-at-large. After some discussion Jody Weinmeister moved to approve the changes to the Bylaws. Jean Roeder seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Proposed changes to the Standing Rules were then reviewed. Carol stated the proposed changes would allow members-at-large the opportunity to hold an office on the state level, and the Vice-President would be responsible for casting a vote on behalf of the members-at-large. After some discussion Mary Douglas moved to approve the proposed changes to the Standing Rules, with the exception of Standing Rule 14, which will be discussed in more detail at the April 28, 2018 Board meeting. Donna Olson seconded the motion, and the motion carried. It was noted the Vice-President will be responsible for keeping the members-at-large up-to-date (via email) on all NLPA activities/events.

**Convention.** Please see Sherry's previous report contained in these minutes.

## **New Business.**

**Election of 2018-2019 President - Jennifer Hague.** It was noted this was previously discussed and is tabled until the April 28, 2018 Board meeting.

**Scholarship Eligibility-Jody Weinmeister.** Please see Jody's previous report contained in these minutes.

**Blog on Website Concerning CNLP – Lori Ready.** Teresa Hartwig spoke on behalf of Lori Ready that we would like to have the contents of the blog concerning CNLP removed from the website. Alicia Hunt reported it will be removed.

**CNLP Facebook/Website – Lori Ready.** Teresa Hartwig spoke on behalf of Lori Ready that the CNLP website/facebook is no longer necessary. Alicia Hunt stated anyone viewing the CNLP website/facebook will be redirected to the NLPA website effective April 1, 2018.

**For the Good of the Organization.**

**Acknowledgements/Celebrations/Care/Concerns.** Valentina Saavedra announced her engagement and approaching wedding date of August 18. Condolences were extended to Jennifer Elkins for the loss of her brother. Please see above information contained in Teresa Hartwig's Secretary's report regarding cards being sent to members.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next Board Meeting will be held in Omaha, Nebraska at the Holiday Inn – Omaha Southwest on Saturday, April 28, 2018, immediately following the Annual Convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Hartwig, Secretary

**NEBRASKA LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018  
April 28, 2018  
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary**

**Call to Order.** The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association was called to order by President, Lori Chapman, at 2:25 p.m. on Saturday, April 28, 2018, at Holiday Inn Omaha Southwest, 3650 South 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Omaha, Nebraska in the Legacy B Room.

Teresa Hartwig read the Mission Statement and Standing Rule No. 17.

**Roll Call.** Roll call was taken by Teresa Hartwig, as follows:

**Roll Call of Officers:**

	<b>Present/Absent</b>
Lori Chapman, President	Present
Jennifer Elkins, Vice President	Present
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary	Present
Alicia Hunt, Treasurer	Present
Carol Paige, Parliamentarian	Present

**Roll Call of Chapter Representatives and Chapter Count:**

	<b>Present/Absent</b>	<b>Chapter Count</b>
CNLP, Karen Niedfelt	Present	2
LLPA, Sandie Smith, PLS	Present	8
OLPA, Donna Olson	Present	17
Member-at-Large (Jody Weinmeister)	Present	1
<hr/>		
<b>Total</b>		<b>28</b>

A quorum was established.

**Other Chairpersons/Members/Guests Present:** Laura Cejka, Jean Roeder, Dianne Rosenthal, Bonnie Kudron, Carol Sperry, Sheila Anderson, Vickie Starr, Kathy Eidenmiller, Lynda Jensen-Hansen, Valentina Harris, Nadine Ostrow, Nancy Meyer, Sharon Huber, Jennifer Hague, Donna Birkby, Lynda Henningsen, Cherie Sempek, Doris Crayton, and Sherry Mitchell.

President, Lori Chapman, suggested suspending the Agenda and performing the election of officers. Jennifer Hague asked for nominations for President. Valentina Harris was nominated for President from the floor and she accepted the nomination. Kathy Eidenmiller was nominated for President from the floor and she declined the nomination. A vote was taken and Valentina Harris was elected President.

Jennifer Hague noted Jennifer Elkins had previously accepted the nomination for Vice President. Sheila Anderson was nominated for Vice President from the floor and accepted the nomination. A ballot vote was then distributed. It was decided that, under the circumstances, Jody Weinmeister's vote as member-at-large would be submitted to election committee chairperson, Jennifer Hague. Sheila Anderson was elected as Vice President.

Jennifer Hague stated Alicia Hunt had been previously nominated and accepted the nomination for Treasurer. No other nominations were made. Alicia Hunt was elected Treasurer.

Jennifer Hague noted Teresa Hartwig had been previously nominated and accepted the nomination for Secretary. No other nominations were made. Teresa Hartwig was then elected Secretary.

#### **Officer Reports:**

**President:** Lori Chapman (LLPA) stated her report is in the convention booklet.

**Vice President:** Jennifer Elkins (OLPA) stated her report is in the convention booklet.

**Secretary:** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) stated her report is in the convention booklet.

**Treasurer:** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) stated her report is in the convention booklet.

**Parliamentarian:** Carol Paige (LLPA) stated her report is in the convention booklet.

#### **Committee Reports:**

1. **Annual Convention.** Bonnie Kudron reported on the Annual Convention noting the committee received more donations than expected for a total, at this writing, of \$600.00. Final details will be presented at a later time. She noted the following script tickets were sold: 28 full-script tickets; 9 seminar-only script tickets; and 2 banquet-only tickets. Regarding the Annual Convention booklet, Carol Paige moved to accept the convention booklet and Alicia Hunt seconded the motion. After some discussion it was noted the amount of the deposit from the Fall Seminar needed to be corrected to \$467.65; the loss for the Fall Seminar needed to be corrected to \$97.04; and the 2017 Legal Professional of the Year needed to be corrected to Teresa Hartwig. Carol Paige then amended her previous motion to accept the corrected convention booklet, which was seconded by Alicia Hunt. A vote was taken, and the convention booklet was approved as amended.
2. **Audit.** Sheila Anderson (LLPA) reported that she and Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA), performed an audit for the time frame of April 1, 2017 through April 25, 2017. She noted in conducting said audit, they found the check ledger balanced with the records of Great Western Bank, and the records were in order.
3. **Historian.** Vickie Starr (LLPA) asked everyone to submit pictures from the convention or any chapter event to her.
4. **Legal Education.** Position open.
5. **Legal Professional of the Year.** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) reported her report is in the convention booklet and the new Legal Professional of the Year will be announced at the banquet this evening.
6. **Nominations and Elections.** This had already been discussed.
7. **Scholarship.** Jody Weinmeister (Member-at-Large) reported her report is in the convention booklet.

8. **Spring Seminar.** Tina Scully's (LLPA) report is in the convention booklet.
9. **Fall Seminar.** Lori Ready's (CNLP) report is in the convention booklet.
10. **Website/Web Master.** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) reported CNLP is still on the website and will be taken down next week.
11. **Ways and Means.** Donna Olson (OLPA) reported she didn't have the complete details of the proceeds from the raffle items at this writing, and will report at a later time. *Note: At the banquet later in the evening, Donna Olson reported Nadine Ostrow sold the most tickets (222); followed by Sherry Mitchell (212); Tina Scully (144); and Sandie Smith (84). She noted OLPA's sales amounted to \$925.00; \$440.00 for LLPA; and \$75.00 for CNLP and Member-at-Large. Total sales amounted to \$1,440.00 less expenses of \$350.00 resulting in a net of \$1,090.00 which will be applied to the scholarship fund.*
12. **SideBar Report.** Teresa Hartwig (CNLP) reported on behalf of Kathy Bass, CP (OLPA) the deadline for submission of reports for the next edition of The *SideBar* will be May 11, 2018. She also went on to say Kathy Bass, CP has chosen to not continue as chairperson of the *SideBar*. All chapters should send photos of their events, meetings, etc. for inclusion in the newsletter.

## Chapter Reports.

**CNLP:** Karen Niedfelt reported her report is in the convention booklet and *SideBar*. She went on to say CNLP members are in the process of finalizing the details of their dissolution.

**LLPA:** Sandie Smith, PLS reported her report is in the convention booklet. She stated during their April meeting, they announced their Legal Professional of the Year, which is Vickie Starr; Boss of the Year is Jerry Pigsley with Woods & Aitken; and their scholarship winner was their own member, Morgan Myers.

**OLPA:** Donna Olson reported her report is in the convention booklet. On April 18, 2018 OLPA held their 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Awards Banquet, Installation of Officers, and Boss Appreciation Night at Arbor Hall in Omaha. The Honorable Laurie Smith Camp, Chief United States District Judge District of Nebraska, served as our Master of Ceremonies. Tim J. Kielty with Law Offices of Tim Kielty, P.C., gave the invocation. Boss of the Year was presented by Valentina Harris to Cathy Trent-Vilim of Lamson Dugan & Murray, LLP, boss of OLPA member, Laura Cejka, last year's winner of the Legal Professional of the Year. Legal Professional of the Year was presented by Laura Cejka. The winner was our very deserving outgoing President, Lynda Henningsen with the Daily Record. Two \$500.00 scholarships were awarded to two high school students since we did not get any college applicants. The winners were Raul Ramirez and Amou Riing. This year's Oscar Award was presented by Cherie Sempek to Donna Olson, outgoing Chapter Representative and incoming Secretary. A scrapbook was presented by Historian Donna Olson to Lynda Henningsen. OLPA will again be presenting the 8<sup>th</sup> grade essay contest winners and assisting the OBA with Law Day at the luncheon to be held on May 1, 2018.

## Old Business.



**Spring Seminar-Online Survey.** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) stated this matter was discussed at LLPA and OLPA meetings and it was unanimous to cancel the Spring Seminar. After some discussion, Carol Paige moved to suspend the Spring Seminar indefinitely, which was seconded by Donna Olson, and the motion carried.

**Standing Rule 14.** Carol Paige (LLPA) asked members to review the contents of Standing Rule 14 regarding the Legal Professional of the Year award as it relates to members-at-large. It was noted that since this is not an immediate concern, this matter can be discussed under the new incoming Board at a later time.

**Convention.** Please see Bonnie's previous report contained in these minutes.

**New Business.** Election of Officers. This matter had already been discussed.

**For the Good of the Organization.**

**Acknowledgements/Celebrations/Care/Concerns.** Kathy Eidenmiller thanked everyone for their concern regarding her daughter, Amy. She reported Amy is doing much better, and that is great news to hear.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m. The next Board Meeting will be held in Legacy Room of the Holiday Inn Omaha Southwest, at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday April 29, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Hartwig, Secretary.

On May 1, 2018 Karen Niedfelt moved to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2018 Annual Meeting. Donna Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried.