

**NEBRASKA LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019  
April 27, 2019**

**Karen Niedfelt for Teresa Hartwig, Secretary**

**Call to Order.** The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Legal Professionals Association was called to order by Vice President Sheila Anderson at 1:50 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2019, at Hilton Garden Inn, 801 “R” Street, Lincoln, Nebraska in the Husker Conference Room.

Sheila Anderson (LLPA) welcomed everyone in attendance to the Board Meeting and Karen Niedfelt (MAL) read Standing Rule No. 17.

**Roll Call.** Roll call was taken by Vice President Sheila Anderson (LLPA) as follows:

<b>Roll Call of Officers:</b>	<b><u>Present/Absent</u></b>
Valentina Harris, President	Absent
Sheila Anderson, Vice President	Present
Teresa Hartwig, Secretary	Absent
Alicia Hunt, Treasurer	Present
Jody Weinmeister, 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>
LLPA –Rae Wulf Schmidt (Pro-Tem)	Present	7
OLPA – Sherry Mitchell (Pro-Tem)	Present	9
Members-at-Large – Karen Niedfelt, Jody Weinmeister, Deb Sweley (Absent)	Present	<u>2</u>
Total		18

A quorum was established.

**Other Chairpersons/Members/Guests Present.** Lynda Henningsen (OLPA), Nadine Ostrow (OLPA), Bonnie Kudron (OLPA), Donna Olson (OLPA), Sharon Huber (OLPA), Cherie Sempek (OLPA), Shirley Simmonds (OLPA), Janet Benner (LLPA), Debra Lundberg (LLPA), Vickie Starr (LLPA), Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA), and Jean Roeder (OLPA).

**Officer Reports:**

**President:** Valentina Harris (OLPA) submitted her report for the convention booklet.

**Vice President:** Sheila Anderson (LLPA) submitted her report for the convention booklet.

**Secretary:** Teresa Hartwig (MAL) submitted her report for the convention booklet.

**Treasurer:** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) submitted her report for the convention booklet.

**Parliamentarian:** Jody Weinmeister (MAL) submitted her report for the convention booklet.

### **Committee Reports:**

1. **Nominations and Elections.** Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA) will present her report with the election of officers later in the meeting.
2. **Audit.** Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA) reported the annual audit will be prepared in the next few days and distributed at that time.
3. **Publications.** There was no report in the convention booklet.
4. **Fall Seminar.** The report prepared by Alicia Hunt is in the convention booklet.
5. **Ways & Means.** The winner of the 50/50 raffle will be drawn at the banquet this evening and complete details will be provided at a later date.
6. **Website/Web Master.** Alicia Hunt (LLPA) submitted her report for the convention booklet.
7. **Legal Professional of the Year.** Vickie Starr submitted her report for the convention booklet, and she will announce the new Legal Professional of the Year at the banquet this evening.
8. **Scholarship.** Jody Weinmeister (MAL) submitted her report for the convention booklet and stated winners will be announced at the banquet this evening.

### **Chapter Reports:**

**OLPA:** Sherry Mitchell reported that the Chapter Rep for OLPA did not submit a report for the convention booklet; Sherry did prepare a detailed Chapter Rep report for OLPA and distributed it at this meeting as an addendum to the convention booklet.

**LLPA:** Sandie Smith submitted her detailed report for the convention booklet.

### **Old Business:**

**Approval of Board Meeting Minutes.** It was noted the minutes of the March 2, 2019, Board Meeting were approved via email on March 12, 2019, and are on the website.

**Approval of Convention Booklet.** Sherry Mitchell noted on page 23 the President's office title is President Vice; the first office should be President and the second office Vice President. After reviewing the convention booklet and noting items not received or in need of correction and previously mentioned, Kathy Eidenmiller moved that the convention booklet be approved, Sherry Mitchell seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Kathy Eidenmiller also briefly mentioned that at a future meeting the terms Educational Conference and Annual Meeting and Convention should be discussed as they are used interchangeably in Standing Rule 19 included in the convention booklet and other areas of NLPA documents.

Jody Weinmeister as Parliamentarian requested that the amendment to Standing Rule 7(k) be clarified to specifically state “all voting members be allowed to be reimbursed for expenses incurred **for gas** up to \$100.00 for attendance at each event.” Jody Weinmeister moved that this amendment be approved, Bonnie Kudron seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

**Membership Poll Update.** Kathy Eidenmiller (LLPA) stated the purpose of the membership poll was to bring awareness to the Board of where members stand with NLPA, and that more than half of our members responded. However, it was noted that the comments received were more about feelings and thoughts on the topic and less about viable solutions.

Sheila asked for discussion, and the comments follow:

1. We need to determine if there is a need to have this organization – or should we give more to the chapters and MALS.
2. OLPA feels there is a need for NLPA – the biggest question seems to be if there is enough interest among members to make it work.
3. LLPA sees the need to restructure the NLPA organization and notes there has been a drop in total members from more than 90 to 60 and that essentially NLPA should disband. There were responses from 17 members who do not want to disband but gave no ideas as to how to continue.
4. Educational speakers and programs are important benefits at the state level for all members.
5. NLPA should work with OLPA and LLPA chapters and come up with a plan on how to be active and present that plan at the Fall Seminar.

Lynda Henningsen moved that the incoming NLPA Board should be charged with working with OLPA and LLPA as well as Members at Large to develop a plan to continue NLPA and bring that plan to the Fall Seminar. Bonnie Kudron seconded the motion. Kathy Eidenmiller then moved to amend the motion by Lynda to include a scenario to disband. Rae Wulf Schmidt seconded the amended motion. The motion carried.

## **New Business:**

**Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Proposal.** Kathy Eidenmiller briefly brought to discussion the diversity, equity and inclusion proposal first discussed regarding inclusion in the NLPA Bylaws. It was suggested by Lynda Henningsen that it be tabled to the first meeting of the new fiscal year, to be held Sunday, April 28, 2019.

## **Nominations and Elections.**

Kathy Eidenmiller noted she had received 16 nominations for officers and thanked all who had consented to be nominated. The officers consenting to accept an office are:

Lynda Henningsen, President (previously elected.)

Shirley Simmonds, Vice President (approved on motion by Kathy Eidenmiller, seconded by Sherry Mitchell, and carried.)

Alicia Hunt, Secretary (approved on motion by Rae Wulf Schmidt, seconded by Bonnie Kudron, and carried.)

Sheila Anderson, Treasurer (approved on motion by Kathy Eidenmiller, seconded by Rae Wulf Schmidt, and carried.)

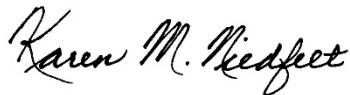
Teresa Hartwig was appointed Parliamentarian by Lynda Henningsen.

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

1. **Acknowledgements/Celebrations.** Bonnie Kudron thanked LLPA for another successful convention.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m. The first Board meeting of the new fiscal year will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Lincoln, Nebraska, at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Niedfelt, Pro-Tem  
For Teresa Hartwig, Secretary

On May 7, 2019, Sheila Anderson (LLPA) moved via email to approve the April 27, 2019, Board minutes. Jody Weinmeister seconded the motion. Motion carried.