

NEW HAMPSHIRE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF GOVERNORS' MEETING
Thursday, January 15, 2026
4:00 pm

LIVE WITH REMOTE OPTION
Meeting Minutes

Present for all or part of the meeting:

Board Members: Oliver Bloom, Sarah Mattson Dustin, Steve Dutton, James Eager, Caroline Epperson, Kristin Fields, Nikolas Frye, Geoff Gallagher, Chrissy Hanisco, Bob Lucic, Kate Mahan, Kyle Robidas, Barry Schuster, Cathy Shanelaris, Matthew Stachowske, Charla Stevens

NHBA Staff: Sarah Blodgett, Debbie Hawkins, Jennifer McManus, Caitlin Dow, Vince O'Brien

ABA Delegates: Lyndsay Robinson

Guests: Kathy Fox

A. Call to Order Robert Lucic

1. Welcome New Member James Eager

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by President-Elect Robert Lucic. He welcomed the Board as he is chairing in Derek's place today. He also welcomed Jimmy Eager, our new Sullivan County representative and asked the Board to introduce themselves.

REGULAR BUSINESS – CONSENT ITEMS

B. Membership Status Changes Jennifer McManus

C. Minutes of December 18, 2025 Meetings Catherine Shanelaris

ACTION

On motion to approve the consent agenda with changes noted in the December minutes. Passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

D. Policy on CLE Scholarship Sarah Blodgett/Vince O'Brien

Director Blodgett spoke about this. It was presented last month on the agenda, but the Board did not act at that time. The Public Sector Committee recommended the scholarship program to provide

access non-profit and public sector attorneys who are unable to afford the cost of CLE programs but scholarship opportunities would be open to all NHBA members regardless of practice area. In addition, the Public Sector Committee would like to create new CLE programming aimed at public sector and public interest attorneys.

An application will be made available online. Applicants will be asked to affirm that they are unable to pay the full cost of the requested program. They will also affirm that their employer does not pay for CLE programming. NHBA staff will not conduct an independent review of ability to pay. Vince O'Brien, Director of Professional Development, communicated with other associations that offer scholarships. These associations do not independently verify applicants' ability to pay. Applicants will be asked to explain the relevance of the course to their practice. Scholarships will not be made available to members who have already completed the minimum number of required credits for the reporting year.

Applications will be reviewed by Director O'Brien in the first instance. He will consult with Executive Director Blodgett if necessary. would be done administratively, and Vince and Sarah would make these decisions. There was also a question about adding to the policy, it will be added to the procedural document as well. The procedural document already references that the CLE department would be responsible in the policy, but there can be more detail added into the process document, and there can also be additions to the policy. We will push the effective date of the policy out to mid-February. February 1st is the goal and it will be publicized in the Bar News. There was a discussion that the 2 week turnaround might be too short as people tend to register at the last minute. Cathy suggested that we let faculty know that they can donate their free attendance certificate under this program. There was also a question about the demonstration financial need change form from "would" to "may" to make it more open. The Board did not want the subsidize the employer paying for the course, but they are supportive of the individual's cost being subsidized.

ACTION

On Motion to approve the policy with the changes noted. Passed unanimously.

- E. Approval of NHBA 990 Tax Return Sarah Blodgett/Jennifer McManus

Controller McManus discussed the 990 and asked if anyone had any questions or concerns. There was a question about the change in grant revenue from year to year. The ERTC payment employee tax credit was received and we will see that again next year as we had another payment.

ACTION

On motion to approve the 990 tax return. Passed unanimously.

- F. Review of Special Committee on Wellness Charge Sarah Blodgett

Executive Director Blodgett spoke about potential challenges to the Wellness Committee's work in light of the Boudreau case. She attended the Committee's January meeting. Committee members will shortly begin working on a draft charge. Members would like guidance from the Board on priorities and areas

where they can be most effective. Unlike other special committees, this committee did not receive a specific charge.

G. Treasurer's Report – **ACTION ITEM**

Geoff Gallagher/Jennifer McManus

Geoff Gallagher gave the report this month. He reported that year-to-date CLE revenue is consistent with expectations. Consistent with historical trends, we should see an increase in this revenue during the spring when the reporting deadline comes up. There is nothing unusual or unexpected in this reports.

ACTION

On motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Passed unanimously.

H. CACR 0009 and CACR 0011 - Judicial Retirement legislation

Sarah Blodgett

Kathy Fox joined the meeting and she spoke about these Constitutional Amendment Concurrent Resolutions (CACR). A similar resolution was presented to the voters in 2023 and failed by a small percentage. Representative Lynn, sponsor of CACR 0009, is again one of the sponsors. The Legislation Committee recommended no position on both bills and Ms. Fox will continue to track these bills.

Gar Chang asked a question about standards for judicial competency. Director Blodgett responded that the Superior and Circuit courts conduct judicial performance evaluation of all judges on a regular basis. The review process includes input from attorneys and parties. President Elect Lucic shared the concern that the current process for attorney feedback as he believes concern about comments being attributed to the attorney has a chilling effect. Attorneys tend to not comment as they are afraid of retribution. Geoff Gallagher asked whether the Board should support this amendment. Chrissy Hanisco shared her belief that the Board should support this resolution. Barry Schuster disagreed and explained that he did not believe that the Board could take a position under Chapman. Additional Board members agreed with Mr. Schuster and reported that it is unlikely that there is substantial unanimity among membership.

There was general discussion on CACR 10 but no motion was made.

ACTION

On motion to take a position in support of CACR 9, the motion failed.

On motion for NHBA to take no position. Passed unanimously.

I. HB 1825-Relative to the regulation of the practice of law, establishing an independent legal licensing board, and making an appropriation therefor

Sarah Blodgett

Ms. Fox spoke generally about this bill. It is unclear how funding would continue after the initial appropriation. This bill has been assigned to House Judiciary but has not yet been scheduled for a hearing. There was general discussion about the impact this legislation would have on the judicial

branch. The Legislation Committee will review this on Tuesday at their meeting. The Board will review after the Legislation Committee has made a recommendation.

Ms. Fox reported on a bill to allow the Department of Justice to create an AI position. She will flag it and let us know when the bill is out.

J. President- Elect Report

Robert Lucic

President-elect Lucic stated that registration for the Mid-Year meeting is going well. He asked the Board to attend, as well as promote the meeting to their friends and colleagues. He provided an overview of the program. The February Board meeting will be held at the Doubletree in Manchester on February 19. Mid-Year meeting is the following day. There was a general reminder that the Gender Equality breakfast begins at 7:15 a.m.

Ms. Hanisco reported that new Solo-Small Section has asked about having a table reserved at the Mid-Year Meeting. Executive Director Blodgett will consider this request and follow-up with the section.

Derek, Sarah Blodgett, Sarah Mattson Dustin and Bob will be meeting with the Supreme Court next Thursday. They typically meet quarterly.

K. Executive Director's Report

Sarah Blodgett

Director Blodgett stated that the Committee on Cooperation with the Courts is starting to plan a Bench Bar conference for 2027 in the spring. A subcommittee that includes Judicial Branch member will start to meet in the near future.

L. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS REQUIRING REVIEW BUT NO ACTION**

1. December 8, 2025 NHMCLE Board Meeting Minutes

M. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly S. Chandler

Holly S. Chandler for Catherine E. Shanelaris, Secretary

New Hampshire Bar Association

Membership Status Changes

**Presented to the Board of Governors January 16, 2025
Status Changes November 15, 2024 - January 10, 2025**

Bar ID	Name	Old Status	New Status	Effective Date
10488	Attorney George T. Campbell III	Active	Deceased	12/17/2024
278902	Attorney Colleen Ragan Jackson	Active	Inactive	11/20/2024

278773	Attorney Anne Katherine Millham	Active	Inactive	11/21/2024
8122	Attorney Ronald Lyle Armstrong	Active	Inactive	11/24/2024
2589	Attorney Paul Joseph Twomey	Active	Inactive	11/27/2024
272837	Attorney Christa Barrett Shute	Active	Inactive	09/30/2024
278902	Attorney Colleen Ragan Jackson	Active	Inactive	11/20/2024
275387	Attorney Amy Beth Royal	Active	Inactive	11/29/2024
13525	Attorney Donald Lee Smith	Active	Inactive	12/31/2024
16613	Attorney Norman R. Belanger	Active	Inactive	11/25/2024
278582	Attorney Chelsea Farrell	Active	Inactive	12/06/2024
1630	Attorney Thomas N. Masland	Active	Inactive Retired	11/29/2024
15148	Attorney Leesteffy Jenkins	Active	Inactive Retired	12/30/2024
6582	Attorney Charles T. Giacobelli	Active	Inactive Retired	12/31/2024
16462	Attorney Suzanne M. Ketteridge	Active	Inactive Retired	01/08/2025
16462	Attorney Suzanne M. Ketteridge	Active	Inactive Retired	12/27/2024
19326	Attorney Paul J. Farrell	Active	Inactive Retired	11/30/2024
18670	Attorney Peter J. McNamara	Active	Inactive Retired	11/20/2024
4849	Attorney John J. Ratigan	Active	Inactive Retired	12/11/2024
278908	CDR Abigail Scott Miller	Active	Military Active	11/20/2024
2641	Hon. Marguerite Lefebvre Wageling	Active	Resigned	12/11/2024
16804	Attorney Randy J. Creswell	Active	Resigned	11/14/2024
272294	Attorney Ben Martin-McDonough	Active	Suspended	12/19/2024
273626	Attorney Chandan Kumar Panigrahi	Active	Suspended	12/20/2024
270789	Attorney Catherine Pinos	Active	Suspended	12/20/2024
17099	Attorney Erin Desmarais Wolf	Active	Suspended	12/20/2024
14662	Attorney David J. Donovan	Active	Suspended	12/19/2024
275296	Attorney William Albert Gaudino	Active	Suspended	12/19/2024
7904	Attorney Constantine Hutchins III	Active	Suspended	12/19/2024
266293	Attorney Robert Francis Johnson III	Active	Suspended	12/19/2024
268086	Attorney Christopher David Ray	Active	Suspended	12/20/2024
274015	Attorney Christopher Scott Brown	Active	Suspended	12/19/2024
16608	Attorney David N. Dunn	Active	Suspended	12/19/2024
17885	Attorney Charles D. Hickey	Honorary Active	Deceased	12/04/2024
7879	Attorney John M. Cunningham	Honorary Active	Honorary Inactive	08/29/2024
517	Attorney Bradley R. Coury	Honorary Inactive	Deceased	06/01/2024
716	Attorney Christopher D. Dye	Honorary Inactive	Deceased	11/08/2024
7900	Attorney Richard W. Head	Inactive	Active	12/01/2024
278902	Attorney Colleen Ragan Jackson	Inactive	Active	12/04/2024
12929	Attorney Gregory J. Orso	Inactive	Active	12/11/2024
16415	Attorney Megan J. Beauregard	Inactive	Active	12/16/2024
998	Attorney James P. Green	Inactive	Inactive Retired	12/01/2024
2596	Attorney John S. Upton	Inactive	Resigned	12/31/2024
8827	Attorney Robert H. Prince	Inactive	Suspended	12/20/2024
18086	Attorney Donna L. Killmon	Inactive	Suspended	12/19/2024
265346	Attorney Caroline K. Vincent	Inactive	Suspended	12/20/2024
11356	Attorney William J. Rooney Jr.	Inactive	Suspended	12/20/2024
269460	Attorney Wingman Cheung	Inactive	Suspended	12/03/2024
19560	Attorney Eric J. Lawless	Inactive	Suspended	12/19/2024
11356	Attorney William J. Rooney Jr.	Inactive	Suspended	12/20/2024
8827	Attorney Robert H. Prince	Inactive	Suspended	12/24/2024
265346	Attorney Caroline K. Vincent	Inactive	Suspended	12/20/2024
16462	Attorney Suzanne M. Ketteridge	Inactive Retired	Active	12/27/2024
15148	Attorney Leesteffy Jenkins	Inactive Retired	Active	12/30/2024

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16462	Attorney Suzanne M. Ketteridge	Inactive Retired	Active	12/27/2024
2633	Attorney Karen A. Vogel	Inactive Retired	Suspended	12/20/2024
2633	Attorney Karen A. Vogel	Inactive Retired	Suspended	12/20/2024
267880	Attorney Jennifer Lee Sage	Suspended	Active	12/20/2024
269460	Attorney Wingman Cheung	Suspended	Inactive	12/02/2024
20110	Attorney Brook S. Lane	Suspended	Inactive	12/20/2024
269460	Attorney Wingman Cheung	Suspended	Inactive	12/20/2024