

**ALABAMA STATE BAR  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

**Alabama State Bar  
415 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104**

**Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Brannon Buck convened the meeting of the Alabama State Bar Executive Council at 4:02 p.m. at the Alabama State Bar building at 415 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama.

**ROLL CALL**

The Secretary took the roll of the members, and the following were present:

Brannon Buck (President)  
Felicia Long (Vice President)  
Tom Perry (President-Elect)  
Raymond Bell  
Josh Hayes  
John Smyth  
Chris Driver (YLS President)  
Mark Boardman (Parliamentarian)  
Terri Lovell (Executive Director)  
Roman Shaul (General Counsel)

The following members were absent:

Gibson Vance (Past President)  
Sam Ford (ALA President)

**QUORUM PRESENT**

The following staff members were present:

Chad Coker (Director of Operations)  
Merinda Hall (Finance Director)  
Suzi Huffaker (Legislative Counsel)  
Melissa Warnke (Communication Director)

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA FOR MARCH 7, 2024, BY FELICIA LONG, SECONDED BY RAYMOND BELL, AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2024.**

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2024, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MADE BY FELICIA LONG, SECONDED BY RAYMOND BELL, AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Brannon Buck asked John Smyth to provide an update from the *Alabama Lawyer* Task Force. Smyth and Buck recognized Communication Director Melissa Warnke and Finance Director Merinda Hall for their assistance with the task force. President Buck next recognized Legislative Counsel Suzi Huffaker and asked her to provide an overview of legislation that may impact the legal profession or the Alabama State Bar. Huffaker gave an overview of bills that effected regulatory boards, ethics, lawyer advertising, document service fee, and indigent defense. She reminded the members that a comprehensive update is sent out each Friday during the Legislative session from our communication department.

President Buck informed the members that the Finance & Audit Committee had approved the printing and distribution of permanent bar cards as a budget neutral recommendation.

MOTION TO APPROVED EXPENSE OF BAR CARD FROM THE FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE AS A BUDGET NEUTRAL RECOMMENDATION MADE BY RAYMOND BELL, SECONDED BY FELICIA LONG, AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Terri Lovell provided an update on the bar exam held February 27-29, officer and bar commission elections, awards deadlines, the ASB Health Plan, and the LRS foundation. She requested that the Executive Council provide input on the 50-year member recognition. She stated that over that past ten years, the number of 50-year members attending the annual meeting had decreased dramatically. Lovell informed the members the last three years had resulted in only 29 of the approximately 400 honorees being in attendance. She proposed a special luncheon that is a more accessible stand-alone event for the members to be held in the fall of each year.

MOTION TO APPROVE A STAND-ALONE 50-YEAR RECOGNITION CEREMONY WAS MADE BY TOM PERRY, SECONDED BY RAYMOND BELL, AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.

## **GENERAL COUNSELS REPORT**

General Counsel Roman Shaul reminded the Executive Council that the BBC agenda would include a lay member appointment to the disciplinary board and the License Fee Partial Refund Policy. He asked that both discussion items be moved to action items during the March 8, 2024, board meeting.

## **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORTS**

No further reports were provided by the Executive Council members.

## **APPROVAL OF MARCH 8, 2024, BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

President Buck informed the members that the agenda had been amended to reflect that the Legal Specialization Board Appointments would be an action item following the discussion at the January 19, 2024, meeting.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE MARCH 8, 2024, BOARD OF BAR COMMISSION AGENDA MADE BY FELICIA LONG, SECONDED BY TOM PERRY, AND APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS ROLL CALL VOTE.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Buck thanked the members for their attendance and there being no further business before the Executive Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.



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Brannon J. Buck, President  
Alabama State Bar

ATTEST:



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Terri B. Lovell, Secretary  
Alabama State Bar