

SUPREME COURT BOARD OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 2, 2024

In Attendance: John Baldwin, Chair, and Board Members: K. Dawn Atkin, Sarah Jenkins Dewey, Chrystal Mancuso-Smith, Lori Nelson, Emily Wegener, Oliver Whaley, Katie Woods.
Emeritus: David Hirschi (non-voting.)

Not in Attendance: Board Members: Mason Kjar, Martha Knudson.

John Baldwin opened the meeting and welcomed Board members.

ITEM I Review MCLE Financials: Nathan Severin, Financial Director, Utah State Bar

Mr. Severin reviewed the October 2024 Financial Statements and the Financial Audit for Year Ended June 30, 2024. He indicated that MCLE fees are trending down because the MCLE Board no longer accepts checks, and that continued loss is expected this year. He informed the Board that that the same thing is happening with the annual Utah State Bar licensing fees. Mr. Severin stated that the overall MCLE audit looks good.

ITEM II Subcommittee Reports:

Reciprocity - Katie Woods and Oliver Whaley discussed the Reciprocity subcommittee's report supporting proposed changes that would allow lawyers on active status whose principal office for the practice of law is not in Utah the ability to comply with CLE in Utah if they fulfill the requirements set by the MCLE Board. Ms. Atkin made a motion to make amendments to Rule 11-604, 11-616, and 11-617. Mr. Whaley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Carryover - Lori Nelson and Emily Wegener discussed the Carryover subcommittee's report and recommendations. After a brief discussion, Ms. Nelson made a motion to allow up to 6 hours of verified CLE to carryover to the next reporting period only. In addition, the motion recommends that no ethics or professionalism and civility hours carryover. Ms. Atkin seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Self-Reporting - Sarah Jenkins-Dewey and David Hirschi. Ms. Jenkins-Dewey informed the Board that the subcommittee has determined that the way Utah lawyers currently comply with CLE is very user friendly, and that it would be too expensive to make changes to the current database. No motion necessary.

Requirement that CLE Programs be Open and Available - Ms. Atkin reported that lawyers are currently able to claim up to 3 hours annually by attending closed CLE programs that have been accredited. She also mentioned that there is a huge benefit for lawyers to take CLE programs outside of their law firm. Ms. Atkin made a recommendation to update and renumber Rule 11-611. Ms. Nelson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Baldwin reported that Rule 11-619 CLE Credit for Pro Bono Legal Services is a Time-limited rule that terminates April 30, 2025 unless extended by the Supreme Court. Ms. Kuhre will contact the Utah State Bar Pro Bono Director and the Utah State Bar Executive Director to see if they are planning to file a separate petition with the Supreme Court. The MCLE Board will be sending proposed rule changes to the Supreme Court and is willing to include their request to make CLE credit for pro bono services a permanent rule.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Nelson made a motion to approve the May 16, 2024 Board meeting minutes. Mr. Whaley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:00 pm.

