

**NAVAJO NATION BAR ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**BOARD OF BAR COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING**  
**11-17-2017**

Friday, October 13, 2017, 9:00 AM - Noon MST  
Karigan Office Building—St. Michaels, Navajo Nation (Arizona)  
Conference Room “B”  
Toll Free Access # 1-877-366-0711, Participant Passcode: 85098338

Yolanda was not present, and our conference number was not working. We used a freeconferencecall.com number to talk: [call in #: 712-451-0467](tel:7124510467), [access code 199825](https://www.freeconferencecall.com/access-code/199825)

**MINUTES**

Meeting called to Order by Cecelia and Dennis (co-chairing) @ 9:23am

**In attendance**

Mariana Kahn, CH  
Cassie Fleming, CR (via phone)  
Dorothea Denetsosie, KY (via phone)  
Esther Keeswood, Sr. (9:35am via phone)  
Cecelia Tallman, TC  
Dennis Glanzer, TC  
Colin Bradley, WR (via phone)  
Colleen Silversmith, WR  
Julia Guarino, WR

Eight (8) commissioners were present when the meeting was called to order, constituting a quorum.  
Esther Keeswood joined the meeting via phone at 9:35am.

**Officers:**

Casey Watchman, Vice President (9:57am)

**I. Invocation** by Colin

Motion by Mariana to reschedule the meeting to after 11/30, when Larry has said he can send his response, second by Esther

Julia: the regular meetings are on the website, but this meeting is not on the website

Dennis: notice should be equal to what we do for regular meetings

Colin: can we set a date before we vote on the motion? This is the third time we have rescheduled the meeting and this should not drag on indefinitely

Mariana: the bylaws set a timeline

Esther: I think it happens in January

Julia: **bylaws say** “The Board shall have four regular meetings per year, scheduled on a quarterly basis: one in March/April; one in June/July; one in September/October; and one in December/January. The September/October meeting shall be designated as the annual meeting of the Board. “ (Vii.D.)

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Cecelia: Next regular meeting is December/January. Should we schedule it before or after the next regular meeting?

Esther: before

Cecelia: December 8?

Mariana: yes

Julia: yes

Coleen: my court schedule is filling up but for now it looks fine

Dennis: I think yes

Cecelia: I think yes

Esther: yes

Colin: yes

Dorothea: yes

Cassie: yes

Cecelia: we will schedule the meeting for December 8, after we receive Mr. Ruzow's response

Dennis: we will schedule it as a special meeting

Cecelia: the meeting will be posted on the website – we will need to ask Yolanda to have it posted

Cecelia: time? December 8 at 9am

VOTE: 9 in favor, zero oppose

Mariana: yes

Cassie: yes

Dorothea: yes

Patricia: not present

Esther: yes

Cecelia: yes

Colin: yes

Coleen: yes

Julia: yes

Dorothea: who will schedule the next meeting?

Colin: will ask Yolanda for the access code and make sure the meeting is scheduled

Dennis: Can we talk about the request for DOJ to recuse themselves? If we were calling a special session to consider a complaint, that would be an issue. But there is no complaint; this is a matter that the commissioners have raised on their own. I don't see a need for anyone to recuse themselves. Ethel Branch will not be present or giving testimony.

Julia: I agree. We are considering his behavior as bar president, not resolving a dispute.

Dorothea: I agree. This is administrative, not a court process.

Esther: agree. I am concerned that this is a strategy to make it so that we do not have a quorum.

Coleen: That would include me, Julia, Colin, and a few others that have worked for DOJ which might make a quorum difficult. And I agree that this is about behavior and not the dispute with Ethel.

Colin: this seems like a delay tactic, and I would like to see this resolved.

Mariana: As you can see from the email, this is a contestable issue. It is carefully laid out as a defense in the case of litigation. Are we covered as the Bar Association for this type of litigation? Are we willing to go that route? This started as a personnel issue, and it has morphed. That will weigh in on how I will eventually vote.

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Colin: Could you elaborate, Mariana?

Casey Watchman arrived, he thought the meeting was at 10am.

Colin moved for executive session, Dorothea second. 9 in favor, 0 against.

Mariana: yes

Cassie: yes

Dorothea: yes

Patricia: not present

Esther: yes

Cecelia: yes

Dennis: yes

Coleen: yes

Julia: yes

EXECUTIVE SESSION at 10:01 am

Motion to come out of executive session and adjourn by Colin, second by Colleen at 10:35am

**KARRIGAN CONFERENCE ROOM B RESERVED FOR 12/8 9am-5pm**