



The State Bar of California

Finance Committee Hybrid

Open Session Minutes
Thursday, July 20, 2023
1:32 p.m.–2:16 p.m.

Time Meeting Commenced: The Finance Committee meeting commenced in open session at 1:32 p.m.
Time Meeting Adjourned: 2:16 p.m.
Chair: Arnold Sowell Jr.
Committee Coordinator: Tinny Chan
Members Present: Raymond Buenaventura, Arnold Sowell Jr., Mark Toney
Members Absent: Mark Broughton, Sarah Good
Staff Present: Ellin Davtyan, Leah Wilson

OPEN SESSION

ROLL CALL

The Finance Committee was called to order by Chair Sowell. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Sowell called for public comment, inquiring as to whether there were person(s) who wished to comment on any agenda item. The following comment was provided to the committee:

1. Todd Hill
Todd Hill spoke about the State Bar's process improvements and transparency measures. Mr. Hill claims that the State Bar's rhetoric does not match its actions over the last five years.
2. Michael Sternberg
Michael Sternberg thanked Chair Sowell, General Counsel Davtyan, and Executive Director Leah Wilson for their appearance at the Joint Judiciary Committee meeting. Mr. Sternberg spoke on the State Bar's discipline investigations and obtaining sanctions from attorneys who have been disciplined or disbarred. Mr. Sternberg also made a suggestion to send State Bar investigators to sit in courtrooms to observe. Mr. Sternberg spoke on the need for a rule for attorneys to report misconduct of judges in addition to reporting misconduct of other attorneys, in relation to Rule 8.3.

I. CHAIR'S REPORT

No report.

II. MINUTES

A. Approval of May 18, 2023, Open Session Minutes

Moved by Toney, seconded by Buenaventura

Ayes – (3) Buenaventura, Sowell, Toney

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (2) Broughton, Good

Minutes adopted.

III. BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Proposed 2023 Budget Amendment

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Finance Committee, approves the 2023 Proposed Budget Amendment in the form presented this day before the Board, for the six months ended June 30, 2023.

Moved by Toney, seconded by Buenaventura

Ayes – (3) Buenaventura, Sowell, Toney

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (2) Broughton, Good

Motion carries.

B. Approval of 2023 Budget Spend Down Plan Regarding Lawyer Assistance Program Fund and Legislative Activities Fund

This item was postponed, and no action was taken.

C. Approval of 2023 Quarter One Financial Statements

RESOLVED, that the Finance Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approves the 2023 Quarter One Financial Statements in the form presented this day before the Board, for the three months ended March 31, 2023.

Moved by Toney, seconded by Buenaventura

Ayes – (3) Buenaventura, Sowell, Toney

Noes – (0)

Abstain – (0)

Absent – (2) Broughton, Good

Motion carries.

ADJOURN