

**MINUTES OF THE SPRING MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES**

May 2, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. EDT

New York, New York

I. CALL TO ORDER

The May 2, 2024, meeting was called to order by President Barbara L. Holland at 9:00 a.m. EDT, as she welcomed the Officers and Directors to the Association's 125th Anniversary Meeting. The following Officers were present:

Barbara L. Holland, President
Grady S. Hurley, First Vice President
James F. Moseley, Jr., Second Vice President
Edward J. Powers, Secretary
William Robert Connor III, Treasurer
Alexander M. Giles, Membership Secretary
Lynn L. Krieger, Website & Technology Secretary
David J. Farrell, Jr., Immediate Past President

The following Directors were present:

Term expiring 2024

Carolyn Elizabeth Bundy
Mark E. Newcomb
William J. Riviere
Jennifer M. Porter

Term Expiring 2026

William M. Fennell
Sean D. Houseal
Jessica L. McClellan
David F. Sump

Term expiring 2025

Samuel P. Blatchley
Ivan M. Rodriguez
Imran O. Shaukat
Thomas M. Wynne

At President Holland's invitation, Past Presidents Liz Burrell, Bob Clyne, Ray Hayden, Chester Hooper, Warren Marwedel, Frank Nolan, and Hal Watson were present.

II. SECRETARY'S REPORT

A. Minutes of February 24, 2024, Board Meeting at New London, Connecticut

Secretary Powers presented the Minutes of the February 24, 2024, Board Meeting at New London, Connecticut.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 24, 2024, meeting of the Board of Directors.

III. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Quarterly Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Connor reported that the finances of the Association for the three-month quarter ended March 31, 2024, were in fine shape, consistent with their status on December 31, 2023.

B. Dues Status

Treasurer Connor reported that 104 Members are delinquent in payment of annual dues for 2023, and they will be dropped from the membership rolls if their dues are not brought current. Treasurer Connor expects that the majority of Members who have not yet paid annual dues for 2024 will bring their dues current by the end of the year.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report.

IV. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership Secretary Giles presented the Membership Secretary's Report.

Proctors

The Proctor Admission Committee received Proctor membership applications from the following four (4) members, all of whom were approved by the Committee:

Markus Edgars Apelis
Gallagher Sharp, LLP
1215 Superior Avenue
7th Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Kendall Mason Jordan
Marwedel Minichello & Reeb, P.C.
303 W. Madison Street, Suite 1100
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Kevin Jacob LaVie
Phelps Dunbar, LLP
365 Canal Street
Suite 2000
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Allison Nicole Skopec
Holland & Knight LLP
31 West 52nd Street
New York, New York 10019

Associates

The following fifteen (15) applicants applied for Associate membership since the February 2024 meeting, all of whom were approved by the Board of Directors:

Eliana Lital Aklepi
Lipcon, Margulies & Winkleman, P.A.
301 Sullivan Place
Apt. 4Q
Brooklyn, New York 11225

Laina Rose Boris
Freehill Hogan & Mahar, LLP
80 Pine Street
25th Floor
New York, New York 10005

Constantine John Hadjipateras
Clyde & Co US, LLP
265 E. 66th Street
Apt. 21G
New York, New York 10065-6490

Juan J. Itriago
Clyde & Co. US LLP
405 Lexington Avenue, 16th Floor
New York, New York 10174

Gabriel Lee-Sanchez
Keesal, Young & Logan
578ckson Street
San Francisco, California 94133

Kenneth Barrett Luxhoj
Crenshaw, Ware & Martin, PLC
150. W. Main Street, Suite 1923
Norfolk, Virginia 23510

Lindsay L. Macdonald
Alley, Maass, Rogers & Lindsay, P.A.
340 Royal Poinciana Way
Suite 321
Palm Beach, Florida 33480

Bailey Donne Maher
Keesal, Young & Logan
578 Jackson Street
San Francisco, California 94133

Lauren Mauer
International Maritime Group, PLLC
701 Fifth Avenue, 42nd Floor
Seattle, Washington 98104

Rodney Patton
U.S. Department of Justice
Room 11.101, 175 N Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Jessica Plutchok
Kennedys CMK, LLP
570 Lexington Avenue
8th Floor
New York, New York 10022

Christopher Michael Seelie
Kaufman & Canoles, P.C.
1511 Versailles Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia 23509

Amber Lauren Seymour
Bouhan Falligant
One W. Park Avenue
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Lewis Robert Shreve
Burr & Forman
P.O. Box 2287
Mobile, Alabama 36652

Sullivan, Jessica G.
United States Department of Justice
Civil Division, Torts Branch, Aviation, Space & Admiralty Litigation
175 N Street, N.E.
Three Constitution Square, 11th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20002

Reinstatement

The Membership Committee received six (6) requests for consideration of reinstatement since the February 2024 meeting, all of whom were approved by the Board of Directors:

Austyn L. Carolin
Farrell, Smith, O'Connell, Aarsheim, Aprans LLP
Portland, ME

Dwayne Clark
Clark & Zedella, P.A.
1930 Perry Place
Jacksonville, Florida 32207

Jeffrey Dine
Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones
10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90067

J. Robert Kirk
Kirk Mediation
117 Santander Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Eugene McDonald
McDonald Marine Law
7 Crown Place
Matawan, New Jersey 07747

Steven P. Solow
Baker Botts, LLP
700 K Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Law Students

The following six (6) applicants have applied for Law Student membership since the February 2024 meeting, all of whom have been approved and so notified:

Rayan Turki Alhajri
1211 Browning Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90037

Nil Colakoglu
230 Franklin Avenue, No. 5
Cliffside Park, New Jersey 07010

Kathryn Lee Fitzgerald
245rrywood Drive
Severna Park, Maryland 21146

Selena Galvan
520 Terry Avenue
Apt. 750
Seattle, Washington 98104

Antonio Gonzalez
2401 S. Jackson Street
Unit 6088
Seattle, Washington 98144

Fernando Havier Perez
16225 NW 64th Avenue, Apt. 236
Miami Lakes, Florida 33014-7539

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS

As of May 2, 2024, the MLA reported its total membership as follows:

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY AS OF MAY 2, 2024

VOTING (ACTIVE) MEMBERS

PROCTORS	1099
ASSOCIATES	795
NON-LAWYERS	102
ACADEMIC	<u>15</u>

Subtotal 2011 (675 of the active members are Life Members)

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

EX-OFFICIO	25
HONORARY	3
JUDICIAL	77
LAW STUDENTS	<u>54</u>

Subtotal 159

TOTAL MEMBERS 2170

The total number of new members approved at the May 2, 2024, Board Meeting was twenty-seven (27), comprised of fifteen (15) Associates, six (6) reinstatements, and six (6) Law Students.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the Membership Secretary’s Report.

V. WEBSITE AND TECHNOLOGY SECRETARY’S REPORT

Website and Technology Secretary Krieger reported that the Association is ready to make a recommendation on one of several platforms vetted for housing the Committee Pages and the Association’s document library. Once a license has been signed for the Committee platform, the migration process of the Committee information, followed by migration of the Member database, will begin. Secretary Krieger anticipates scheduling training sessions for the Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs to ensure their familiarization and ability to properly use the new platform.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the Website and Technology Secretary’s Report.

VI. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS, UPDATES

A. Second Vice President

Second Vice President Moseley reported on the Committee Chairs’ meeting held in anticipation of the 125th anniversary meeting in New York and thanked the several law firms hosting the meetings of the Standing Committees. Second Vice President Moseley also

discussed updating the Committee Chairs' handbook, which he anticipates completing and distributing before the Fall meeting in New Orleans.

B. Continuing Legal Education

Director Imran Shaukat reported that five Committees will be offering CLE credit during the 2024 New York meeting. Director Shaukat also reported that three new CLE videos from the 2022 Tulane Admiralty Law Institute Seminar have been posted to the Association's website, and efforts are underway to post additional CLE videos from the 2024 Tulane ALI Seminar.

VII. DISCUSSION TOPICS

Past President Frank Nolan, a member of the Comité Maritime International's Executive Council, reported on the CMI's 2024 Colloquium to be held at Gothenburg, Sweden on May 22-24, 2024. Mr. Nolan provided an update on the CMI's working group for Mobile Offshore Renewable Units (MORUs), a type of movable property that will transit and sit in the territorial waters of multiple states. The CMI working group is tasked with formulating a uniform international regime governing such issues as registration, security interests, and financing of MORUs.

Immediate Past President Dave Farrell reported on the Association's continued advocacy for adoption of the Rotterdam Rules by the United States, including lobbying efforts toward the American Association of Port Authorities ("AAPA"), an organization whose approval is critically necessary if the Rotterdam Rules are to have any chance of being ratified by the U.S. Senate. Currently, the AAPA opposes ratification because of the ports' inclusion within the Rules' definition of "maritime performing parties," and the concern of the AAPA that it will expose its members to liability for cargo losses.

Director Mark Newcomb, the Chair of the Carriage of Goods Committee, reported that a member of that Committee had withdrawn a contentious motion to advocate for amendment of COGSA to abolish the \$500 package limitation and legislation overturning the Supreme Court's holding in *Vimar Seguros y Reaseguros v. M/V SKY REEFER*, 515 U.S. 528 (1995).

Director Mark Newcomb also discussed the advantages to the Association of establishing ex-officio membership status for the Managing Director and General Counsel of the Federal Maritime Commission.

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED, the Board unanimously approved the establishment of ex-officio membership status for the Managing Director and General Counsel of the Federal Maritime Commission.

President Holland reported on the IMO Legal Committee meeting in April of 2024, and explained the importance of having more U.S. involvement in the BIMCO Documentation Committee.

Immediate Past President Dave Farrell, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported on the spirited discussions and debates during the meeting of the Nominating Committee regarding the slate of candidates to be proposed at the General Meeting of the Association on May 3, 2024. This prompted an extensive discussion which included issues of process, transparency, and standardization of nominations for candidates to be proposed to and by the Nominating Committee. The Board prepared a statement to be read at the General Meeting concerning the nominating process and, also, recommended the formation of an *ad hoc* committee to consider and recommend changes to the nominating process.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Director Tom Wynne reported on plans for the Summer Board Meeting to be held in Cleveland, Ohio on August 1-3, 2024.

First Vice President Hurley reported on the continuing plans for the 125th anniversary celebration during the Fall meeting in New Orleans from October 23-26, 2024, as well as preliminary plans for the Winter of 2025 Board Meeting to be held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business proposed.

X. ADJOURN

After thanking the Board of Directors for their service, and there being no further business of the Board of Directors of The Maritime Law Association of the United States, President Holland adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward J. Powers, Secretary