



## OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION OSBA Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 12:30 PM

*Via Zoom*

### Meeting Minutes

*OSBA committee members in attendance at meeting start:* President Sami Al-Abdrabbuh; President-elect Chris Cronin; Past President Sonja Mckenzie; Vice President Emily Smith; Secretary-treasurer Dawn Watson

*OSBA staff in attendance at meeting start:* Executive Director Emielle Nischik; Chief Legal Officer and Interim Deputy Executive Director Haley Percell; Executive Assistant La’Nell Trissel

*Guests in attendance at meeting start:* Bob Steringer, Harrang Long P.C.; Director Chrissy Reitz

**President Al-Abdrabbuh called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.**

#### I. Welcome and roll call

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

President Al-Abdrabbuh provided opening remarks and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### II. Approve agenda

**Motion: Chris Cronin moved to approve of the agenda as presented. Seconded by Sonja McKenzie.**

**There being no votes in opposition, the motion passed unanimously.**

#### III. Board member complaint

*President Al-Abdrabbuh recused himself from agenda items III., IV., and V; then ceded the meeting to President-elect Cronin.*

*Past-President McKenze recused herself from agenda items III., IV., and V.*

Chief Legal Officer and Interim Deputy Executive Director Percell introduced the topic of anonymous concerns that were made by a board member. Percell expressed the board member's wishes that the concerns do not go before the Board and explained that Executive Director Nischik and herself will join the executive session to provide information but will not participate in any discussion of next steps nor provide any legal advice.

#### IV. To consider attorney-client privileged information or records that are otherwise exempt by law from public inspection regarding legal advise

*\*\* Committee members Chris Cronin, Emily Smith, Dawn Watson; and Legal Counsel Bob Steringer; and Staff Emielle Nischik, Haley Percell, La'Nell Trissel; and Director Chrissy Reitz moved into a breakout room at 12:44 p.m. \*\**

## **President-elect Cronin led the Committee into executive session at 12:44 p.m.**

Executive Session: ORS 192.660(2)(f) "To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection.", ORS 192.355(9), and ORS 40.225.

*\*\*Emielle Nischik and Haley Percell left the executive session at 1:02 p.m.\*\**

## **President-elect Cronin adjourned executive session at 1:32 p.m.**

*\*\* All OSBA staff, guests, and members of the public returned to the meeting at 1:32 p.m.\*\**

### **V. Board member complaint**

**Motion: Dawn Watson moved the Committee to recommend to the Board that it direct staff to work with legal counsel, to provide a report, to undertake an investigation and to provide a report on that investigation, with their findings, to the Board at a future meeting; unless the complainant specifically requests that the Board not proceed with the investigation. Seconded by Emily Smith.**

**There being no votes in opposition and two abstentions, the motion passed with a majority.**

Sami Al-Abdrabbuh – Abstain

Dawn Watson – Yes

Chris Cronin – Yes

Sonja McKenzie - Abstain

Emily Smith – Yes

President-elect Cronin specified that the Committee is recommending an investigation and, if the Board so moves, Steringer will first reach out to the complainant to determine if they wish to proceed; because, the process of an investigation will not allow for the continued anonymity of the complainant.

Steringer answered a clarifying question that there was no recommendation that a special meeting be held for this sole purpose. Additional discussion took place and the Committee decided that this would go before the Board at the regularly scheduled January meeting.

Cronin added that Steringer would inform the complainant of the results of this Executive Committee meeting and that the results of that conversation will be included in the report to the Board at the January meeting. Cronin also noted that these conversations are never easy or enjoyable and that the Committee is trying to make the discussions that are most judicious and respectful to both the Association and to board members.

### **VI. December 2024 Executive Committee Meeting agenda and Rescheduling of December meeting**

*President-elect Cronin ceded the meeting to President Al-Abdrabbuh.*

*\*\*Bob Steringer left the meeting at 1:41 p.m.\*\**

Executive Director Nischik requested that the December executive committee meeting be moved to the week following its originally scheduled date and be extended by an hour to allow for the review of election results and to hold an executive session to review legal advice around Caucus memberships. Additional discussion took place, and the Committee agreed to meet on Dec. 17, at 12:00 p.m., for two hours.

### **VII. Schedule 2025 Executive Committee meetings**

The Committee discussed possibilities for meeting times in the next year and decided to meet on the second Tuesdays or Wednesdays of each month, at noon, for one hour, dependent upon the House Education Subcommittee's schedule.

VIII. For the good of the order and requests for future Executive Committee agenda topics

President-elect Cronin proposed a prep meeting with the OSBA delegation prior to attending the NSBA Advocacy and Equity Institute.

IX. Meeting adjourns

**The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.**