

# Meeting of the State Board of Civil Legal Aid

**Date:** Friday, February 13, 2026

**Time:** 11:00 – 12:30

**Location:** BOCLA, Teams Meeting

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**Chair:** Christopher Wendt

**Board Members:** Tarryl Clark, Jerry Lane, John Murphy, Summra Shariff, Ana Pottratz Acosta, Katy Drahos, Emily Cooper

**Absent:** John Gordon, Korey Wahwassuck, Holley Horrell

**Staff Members:** Susan Beaudet, Bridget Gernander, Colleen Kelly, Josh Pollock

## MINUTES

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### **Agenda Item 1:** Welcome and Client Story

The meeting opened with introductions and welcoming new BOCLA staff members, Josh Pollock and Colleen Kelly.

Colleen Kelly shared a client story that illustrates the need for legal aid within assisted-living settings, involving a resident who received multiple termination notices and required assistance to advocate for herself.

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### **Agenda Item 2:** Approval of Minutes

The board approved the meeting minutes for November and January.

*Jerry Lane moved approval of the November and January minutes. Second, by John Murphy. Voted to approve.*

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### **Agenda Item 3:** Bylaws Vote

Bridget Gernander presented the updated bylaws document and acknowledged contributions from the Operations Working Group. The board agreed to make a correction in Part 2, Section 2(d) changing the word “service” to “served.”

Some board members mentioned that they were not ready to make an official vote on the bylaws today. Jerry Lane made a motion to postpone the consideration of bylaws until the next meeting which is set for March 13, 2026. Second, by John Murphy.

As a follow-up, board members are to submit bylaw comments to Bridget Gernander by the end of February so staff can integrate before the March meeting.

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### **Agenda Item 4:** Immigration Coordinated Intake

Chris Wendt opened the discussion to begin a conversation around the statewide crisis impacting immigration legal services and how BOCLA can support this work. The board discussed the topics of the lack of unified referral processes for immigration cases. Unlike other case types that have been working on coordinated intake since 2017, immigration cases were exempt from that process but always intended to be the second phase of coordinated intake work.

The board agreed that a coordinated intake system is needed and that Phase 2 should begin quickly and with a timeline to be completed by the end of 2026. BOCLA would offer support and resources to all grantees providing immigration services. Staff was directed to communicate this decision to the grantees and schedule a meeting to discuss next steps.

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Next Meeting: March 13, 2026