

## 2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **President (2021-2023)**

**Tech. Sub-Committee Chair**  
Terry Leslie | Lancaster, PA  
[tleslie@leslievc.com](mailto:tleslie@leslievc.com)

### **Past President (2021-2023)**

**Journal Sub-Committee Chair**  
**Test Development Chair**  
Chrisann Schiro-Geist | Memphis, TN  
[chrisann@memphis.edu](mailto:chrisann@memphis.edu)

### **President-Elect (2021-2024)**

**2022 Conference Chair**  
Dan Wolstein | Hackensack, NJ  
[dan@kincaidvocational.com](mailto:dan@kincaidvocational.com)

### **Secretary (2021-2024)**

**Newsletter Sub-Committee Chair**  
Sara Statz | Middleton, ID  
[Sara.statz@gmail.com](mailto:Sara.statz@gmail.com)

### **Treasurer (2021-2024)**

**IPEC Test Development Sub-Committee Chair**  
Brian Daly | Clinton, NJ  
[brian@premiervocationalexperts.com](mailto:brian@premiervocationalexperts.com)

### **Director-At-Large (2020-2023)**

**CEU Committee Chair**  
Mark Anderson | Rocky River, OH  
[mrkand1one@aol.com](mailto:mrkand1one@aol.com)

### **Director-At-Large (2021-2024)**

**Ethics Committee Chair**  
Alireza Bagherian | San Francisco, CA  
[drb@synapsehc.com](mailto:drb@synapsehc.com)

### **Director-At-Large (2021-2024)**

**ABVE Certification Sub-Committee Chair**  
Maria Babinetz | Fort Washington, PA  
[brian@premiervocationalexperts.com](mailto:brian@premiervocationalexperts.com)

### **Director-At-Large (2019-2022)**

**Publications Committee Chair**  
David Perry | Grand Forks, ND  
[david.perry@und.edu](mailto:david.perry@und.edu)

### **Director-At-Large (2019-2022)**

**Membership & Marketing Committee Chair**  
Scott Severt | Merrifield, VA  
[Scott@SevertVFS.com](mailto:Scott@SevertVFS.com)

### **Director-At-Large (2020-2023)**

**Board Development Committee Chair**  
Ron Smolarski | Ann Arbor, MI  
[ron@beaconrehab.com](mailto:ron@beaconrehab.com)

### **Director-At-Large (2019-2022)**

**ABVE Certification Chair**  
Rona Wexler | New York, NY  
[rona@theemployabilityexpert.com](mailto:rona@theemployabilityexpert.com)

### **Executive Director**

Stephanie Munoz | Soquel, CA  
[stephanie@btfenterprises.com](mailto:stephanie@btfenterprises.com)

### **Account Manager**

Gabe Cortez | Soquel, CA  
[gabe@btfenterprises.com](mailto:gabe@btfenterprises.com)



## **AGENDA | ABVE Board of Directors Meeting**

Thursday, March 18, 1:00pm PT | 2:00 MT | 3:00pm CT | 4:00pm ET  
Video Conference via Zoom | <https://zoom.us/j/91997408813>

*List of Attendees: Stephanie Munoz, Gabe Cortez, Chrisann Schiro-Geist, Terry Leslie, Sara Statz, Alireza Bagherian, Scott Severt, David Perry, Brian Daly, Dan Wolstein, Ron Smolarski, Rona Wexler, Mark Anderson, and Maria Babinetz.*

### **Call to Order to Meeting of Board of Directors 2021-2022**

The meeting was called to order by Terry Leslie at 2:24 pm PT.

### **Approval of the agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda by Sara Statz, second by Rona Wexler. All were in favor, and none were opposed. Motion passed.

### **Introduction of New Board Member**

Maria Babinetz was formally welcomed to the Board of Directors.

### **Board Pledge**

Stephanie Munoz asked Board Members to review the Board Pledge.

### **Selection of Committee Chairpersons**

Terry Leslie noted Maria Babinetz would be volunteering as ABVE Certification Sub-Committee Chair. Chrisann will chair the Test Development Committee. Ron was asked to work with past ABVE presidents to develop training for onboarding new Board Members. Terry also requested that the Publications Committee merge to have a more cohesive voice from ABVE.

### **VECAP**

Chrisann noted several Members brought VECAP's affiliation to her attention. Upon further review, there was no formal memorandum of understanding between the two organizations. Terry asked Chrisann to continue communicating with VECAP.

### **2021 Conference Planning**

Terry Leslie noted the next conference would be the weekend of 3/24/2022. 2023 will be in San Diego, CA, and 2024 will be held in Memphis, TN.

### **Adding two additional Board Members**

Terry Leslie discussed growing our Board of Directors by two Members to help alleviate the strain of the work ahead of us.

### **Goal Setting**

Terry Leslie asked Board Members to lay out goals for their committees and the organization as a whole. Long-term goals for the sustainability of ABVE were emphasized and discussed for future projects.

## ABVE BOD Meeting (continued)

### **Future Board Meetings**

#### **Number of Board Meetings**

Terry Leslie introduced the question of moving from five meetings to four meetings per year, with the conference's additional meeting. Stephanie recommended cutting a meeting from February. No motion was necessary to eliminate the February meeting as the Policies and Procedures manual already dictates quarterly Board Meetings.

#### **Publicizing future board meetings**

Terry Leslie asked that we publicize our Board Meetings to our Members so they have the opportunity to participate. Stephanie explained there was a process for Members to attend the meeting, though Terry stated this procedure was not clear enough for our Membership. Board Members discussed how to encourage Member attendance and transparency.

#### **Future Conference Calls:**

June 8, 2021, at 2:00 pm PT

September 14, 2021, at 2:00 pm PT

December 7, 2021, at 2:00 pm PT

Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 1:00 pm EST in Tampa, FL

### **Open Agenda Items from Membership**

#### **Adjourn meeting**

Motion to adjourn the ABVE Board of Directors made by Dan Wolstein, second by Sara Statz.

All in favor, the meeting closed at 3:57 pm PT.

## 2021-2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President (2019-2021)**

**Journal Sub-Committee Chair**

Chrisann Schiro-Geist | Memphis, TN

[chrisann@memphis.edu](mailto:chrisann@memphis.edu)

**Past President (2019-2021)**

**IPEC Certification Sub-Committee Chair | Elections Chair**

Scott Whitmer | Yakima, WA

[scott@whitmerandassociates.com](mailto:scott@whitmerandassociates.com)

**President-Elect (2019-2021)**

**2021 Conference Chair | Tech. Sub-Committee Chair**

Terry Leslie | Lancaster, PA

[tleslie@leslievc.com](mailto:tleslie@leslievc.com)

**Secretary (2018 - 2021)**

**Newsletter Sub-Committee Chair**

Sara Statz | Middleton, ID

[Sara.statz@gmail.com](mailto:Sara.statz@gmail.com)

**Treasurer (2019-2022)**

Dan Wolstein | Hackensack, NJ

[dan@kincaidvocational.com](mailto:dan@kincaidvocational.com)

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**CEU Committee Chair**

Mark Anderson | Rocky River, OH

[mrkand1one@aol.com](mailto:mrkand1one@aol.com)

**Director-At-Large (2018-2021)**

**Ethics Committee Chair**

Alireza Bagherian | San Francisco, CA

[drb@synapsehc.com](mailto:drb@synapsehc.com)

**Director-At-Large (2020-2023)**

**IPEC Test Development Sub-Committee Chair**

Brian Daly | Clinton, NJ

[brian@premiervocationalexperts.com](mailto:brian@premiervocationalexperts.com)

**Director-At-Large (2018-2021)**

**ABVE Test Committee Chair**

DT North | Olympia, WA

[dt@achieveconsultingteam.com](mailto:dt@achieveconsultingteam.com)

**Director-At-Large (2019-2022)**

**Publications Committee Chair**

David Perry | Grand Forks, ND

[david.perry@und.edu](mailto:david.perry@und.edu)

**Director-At-Large (2019-2022)**

**Membership & Marketing Committee Chair**

Scott Severt | Merrifield, VA

[scott@scottsevertllc.com](mailto:scott@scottsevertllc.com)

**Director-At-Large (2020-2023)**

**Board Development Committee Chair |**

**Membership & Marketing Sub-Committee Chair**

Ron Smolarski | Ann Arbor, MI

[ron@beaconrehab.com](mailto:ron@beaconrehab.com)

**Director-At-Large (2020-2023)**

**ABVE Certification Chair**

Rona Wexler | New York, NY

[rona@theemployabilityexpert.com](mailto:rona@theemployabilityexpert.com)

**Executive Director**

Stephanie Munoz | Soquel, CA

[stephanie@btfenterprises.com](mailto:stephanie@btfenterprises.com)

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*Marie Babinetz attended as a guest.*

### Call to Order to Meeting of Board of Directors 2020-2021

The meeting was called to order by Chrisann Schiro-Geist at 1:08 pm PT.

### Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the agenda by Sara Statz, second by DT North.

All were in favor, and none were opposed. Motion passed.

### Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by DT North, second by Scott Whitmer. All were in favor, and none were opposed. Motion passed.

### Financials

Dan Wolstein provided a Treasurer's Report. There are \$166K in the bank and another \$87K in investments, for a total of \$253K. Our conference performed exceptionally well, bringing in \$48K of profit (we had budgeted \$28K). Currently, we are about \$10K short of reaching our goal in membership retention.

Our expenses are down significantly as we do not have the ordinary conference expenses an in-person conference would have. Our overall expenses are down by about \$34K from this time last year.

Significant expenses we will still have are:

- Scantron for IPEC test development,
- BTF's monthly management fee,
- second Journal,
- a few conference expenses.

Overall, ABVE is in an excellent financial state, and the pivot to virtual for our last two conferences has turned a negative into a positive.

Review 2020 - 2021 Financials ([BS](#) & [P&L](#))

Rona Wexler made the motion to approve and accept 2020-2021 financials, second by Mark Anderson. All were in favor, and none were opposed. Motion passed.

## ABVE BOD Meeting (continued)

### Report from Committees

#### 2021 Conference

Terry Leslie noted there are 135 individuals registered for the conference. He asked Board Members to sign up as conference moderators as we were still five short. Terry was pleased with how this year's conference was going so far and looked forward to our 2022 conference in Tampa, hopefully in-person.

#### Membership & Marketing: Scott Severt

Scott Severt said the list of current vocational rehabilitation graduate programs was updated to allow for greater communication with their faculty and students. He recently gave a presentation to a group of college students regarding professions in the private sector to market ABVE certification.

#### CEU Committee

Mark Anderson said 145 hours of continuing education credits had been approved so far in 2021.

#### Certification Committee: Rona Wexler

Rona Wexler explained certification has when compared to last year, declined, likely due to SSA's change in qualifications that cycle. Five Fellow/Diplomate applications are in review, and two are sitting for the examination in 3/2021. One IPEC application is in review, and two new IPEC's have been welcomed. Rona indicated Maria Babinetz would be helping on the Certification Committee when her Board Position starts.

#### Ethics Committee

Ali Bagherian noted no new ethical complaints had been lodged during this time. A new Member was recently welcomed to the Ethics Committee to assist in future ethical complaints.

#### Test Development Committee

Scott Whitmer will be presenting at the General Membership Meeting on IPEC Test Development. Scott said he is working with Scantron to refine the process and will most likely be sending out additional surveys for more task statements. DT North and Brian Daly discussed the partnership with Scantron. A discussion regarding IPEC grandfathering was had amongst Board Members.

#### ABVE Test Development

DT North said the test had been set up to be administered online for current examinees. The first online exam is scheduled for 3/29/2021. DT said the online administration would provide additional insight into test data.

#### Publications Committee

David Perry asked the subcommittees to report.

#### Journal

Chrisann Schiro-Geist said the journal is awaiting publishing. There is additional money left in the budget and may push for a third issue in 2021 to make up for a missing journal in 2020.

#### Newsletter

Sara Statz discussed the Spring 2021 newsletter was ready to be pushed to Members shortly.

## ABVE BOD Meeting (continued)

### Technology

Terry Leslie discussed continuing issues with website functionality. He agreed to research additional options for our website with Stephanie's guidance.

### Board Development Committee

Ron Smolarski welcomed a new member to the Board Development Committee.

### Closing Remarks

Chrisann Schiro-Geist said her goodbyes as Current President and thanked the Board Members for their support during the pandemic.

Scott Whitmer and DT North were both thanked for their service over the last six years as Board Members.

### Adjourn meeting of the 2020-2021 Board

Motion to adjourn the ABVE Board of Directors made by Rona Wexler, second by Dan Wolstein.

All in favor, the meeting closed at 2:10 pm PT.