

**UTAH STATE BAR
BOARD OF BAR COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES**

JANUARY 22, 2016

LAW AND JUSTICE CENTER

In Attendance: President Angelina Tsu, President-elect Rob Rice; Commissioners: H. Dickson Burton, Steven Burt, Kate Conyers, Kenyon Dove, Susanne Gustin, Liisa Hancock, John Lund, Michelle Mumford, Herm Olsen and Katie Woods.

Ex-Officio Members: Dean Robert Adler, Nate Alder, James D. Gilson, Margaret Plane, Dean James Rasband, Susan Motschieder, Michelle Kennedy, Chris Wharton and Supreme Court Liaison Tim Shea.

Not in Attendance: Heather Farnsworth, Mary Kay Griffin, Ex-Officio Members: Heather Allen,

Also in Attendance: Executive Director John C. Baldwin, General Counsel Elizabeth A. Wright, and Utah State Bar Communications Director Sean Toomey.

Minutes: 9:05 a.m. start

1. President's Report:

- 1.1 Supreme Court Task Force on Limited Legal Licensing.** Justice Dino Himonas and Appellate Court Administrator Tim Shea updated the Commission on the Supreme Court's decision to go forward with a Legal Paralegal Practitioner licensing program ("LPP") and the next steps that will be taken towards implementation.
- 1.2 Report on Fall Forum.** Gabe White and Amy Fowler will be chairing the 2016 Fall Forum. Gabe White presented the 2016 budget projections which show the event making a small profit. **John Lund moved to have the 2016 Fall Forum be a two day event. Rob Rice seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**
- 1.3 HJR001 Requires Judges of Courts not of Record to be Lawyers.** Representative Craig Hall reported on a bill he intends to run during the 2016 legislative session. The bill proposes a state constitutional amendment to require all justice court judges to be licensed attorneys. Current reasoning behind why not all justice court judges are required to be lawyers is the concern that rural areas will not have attorneys to fill the positions. Assistant Court Administrator Richard Schwermer explained that the Office of Court Administration supports the concept that all judges be lawyers but is opposed to amending the Utah Constitution. The OCA believes the requirement could be implemented statutorily with language giving rural areas the leeway to have non-lawyers sit as Justice Court Judges.

Commissioner Katie Woods expressed concern with voting on the issue until she could seek feedback from lawyers in her district. **John Lund moved that the Commission support the concept that all judges, including Justice Court judges, should have a law degree. Herm Olsen seconded the motion which passed with Katie Woods opposed.**

1.4 Meeting with Chief Justice Durrant. Angelina Tsu reported that the Justices want the Commission to evaluate the findings of the Summer Convention Review Committee and set guidelines for how much financial loss is acceptable for the Summer Convention. Also, the Court is interested in going ahead with the ABA review of OPC but would like the Bar to pay for half of the \$9000 cost. The Court will allow the Commission to see the ABA's report and will likely make the report publicly available. **Steve Burt moved that the Commission pay \$4500 for half the cost of the ABA review of OPC. Dickson Burton seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

1.5 Legislative Breakfast/Bar Day/Phone Conferences/Lobbying. On February 17, 2016 at 7:30 a.m., the Bar will host its annual breakfast with legislators at the Capitol. Afterwards the annual Law Day on the Hill CLE will take place. Every Tuesday during the legislative session the Governmental Relations Committee meets to discuss pending legislation. At 4:00 on Tuesdays, the Commission has a phone conference to discuss the legislation on which the Governmental Relations Committee recommended the Bar take a position.

1.6 Appointment of a Committee to Review Bar Policies on Sections. Kate Conyers volunteered to begin looking for potential committee members.

1.7 Report of Bar Review Event. Angelina Tsu reported that the January 14, 2016 event was very well attended and positively received. After sponsorships, the event came in \$1000 under budget.

2. Information Items

2.1 2016 Spring Convention Planning. Rob Rice reported that hotel rooms are booking up fast and gave an overview of the speakers, breakouts and events.

2.2 AAA Report. Rob Rice reported that we are well underway to delivering 4 or 5 of the recommended actions.

2.3 Breakfast of Champions Report. Michelle Mumford reported that the awards breakfast will take place on February 24, 2016 at the Alta Club. Three awards will be given to lawyers who serve as mentors in the legal community.

2.4 Leadership Academy Report: Postponed until next meeting.

2.5 Bar Journal Review Report. Margaret Plane reported that part of the Budget Review Committee's task was to review the expenses related to the Bar Journal. Advertising fees and printing and mailing costs are expenses the Review Committee recommended be examined. The Commission discussed the possibility of going to a digital only Journal. Angelina asked Bar staff responsible for the Bar Journal to provide the Commission with a proposal to cut printing costs by half for each issue and to investigate the cost of going all digital.

3. Action Items

3.1 Nominate Bar President-Elect Candidate. Rob Rice moved to nominate John Lund to run for Bar President-Elect. Dickson Burton seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

3.2 Select Dorathy Merrill Brothers and Raymond Uno Award Recipients: Kate Conyers moved to award Barbara Hjelle the Dorathy Merrill Brothers award. Katie Woods seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

Dickson Burton moved to award Reyes Aguilar and Carl Hernandez the Raymond Uno award. Herm Olsen seconded the motion which passed with Steve Burt opposed to giving two people the award in one year.

3.3 Revise Allocation of Overhead for CLE and Sections. The Executive Committee has been examining the methods by which sections are charged overhead for conducting CLE events coordinated by Bar staff and has revisions to present to the Commission. Angelina will circulate the financials and proposals for a vote by phone.

3.4 Proposed Changes to Bar Policies. Postponed until next meeting.

3.5 Select Nominees to 7th District Judicial Nominating Commission. Herm Olsen moved to select Robert A. Oliver, Joane Pappas White, Craig C. Halls and Christina Ross Sloan as the nominees to present to the Governor for the Seventh Judicial District Nominating Commission. Kate Conyers seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

4. Executive Session

HANDOUTS DISTRIBUTED AT MEETING:

1. Fall Forum 2015 and 2016 budgets.

ADJOURNED: 1:20 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approve Minutes of December 4, 2015 Commission Meeting.