

MINUTES
IDAHO STATE BAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 11, 2007
Boise, Idaho

President Tom Banducci called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 9:00 a.m., at the Law Center in Boise, Idaho. In addition to President Banducci, in attendance were Commissioners Jay Sturgell, Dwight Baker, Andy Hawes, and Terry White, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Bar Counsel Julia Crossland, and Executive Director Diane K. Minnich, who acted as secretary.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Per Idaho Code Section 67-2345, the Commission, after an aye vote was recorded from each Commissioner, moved into executive session at 8:45 a.m. The executive session adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the following agenda items.

Minutes

The minutes of the February 23, 2007 meeting and the March 6, 2007 meeting were approved as submitted.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Financial Report – The Commission was provided with the April 30 financial report. As of April 30, 76.52% of budgeted revenue was collected and 31.03% of budgeted expenses incurred.

Fund Balance Restrictions – The Controller and Executive Director requested that the restricted fund balance for capital expenditures be decreased to a zero balance. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve zero balance of the restricted fund balance for capital expenditures.

Controller Position – The Executive Director reported on the progress of replacing Controller Barbara Anderson, who is retiring at the end of June.

2007 Awards – The Commission considered 2007 recipients of the professionalism, service and pro bono awards. The Commission requested information about awards presented by the court to judges.

Professionalism Awards – After discussion it was moved, seconded and passed to select the following attorneys to receive professionalism awards in 2007: 1st District, Jerry Mason; 2nd District, Bob Brown; 3rd District, Andy Thomas; 4th District, Dick Rubin and Stan Welsh; 5th District, Dick Greenwood; 6th District, Tom Dial; 7th District, Doug Nelson.

Service Awards – After discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed to select the following service award recipients for 2007: Gary Amendola, Greg Dickison, Craig Pace, Kay Christensen, Ron Stephenson, Michelle Points, Rich Andrus.

Pro Bono – It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the pro bono award recipients as presented. Fred Palmer, Trapper Stewart, William F. Lee, Brian Fischenich, Brooke O’Neil, Sheryl Musgrove, Alan Goodman, Dennis Olley, Jonathan Volyn, Jason Stolworthy, Brian Tucker.

ABA House of Delegates Midyear Meeting Report – ABA State Bar Delegate Larry Hunter reported on the action of the House of Delegates at its midyear meeting. He reported on the revised Model Judicial Code of Conduct. The Executive Director reported that Judicial Council Executive Director Bob Hamlin stated the new model code would be considered at some point, probably in 4-6 months. The Commission agreed to place this issue on the agenda for the meeting with the Judicial Council members in July. Mr. Hunter also reported on the Colorado report on assistance to states that face challenges to judicial independence. The Commission discussed considering a resolution or educational piece on judicial fairness.

Bar Group Health Insurance Update – The Commission was joined by ALPS and Allegiance representatives to discuss the progress and plans for a bar group insurance plan. Terry and Andy will work with ALPS and Allegiance to review and work on trust and other agreements. It was moved, seconded and passed to move forward to form the MEWA and appoint a subcommittee of Terry White and Andy Hawes to work with ALPS.

Legal Education Conclave – Legal Education Director Terri Muse joined the meeting to discuss the conclave and the annual meeting. It was moved, seconded and passed to authorize up to \$3,500 as the Bar's financial contribution to the conclave.

2007 Annual Meeting – Terri Muse reported on the progress of annual meeting planning.

Quad State Meeting – Commissioner White reported on the meeting he and the executive director attended in Seattle with representatives of the Montana, Oregon, Nevada and Washington.

Idaho Legal Diversity Section – The Commission considered a petition to form an Idaho Legal Diversity Section. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the establishment of an Idaho Legal Diversity Section.

Long Term Care Insurance Member Benefit – The Commission discussed a reconsideration request of the refusal of the proposal to offer long term care insurance as a member benefit to the Idaho State Bar membership. It was moved, seconded and passed to again deny the proposal to offer long term care insurance as a member benefit.

Idaho Legal Aid Services Board of Directors Appointment – The Executive Director reported that the current ISB appointment to the ILAS Board of Directors is moving to Florida. The Commission requested that the position be advertised.

Expenses Policies – The Commission considered an amendment to expense policies adding a gift policy as part of the ISB/ILF expense policy. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the addition of the following gift policy: *Gifts of appreciation may be purchased for ISB/ILF volunteers, including speakers and program planners, so long as the value of the gift does not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00). Gifts purchased by a section of the ISB shall be approved by the governing council of the section.*

Casemaker Passwords – The Commission discussed how to provide better access to Casemaker passwords for attorneys. It was moved, seconded and passed to add a button to the website to retrieve the Casemaker password. Also, it was recommended that the password be provided each year with the licensing information and/or receipt.

Electronic Reporting of District Bar Opinions – President Banducci reported on the presentation he made to the Administrative Conference on April 20. He was also asked to make a presentation to the 5th District judges on May 17. Since President Banducci’s term on the Commission will end in July, Dwight Baker agreed to continue to pursue his project on behalf of the bar.

Idaho Code Indexing Questionnaire – The Commission considered a request from LexisNexis to send an email questionnaire to the members to elicit information about the members’ views of the Idaho Code index. The Commission agreed that the questionnaire was a good idea and that LexisNexis could use the ISB email to distribute the survey.

Supreme Court Report – The Commission was provided with the Supreme Court Oral Conference minutes for March and April.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS

The Commission was provided with the following, May 2, 2007 membership statistics – 4,841; March LRS Statistics, Law Day press release, Section budgets, *Miscellaneous Letters/Info*; news clippings for the past month.

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director