

MINUTES
Idaho State Board of Commissioners
November 16, 2007
Idaho Falls, Idaho

President Andrew Hawes called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Hampton Inn in Idaho Falls, Idaho. In attendance at the meeting were Commissioners Terry White, Dwight Baker, Doug Mushlitz, Newal Squyres, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, and Executive Director Diane 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 9:00 a.m. The executive session adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Minutes – It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2007 Commission meeting as amended.

Financial Reports – The Commission was provided with the October 31 financial reports. At the end of October, 98.63% of revenue was collected and 83.51% of expenses incurred.

Budget Request – The Commission considered a request from Southworth and Associates to increase the monthly fee from \$2,000 to \$2,500. The Commission discussed whether the cost was appropriate for the program's activities, functions and responsibilities. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the requested increase conditioned upon receiving a memorandum of understanding describing the services provided by the program.

Committee Appointments – The Executive Director requested that the Commission make appointments to three committees; LRS, Bar Exam Prep, and LAP. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the following appointments: John Kormanik to the Lawyer Referral Service Committee, David Martinez to the LAP Committee, and Sandra Dickerson to the Bar Exam Prep Committee.

Jail 4 Judges – The Executive Director reported that she met with Justice Linda Trout concerning the initiative filed with the Secretary of State by the Jail4Judges group. Justice Trout plans to present an analysis of the initiative to the Idaho Supreme Court and then she would like to meet with the Commission to discuss the initiative. The Commission agreed to schedule a meeting with Justice Trout in December.

District Bar Associations – The Commission discussed the activities and funding of District Bar Associations. The Commission discussed how to strongly encourage the DBA's to use their funds for services to the members. The Commission discussed having more than one officer attend the DBA officer's orientation, receiving periodic reports from districts, and how to best serve the DBA's. The Commission requested that the resolution regarding funds to DBA's be included in Commission materials.

College of Law Report – The Commission discussed the college of law visit and what should be addressed in the report to the UI College of Law and administration. The Commission discussed the following: commending the law school for its effort, work, and involvement, thank you to Dean for attending the resolution meetings, applaud the fact that a decision has been made regarding the future of the law school and that the university is engaged and taking ownership in the process; praise the leadership of the dean and university administration. Next year, the Commission would prefer a more informal setting for the meeting with students. Also, the Commission would appreciate more free time to mingle with students and faculty. The Commission agreed to state that the Bar supports efforts that improve legal education in Idaho and the decision to move forward on the dual approach seems to address the issue appropriately.

Lawyer Assistance Program – The Commission reviewed a draft letter that the LAP Committee wants to send to magistrate judges. The Commission approved the letter with revisions that reflect the informal and confidential nature of the program.

National Conference of Bar Examiners – The Commission was provided with information about a conference sponsored by the National Conference of Bar Examiners to discuss a uniform bar exam. Commissioner White reported that he plans to attend the conference.

Supreme Court Legislative Priorities – The Commission was provided with the Idaho Supreme Court's legislative priorities for the 2008 legislative session.

Supreme Court Report – The Commission was provided with the Supreme Court Oral Conference minutes for October.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS

The Commission was provided the following: November 2, 2007 membership statistics – 5,049; October LRS statistics; letters and news clippings for the past month.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director