

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioners
January 10, 2013
Boise, Idaho

President Molly O'Leary called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 11:10 a.m. at the Law Center in Boise. In attendance at the meeting were Commissioners, Paul Daugharty, Robert Wetherell, William Wellman and Paul Rippel, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Executive Director Mahmood Sheikh, Deputy Bar Counsel Julia Crossland 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 1:45 p.m. The Executive Session adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Minutes – It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2012 Commission meeting as submitted.

Meeting with the Idaho Supreme Court – The Commissioners reviewed the agenda for the meeting with the Idaho Supreme Court and the Court's legislative priorities.

Idaho Judicial Council ABA Model Code Review Committee – The Commissioners received a request from the Idaho Judicial Council to appoint Tim Hopkins to the ABA Model Code Review Committee. It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint C. Timothy Hopkins to the Idaho Judicial Council ABA Model Code Review Committee.

ABA State Bar Delegate – Michelle Points, ABA State Bar Delegate, informed the Commissioners that she is resigning her position as the ABA State Bar Delegate. It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Deborah Ferguson as the ABA State Bar Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates to replace Michelle Points.

Request to Transfer to Active Status – The Commissioners considered the additional information provided by Jeffrey Siebach to support his request to transfer to active status. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed to approve Jeffrey Siebach's request to transfer to active status with the following condition in addition to the requirements of IBCR 305, completion of 20 additional CLE credits and the successful completion of the MPT.

Specialization Application – The Commissioners considered the application to certify specialists in Idaho from the National Association of Counsel for Children. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the application of the National Association of Counsel for Children as an agency to certify specialists in Idaho in the areas of child welfare law.

Medical Malpractice Prelitigation Panelists – The Idaho Board of Medicine requested additional Bar members to serve as hearing panelists. It was moved, seconded and passed to

appoint Tim Jones, William Hancock and Adrienne Willems to serve as Medical Malpractice Pre litigation Hearing Panelists.

7th District Magistrate Commission – The Executive Director reported that she is waiting for the 7th District Bar to nominate a replacement to the Magistrate Commission to replace Scott Axline, who was recently appointed a Magistrate Judge.

Practical Skills Taskforce – The Commissioners were provided with a memo from Maureen Braley and Mahmood Sheikh requesting that a taskforce be established to review the Practical Skills requirements and curriculum. They recommended that the following members be appointed to the taskforce, Justice Daniel Eismann, Lee Dillion, Noah Hillen, Bruce Castleton and Lane Erickson. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the creation of a Practical Skills Taskforce.

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

2013 Proposed Budget – The Commissioners reviewed and considered the proposed 2013 budget. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed to approve the 2013 budget as submitted.

Financial Reports – The Commission was provided with the December unaudited financial reports. At the end of December, 104% of revenue was collected and 98.5% of expenses incurred.

MEMBER SERVICES

Section End of Year Fund Balances – The Commissioners were provided with the unaudited end of year section fund balances. Five of the sections balances exceed the limit set by the Section Funding Policy. Deputy Director Sheikh reported that each of the sections has a plan for spending the excess balance. Pursuant to the Policy, the Commissioners requested that each section submit a formal request for a waiver of the policy. The Commissioners agreed to consider the waiver requests at the February BOC meeting.

Annual Meeting – The Commissioners reviewed the proposed schedule for the 2013 Annual Meeting in Coeur d’Alene and the list of potential keynote speakers. The Commissioners agreed to again allow law students free admission to CLE programs. The Commissioners also prioritized the potential keynote speakers.

Advocate Online – The Commissioners were provided with a memo and financial analysis related to distributing the Advocate online. The information indicated that there are some cost savings to an online publication but the reduction due to the elimination of printing and mailing costs is partially offset by the reduction in advertising and subscription revenue. In addition a more user friendly form of the online publication would need to be generated. The Commissioners were not in favor of replacing the print publication with an online Advocate. However, the Commissioners instructed staff to continue to explore online options that could be made available as a choice for attorneys.

Mentor Program – The Commissioners were provided with preliminary information regarding the structure of other states mentor programs. The Commissioners instructed the staff to continue to gather information on voluntary programs for Reed Larsen’s consideration and possible recommendation.

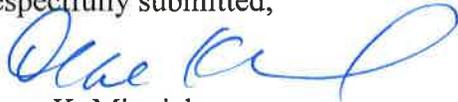
Professional Conduct Board – The Commissioners considered a request to appoint a temporary member to the PCB due to conflicts of other Board members. It was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Tom Whitney as a member of the Professional Conduct Board temporarily to participate as a panel member for one case.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS

Letters, information and news clippings for the past month were provided in PDF format to the Commissioners.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director