

**GENERAL SESSION MINUTES**  
**Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioners**  
**April 8, 2011**  
**Boise, Idaho**

President Deborah Ferguson called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 8:35 a.m. at the Red Lion Hotel in Twin Falls. In attendance at the meeting were Commissioners Jim Meservy, Reed Larsen, Molly O'Leary and Paul Daugharty, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Executive Director Mahmood Sheikh attended part of the meeting by phone, 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 2:35 p.m. The executive session adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Minutes** – It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2011 Commission meeting as amended.

**Awards** – The Commission discussed the selection process for the 2011 distinguished lawyer and service awards. The Commission discussed several options. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed 4-1, to select the following attorneys to receive the 2011 distinguished lawyer award; R. Wayne Sweney, CDA, Hon. Larry Boyle, Boise, Evan Robertson, Twin Falls and Lamont Jones, Pocatello. The Commissioners noted that they selected 4 recipients for this year but it was not intended to set a precedent to increase the number of awards given each year.

**Service Awards** – It was moved, seconded and passed to award 2011 service awards to the following individuals; Sharon McQuade Grisham, Jay Meyers, Steve Fields, Gary Cooper, Lee James, David Jensen, Paula Kluksdal, Brooke Redmond, John Lezamiz, and Sarah Hope.

**Request for Transfer to Active Status** – The Commissioners considered a request from Robert Banks to transfer from affiliate to active status. It was moved, seconded and passed, to approve Robert Banks request to transfer to active status with the condition that he obtain an additional 10 MCLE credits not related to his practice area as transferred.

**ISB Membership Survey** – The Executive Director reported that the Pro Bono Commission requests that the bar do a membership survey, similar to the survey done about 4 years ago, this year. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve doing the survey this year. The Commissioners requested that they have an opportunity to review the survey questions before they are finalized.

Bar Counsel suggested that a question be added asking whether fees for fixed fees cases are booked into the firm's/lawyer's operating account or trust account.

**ILAS Funding** –President Ferguson reported on the status of ILAS’s effort to obtain state funding. A bill that would have increased civil filing fees \$10, with the funds allocated to ILAS, passed in the House but was not presented to the Senate. The Commission discussed the importance of a direct discussion with the ILAS Board of Directors rather than filtered through others. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to invite ILAS President Mary Huneycutt and Board member Lora Breen to meet with the Commissioners at the May meeting.

**Bellwood Lecture** – The Commissioners reviewed the 2011 Bellwood lecture schedule. President Ferguson plans to attend the Boise segment and Commissioner Daugharty the Moscow sessions.

**2011 Licensing Update** – The Commission was provided with the list of attorneys whose licenses were cancelled for nonpayment of license fees and non compliance with MCLE requirements.

**Idaho Bar Commission Rules Section III Revisions** – The Executive Director reported that the staff is working on revisions to Section III and Section IV of the Idaho Bar Commission Rules. She reported that she had met with the Idaho Supreme Court to review some of the proposed revisions to Section III Right to Practice After Admission. She reviewed these proposed changes with the Commissioners also.

#### **ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT**

**Financial Reports** – The Commission was provided with the February 28 financial reports. At the end of February 79.5 % of revenue was collected and 14.1% of expenses incurred.

#### **MEMBER SERVICES**

**Leadership Academy** – President Ferguson reported on the progress of the Leadership Academy. She reported that the program is progressing well; a draft schedule for the program should be completed soon.

**Annual Meeting Report** – The Commission reviewed the proposed schedule for the 2011 Annual Meeting. The Commissioners discussed options for the location of the 2013 Annual Meeting. It was moved, seconded and passed to select CDA as the location for the 2013 Annual Meeting.

**Jackrabbit Bar Meeting Update** – The Commission was provided with the schedule and program for the June Jackrabbit Bar Meeting in Sun Valley.

**220<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bill of Rights Update** – The Commissioners considered a request from the 220<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee for the bar to donate staff time to the project. The Commissioners decided that there was no reason to treat this program and the Diversity Section any different than other sections and related entities. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed to confirm that the 220<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bill of Rights program budget is \$35,000, including administrative expenses, and that staff time will be charged to the program through the Diversity Section.

**Practice Section Update** – Deputy Director Mahmood Sheikh reviewed recent section activities.

**Miscellaneous** – The Commission discussed an ABA program that recruits and sends delegations of lawyers to Cuba. The Commissioners were interested in the concept but need additional information about how the program would work. President Ferguson plans to attend ABA Day in Washington in April. President Ferguson and Commissioner Meservy reported on the Western States Bar Conference.

**REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS**

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Diane K. Minnich  
Executive Director