

Idaho State Bar
Environmental & Natural Resources Section
Meeting of January 28, 2015

ATTENDEES

Please see the attendance sheet that was circulated during the meeting.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the October and November 2014 meeting minutes was made, seconded, and approved.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALI NELSON

Congratulations are in order to section president Ali Nelson and her husband on the birth of their son!

RECAP OF ANNUAL SECTION CLE

Kudos to Emmi Blades for coordinating an outstanding half-day “Science in Litigation” CLE on January 15, 2015. The structure of having three panels from three different perspectives, the speakers themselves, and the written materials were all excellent. Also, Andrea Courtney reports that DVDs of the CLE will be available through the Idaho State Bar.

DONATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SOCIETY

Before going on maternity leave, Ali received an e-mail from Everard Baker, Vice President of the Environmental Law Society at the University of Idaho College of Law. One issue discussed in the exchange of e-mails between Ali and Everard is whether the Section would be willing to make a donation to the ELS, to assist with their difficulty in bringing speakers to Moscow. Mark Cecchini-Beaver is a past president of the ELS, and confirms both the difficulty in bringing speakers to Moscow, and that a donation in the \$200-\$250 range would be very helpful, since they are not looking for the Section to fund all of the costs associated with a particular speaker or event. The group generally agrees that this is squarely within the mission of the Section, however, as a condition of donation, would like to investigate whether it is possible to offer attendees CLE credit for any speakers the ELS may bring in, and would also like to know what speakers they bring in. A motion to make a \$250 donation to the ELS was made, seconded, and approved by the group.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM WITH ELS

A second topic discussed in the e-mails between Everard and Ali was the concept of more contact between the Section and ELS, including perhaps a mentorship program and/or a meet-and-greet the week of U of I's Spring Break, March 16-20. Notably, the Boise School District spring break is the following week of March 23. Andrea Courtney suggested that perhaps the Section could move its March meeting from March 25 to March 18 so that ELS students could attend either a regular meeting or a meeting later in the afternoon at a restaurant. The group decided to find out more detail about how many students would be coming down to Boise before committing to something. Regarding a mentorship program, there seems to be general interest in participating in such an arrangement, but the group would like to know more about prior mentorship programs, what worked, and why they stopped. Per Erika Malmen, Murray Feldman may know more.

STEGNER SYMPOSIUM

Ali also received an e-mail from someone at the University of Utah to announce its upcoming air quality Stegner Symposium, March 4-6, 2015. Someone from the Section will contact the Idaho State Bar regarding if/whether this is something we can/should put in an e-mail announcement to the entire section.

WOMEN IN LAW GALA

Ali also received an e-mail from one of the organizers of the Women in Law gala on March 4, 2015, asking if the section would sponsor a table. Even though the e-mail was sent on January 13, 2015, it requested a response by January 17, 2015, so the deadline has come and gone. Also, the cost of sponsoring a table was a minimum of \$750, which the group finds rather expensive in light of the Section's budget. Instead, the Section encourages its members to support the event through their own individual participation.

ENERGY SYMPOSIUM

Section member April Pope gave a report regarding her attendance at the inaugural Idaho Symposium on Energy in the West in Sun Valley on November 13-14, 2014. Among other things, April reported that there was a big focus on renewable sources of energy, and that there are videos from the symposium available online.

ADVOCATE

Nick Warden reminds the group that the deadline for submitting articles for the issue of the Advocate that the Section is sponsoring is March 11, 2015. Currently, there are four articles in the works. If anyone else is interested, please let Nick know.

TODAY'S CLE

Today had been slated for a CLE presentation by Joe Leckie, Executive Administrator with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission, titled "Regulations and Upcoming Legislation Governing the Transportation of Crude Oil and Natural Gas by Pipeline and Rail." However, Mr. Leckie was not in attendance.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CLEs

The group agreed that it would be good to try to reschedule Mr. Leckie for a future CLE. Other potential CLE topics were discussed. One potential idea would be a legislative wrap-up.