

**GENERAL SESSION MINUTES**  
**Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioners**  
**February 24, 2017**  
**Boise, Idaho**

President Michelle Points 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 attendance at the meeting were Commissioners Dennis Voorhees, Kent Higgins, David Cooper, and Mike Howard, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Bar Counsel Julia Crossland, and Executive Director Diane Minnich, who acted as secretary. Deputy Director Mahmood Sheikh joined the meeting in progress.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Consistent with the authority granted in Idaho Code § 3-408, and under the supervisory power of the Idaho Supreme Court and acting as an agency thereof for purposes of Idaho Code § 74-202(4)(a), it was moved, seconded and passed that the Board move into a confidential session to discuss matters involving admissions and professional discipline as provided under Idaho Bar Commission Rules 223 and 521. It was also moved, seconded and passed, after an aye vote was recorded from each Commissioner, to move into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) and (f), to: (1) review personal records of attorneys for licensing purposes; (2) consider information obtained as part of an inquiry into an individual's fitness to practice law; and (3) discuss with legal counsel pending and/or potential litigation.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Minutes** – It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2017 Board of Commissioners meeting as amended.

**Resolutions** – The Executive Director reported that the Idaho Supreme Court discussed the proposed resolutions at their January Oral Conference. The Court instructed the Bar to include information on the malpractice coverage requirement in the 2018 licensing packets. However, the Court did not formally adopt the changes to the rules. The Executive Director requested the Court adopt the rule changes at their next Oral Conference.

**2017 awards** – The Commissioners were provided with the list of award categories and potential nominees for some of the categories. The Commissioners discussed potential award recipients, how many distinguished lawyers to select, and collecting info about potential distinguished lawyers to assist in the decision making process.

**Fifth District Bar Association Magistrate Commission** – The Commissioners discussed the appointment of an attorney to replace Justice Brody on the Fifth District Magistrate Commission. The Fifth District Bar officers recommended that Brian Williams replace Justice Brody. It was

moved, seconded and passed to appoint Brian Williams to the Fifth District Magistrate Commission to replace Justice Brody.

**Qualified Lawyer Referral Service** – The Commissioners reviewed the proposed application for an entity to become a qualified lawyer referral service. Bar Counsel prepared the application to use for for-profit entities that want to become a qualified LRS in Idaho. The Commissioners agreed that the application was acceptable.

**2016- 17 Meetings and Events** - The Commissioners were provided with an updated meetings and events schedule for the coming year.

### **ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT**

**Financial Reports** – The Commissioners were provided with the January financial reports. At the end of January, 68% of revenue was collected and 7.3% of expenses incurred.

### **MEMBER SERVICES**

**Law and Religion Section Proposal** – The Commissioners were joined by Russell Spencer to discuss the request to establish a Law and Religion Section of the Bar. The Commissioners and Mr. Spencer discussed the section proposal and the purposes of the section. After considerable discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed 3-2 to reject the proposal to establish a Law and Religion Section. The Commissioners agreed to have the staff draft a letter to the organizers explaining the reasons for the denial that the Commissioners can review at the next meeting.

**Section Fund Balance Waiver Request** – Deputy Director Sheikh reviewed the requests for waivers from the sections whose fund balances were in excess of the allowable carryover at the end of 2016. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the waiver requests as submitted for the following sections; Appellate Practice, Business and Corporate Law, Family Law, Diversity, and Taxation, Probate and Trust Law.

**Member Services Update** – The Commissioners were provided with an update from Deputy Director Sheikh on the following programs and activities; mentor program, IALL, 2017 Annual Meeting, current Section leadership, and Section meeting schedules.

### **REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS**

**Informational Reports** – The Commissioners were provided with reports, letters and news clippings for the past month in PDF format.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Minnich  
Executive Director