

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioner
July 22, 2020
Boise, Idaho

President David Kerrick called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 2:05 a.m. The meeting was held in the classroom of the Law Center. The following attended at the Law Center; Commissioners Michael Oths, Don Carey, Anne-Marie Fulfer, and Kurt Holzer, and incoming Commissioner Kristin Bjorkman Dunn. Incoming Commissioner Laird Stone attended by Zoom. Also in attendance were Associate Director Maureen Braley, Program and Legal Education Director Teresa Baker, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Bar Counsel Julia Crossland, and Executive Director Diane Minnich, who acted as secretary.

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 June 23, 2020 Board of Commissioners meeting as submitted.

Admissions/Bar Exam - The Commissioners discussed the administration of the July bar exam. The Idaho Supreme Court received several requests to allow diploma privilege or another option in place of an in-person exam. The Court denied the requests for diploma privilege, directed the Bar to administer the July 2020 Idaho in-person bar exam as scheduled and agreed to provide an online exam options in October. The October test covers the same subjects in a shorter exam and does not qualify for a UBE score. The Associate Director discussed plans to administer the test in small groups in multiple locations, following the applicable health and safety protocols and guidelines.

Committee Appointments – The Commissioners were provided with the recommendations for 2020-21 committee appointments. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the committee recommendations as submitted.

ABA State Bar Delegate – The Commissioners considered the appointment of a State Bar Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates to replace Larry Hunter, who has served several terms. After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and passed to appoint Judge Mike Oths to serve as the ABA State Bar Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates.

ILAS Board of Directors – The Directors considered an appointment to the Idaho Legal Aid Services Board of Directors. The current ISB appointed member, Lora Breen, is willing to continue. It was moved, seconded, and passed to appoint Lora Breen to serve as a member of the ILAS Board of Directors.

2020 Resolution Schedule – The Commissioners were provided with the 2020 Resolution process schedule, excluding dates. The Commissioners requested dates for the resolution meetings be scheduled so they can be added to calendars. How the meetings will be held will be determined in the fall.

Office Operation Update – The Executive Director noted that Ada County returned to stage 3 of reopening in late June. The office continues to operate with a combination of staff working in office and remote. Generally, 15 or less staff members are in the building each day. From 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. the office is open and main phones are answered. No meetings are held in the building, except exclusively staff members. Several CLE programs have been webcast, with only the speaker in the classroom. No major changes in the current operations are planned for the foreseeable future, unless guidance from local or state leaders change.

2020 Meeting Schedule – The Commissioners were provided with the 2020 meetings and events schedule.

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Financial Reports – The Commissioners were provided with the June 2020 financial reports. At the end of June 90.3% was collected and 47.5% of expenses incurred.

MEMBER SERVICES

Member Services Update – Teresa Baker joined the meeting to provide updates on member services programs and activities.

Attorney Well Being Task Force Survey – The Commissioners reviewed a proposed Well Being Survey to be sent to Idaho Bar members. The Commissioners approved the distribution of the survey after mid-September.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS

The Commissioners were provided with Supreme Court orders, letters, and news clippings for the past month.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director