

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioner
April 9, 2021
Boise, Idaho

President Don Carey called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 9:05 a.m. The meeting was held in the classroom of the Law Center, The following were in attendance Commissioners: Anne-Marie Fulfer, Kurt Holzer, Kristin Bjorkman Dunn and Laird Stone, Associate Director Maureen Braley, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Bar Counsel Julia Crossland, and Executive Director Diane Minnich, who acted as secretary. Program and Legal Education Director Teresa Baker attended part of the meeting. In addition, the following guests joined the meeting, Judge Nancy Baskin, Robert Aldridge, Catie Freeman, Jodi Nafzger, Judge Fafa Alidjani, Mark Freeman, Edith Pacillo, and Peg Dougherty.

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 February 26, 2021 Board of Commissioners meeting as submitted.

Idaho Judicial Council – The Commissioners reviewed the process and applicants for the position on the Idaho Judicial Council. After discussion and consideration, it was moved, seconded and passed to appoint Michelle Points to the Idaho Judicial Council for a six-year term to replace Reed Larsen.

2021 Professionalism Awards – The Commissioners considered recommendations for 2021 award recipients. It was moved, seconded, and passed to select the following:

Distinguished lawyers – Howard Belodoff, Deborah Kristensen Grasham, and Donald Chisholm.

Professionalism Awards

First District – Mike Howard

Second District - Sonyalee Nutsch,

Third District – Kimberlee Bratcher

Fourth District – Pamela Howland, Erika Birch, Murray Feldman

Fifth District – Mike Felton Sr.

Sixth District – James Ruchti

Seventh District – Steve Wright

Distinguished Jurist – Judge Deborah Bail

Outstanding Young Lawyer – T. Matt Wolfe
Section of the Year – Child Protection Section
Service Awards

Kevin S. Borger
Judge Greg M. Culet
Nicole C. Hancock
Leslie Hayes
Latonia Haney Keith
Melissa Luna
Edith L. Pacillo
Steve Robertson
Amanda E. Ulrich
Nick A. Warden,
Dr. Dennis Woody

Pro Bono Awards

First District - Jacob Allington
Second District - Catherine Mary Mabbutt
Third District - JJ Winters
Fourth District - Wendy Olson, Elijah Watkins, Whitney Welsh
Fifth District - Jonas Reagan
Sixth District - John Bulger
Seventh District - Tracy Gorman

Board of Commissioner Election – The Executive Director reported there are four candidates for Commissioner to replace President Carey: Cody Lynn Brower, Cody Cottam, Gary Cooper, and Carole Wesenberg. She also noted the election timeline: online ballots to be sent on April 19, election closes on May 4.

Admissions/Bar Exam – Maureen Braley reported on the February 2021 bar exam and grading. The exam was again online, and the graders again are grading virtually. The Commissioners suggested a special thank you gift to the graders that graded virtually.

2021 Licensing Update – The Commissioners were provided with licensing statistics including, online and paper submission, gender age statistics, license cancellations and reinstatement.

2021 Meeting Schedule – The Commissioners were provided with the 2021 meetings and events schedule.

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Financial Reports – The Commissioners were provided with the February 2021 financial report. At the end of February, 79.2% was collected and 15.2% of expenses incurred.

IALL Expenses – The Commissioners were provided with the IALL financial information for the past 5 years. The Commissioners reviewed the revenue and expenses. The increase in expenses is primarily attributed to an increase in staff time allocated to the program.

MEMBER SERVICES

Idaho Legal History Society – Judge Ronald Bush and Ritchie Eppink joined the meeting to present a petition to establish the Idaho Legal History Society as a section. Judge Bush presented the work of the society and the reasons the organization wants to become a section. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the petition to establish an Idaho Legal History Society Section.

Climate of the Legal Profession Survey Report – In response to the Commission’s request for revisions, the Commissioners were provided with a revised version of the report prepared by BSU. The Commission discussed the proposed changes. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and the motion failed, 3-2, to release the report as it was originally submitted by the BSU Policy Institute. It was moved, seconded, and passed, 3-2, to release the revised version of the report as provided by the BSU Policy Institute.

Well Being Survey – The Commissioners were provided with the Executive Summary of the results of the Well Being Task Force Survey. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the release of the survey.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director