

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioner
September 9, 2022
Boise, Idaho

President Kristin Bjorkman called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Hyatt Place in Boise, Idaho. In attendance at the meeting were Commissioners Gary Cooper, Laird Stone, Jillian Caires and Mary York, Bar Counsel Joe Pirtle, Deputy Bar Counsel Julia Crossland, Associate Director Maureen Braley and Executive Director Diane Minnich, who acted as secretary. Program and Legal Education Director Teresa Baker attended part of the meeting.

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 July 20, 2022 Board of Commissioners meeting as submitted.

Committee Appointments – The Commissioners were provided with additional recommendations for appointments to the Advocate Editorial Advisory Board. It was moved, seconded, and passed to appoint Andrea Adkins and Jenna Furman to the Advocate Editorial Advisory Board.

Committee Liaison/Section Appointments – The Commissioners were provided with proposed liaison assignments to Committees and Sections. The purpose of the liaisons is to provide committee and section leaders a direct connection to the Board. The Commissioners approved the liaison assignments to the sections and committee as presented.

Magistrate Commission Appointments – The Commissioners were provided with the nominations from the District Bar Associations for lawyer members of the District Magistrate Commissions. After discussion, it was moved, seconded, and failed, 2-3 to appoint the slate of nominees to submitted to the Commissioners. It was then moved, seconded, and passed, 3-2, to appoint the slate of nominees, except Second District Bar nominee Chuck Stroschein, to the District Magistrate Commissions.

Pro Bono Tour – The Commissioners were provided with the information about the Pro Bono Tour in October. The tour features Judge Mitch Hodges and IVLP Director Jennifer Schindele.

The tour is designed to encourage attorneys to participate in pro bono opportunities and to encourage retired attorneys to become emeritus attorneys.

Meeting with Dean Kalb – President Bjorkman and Commissioner Stone reported on their meeting with UI College of Law Dean Kalb during which they discussed the relationship and collaboration between the bar and the law school. Topics of discussion included diversity, rural practice, pipeline projects, and a speakers' bureau.

ABA Annual Meeting Report – Jonathan Shirts, ABA State Bar Delegate, Anne Henderson, ABA Young Lawyer State Bar Delegate, and Jen Jensen, ABA State Delegate, joined the meeting to discuss the August ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago. The group reported on some of the resolutions and major issues addressed at the ABA House of Delegates Annual Meeting. These issues included ABA Day, rural practice, leadership pipeline. President Bjorkman thanked them for their report. She also noted that the Commissioners do not give direction to the appointed delegates. Delegates are able review issues and resolutions and vote as they see fit.

ABA State Bar Delegate – Jonathan Shirts, whose term as the ABA State Bar Delegate expired in August, expressed his interest in continuing to serve as the ABA State Bar Delegate. It was moved, seconded, and passed to reappoint Jonathan Shirts as the ABA State Bar Delegate.

Strategic Planning/Bar Governance Structure Review – President Bjorkman reported that Chris Newbold is scheduled to facilitate a strategic planning session at the October 6 BOC meeting. The Commissioners were provided with the current ISB Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives.

2022 Resolution Process – The Commissioners reviewed the 2022 resolution meeting schedule. The Commissioners discussed whether to propose a resolution expressing support for the Idaho Judicial Council. Commissioner York agreed to generate a draft proposal for consideration by the Commissioners.

July Bar Exam Update– Associate Director Maureen Braley reported on the July Bar Exam. She reported there were 183 applicants that sat for exam, the highest number of July test takers recorded.

2022-23 BOC Meeting Schedule – The Commissioners were provided with the 2022-23 schedule of meetings and events.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial Reports – The Commissioners were provided with the July 31 financial reports. At the end of July, 85.8% was collected and 58.1% of expenses incurred.

Capital Expenditures – The Commissioners considered a request for additional capital funds to pay for a new router and computer switches. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the expenditure of up to \$13,000 to replace the router and switches.

MEMBER SERVICES

2022 Annual Meeting – Teresa Baker provided the survey results from the 2022 Annual Meeting in Twin Falls.

Future Annual Meetings – Teresa Baker provided information about future options for the ISB Annual Meeting. The Commissioners discussed how to encourage attendance at the Annual Meeting and locations for future meetings. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to schedule the 2023 Annual Meeting in Boise. They requested proposed options for 2024 in north Idaho or Sun Valley; and for 2025 in north Idaho and whether Spokane might be an option.

Employment and Labor Law Section – On behalf of the Employment and Labor Law Section, Teresa Baker presented proposed changes to the Section’s bylaws. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the proposed changes to the Employment and Labor Law Section’s bylaws that increase the potential number of members on the Governing Council.

Advocate Submission and Selection Policy – The Commissioners were joined by Advocate Editorial Board Chair Brian Kane and Communications Director Lindsey Welfley. Brian and Lindsey presented proposed Advocate Submission and Selection Policies for consideration by the Commissioners. It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the Advocate Submission and Selection Policy as submitted.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS

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

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director