

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioner
April 4, 2014
Boise, Idaho

President Robert Wetherell called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 8:35 a.m. at the Hampton Inn in Boise. In attendance at the meeting were Commissioners William Wellman, Tim Gresback, Paul Rippel, and Trudy Fouser. Also in attendance were Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Executive Director Mahmood Sheikh, 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 § 67-2341(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 § 67-2345(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 February 21, 2014 Board of Commissioners meeting minutes as submitted.

Idaho Supreme Court –Administrative Director of the Courts Patti Tobias and Judge Barry Wood joined The Commissioners to discuss several issues. First, they thanked the Bar, President Wetherell and Diane Minnich for their assistance with the Court's legislative efforts. The legislative efforts, as outlined in the resolutions approved by the bar membership, were successful, both the technology and recruitment, compensation changes.

The new computerized case management system will roll out in Twin Falls in May 2015, and then in Ada County in fall of 2015. The group discussed outreach and training for the new system.

Judge Wood noted that a program on the Advancing Justice initiative is scheduled for the ISB Annual Meeting.

The Commissioners and staff were invited to the celebration of the conclusion of the SRBA, August 25th and 26th.

Patti Tobias reported that the Court has one appointment to the newly created State Public Defender Commission. The Court will advertise for applicants and requested input from the bar on who should be appointed to the Commission.

The Court representatives and Commissioners discussed the contested judicial election surveys, scheduled to be sent to attorneys later in April.

Finally, the group discussed agenda items for the summer meeting between the Idaho Supreme Court and Bar Commissioners, including: judicial evaluations, contested judicial elections, and the Idaho Law Learning Center update.

2014 Awards – The Commissioners discussed selection of the 2014 award recipients. After discussion it was moved, seconded and passed to select the following to receive awards in 2014:

- **Distinguished Lawyers** – Fred Hoopes (Idaho Falls), John McGown (Boise), and Hon. Linda Copple Trout (Boise).
- **Service Awards**– Erika Birch (Boise), Kari Campos (Idaho Falls), Hon. Russ Comstock (Boise), Peg Dougherty (Boise), Hon. Mick Hodges (Burley), Deb McCormick (Moscow), Kerry Michaelson (Nampa), and Susan Moss (Coeur d’Alene). Also, non-lawyers Jamie Champion (Boise) and Tonya Westenskow (Boise).
- **Section of the Year** – Business & Corporate Law Section
- **Outstanding Young Lawyer** – Jana Gomez

BOC Election Update – The Executive Director reported that the candidates for Bar Commissioners are: Howard Belodoff and Michelle Points (4th District); and Laird Stone and Dennis Voorhees (3rd/5th Districts). She noted that Keith Roark submitted a nominating petition and then withdrew the petition.

Billable Hours – The Commissioners were provided with information from Idaho Falls attorney Reginald Reeves regarding the demise of the billable hour. The Commissioners requested that Bar Counsel send a letter to Mr. Reeves thanking him for his input.

North Carolina State Bar – The Commissioners were provided with a request from the North Carolina State Bar to join the amicus brief in *North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission*. The Commissioners decided not to join the amicus brief.

Disciplinary/Admission Information – The Commissioners were provided with the Brian Boyle Idaho Supreme Court disciplinary order and the Concordia University Law School’s petition for a waiver of the approved law school requirement of Idaho Bar Commission Rule 226(b)(1) and (c)(3). Concordia is requesting the waiver to allow its second year students to serve as legal interns.

Informational Reports – The Commissioners were provided with a 2014 licensing update, letters, membership and LRS reports, correspondence and news clippings from the past month.

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Financial Reports – The Commissioners were provided with the February financial reports. At the end of February 81.55% of revenue was collected and 14.9% of expenses incurred.

MEMBER SERVICES

Annual Meeting – The Commissioners were provided with the schedule for the 2014 Annual Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane K Minnich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director