

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioner
February 20, 2015
Boise, Idaho

President Paul Rippel called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 8:35 a.m. at the Law Center. In attendance at the meeting were Commissioners Tim Gresback, Michelle Points, Dennis Voorhees, and Trudy Fouser, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Bar Counsel Julia Crossland, Deputy Executive Director Mahmood Sheikh and Executive Director Diane Minnich, who acted as secretary.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Per Idaho Code Section 67-2345, the Commission, after an aye vote was recorded from each Commissioner, moved into Executive Session at 10:50 a.m. The Executive Session adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Minutes – It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of January 14, 2015 Board of Commissioners meeting as amended.

Access to Justice Idaho – Access to Justice Idaho Campaign Chair Walt Sinclair joined the meeting. Mr. Sinclair provided an update on the 2014 campaign and a preview of the 2015 campaign. He reviewed the purpose of the campaign and thanked the Commissioners for their support of the campaign.

ABA State Bar Delegate Report – Deborah Ferguson joined the meeting to report on the midyear ABA meeting in Houston. She reported about a proposal before the ABA House of Delegates to change the number of delegates from several states. She is working with the ABA to include Idaho as one of the states to increase its delegates given its lawyer population. The ABA is also encouraging young lawyers be appointed as ABA delegates. There may be a proposal to add a young lawyers delegate to the delegation from some states. She also encouraged attendance at ABA Day in April. She noted that the incoming ABA President may be interested in coming to Idaho. She reported that the ABA is offering free ABA membership until August and encouraged the bar to inform the Idaho bar membership of this opportunity.

2015 Award Selection –The Commissioners were provided with the lists of previous Distinguished Lawyer and Professionalism award recipients. The Executive Director noted that these award selections would be on the April meeting agenda. She also noted that the award nomination form is included in the March Advocate and will be on the website and in the E-Bulletin.

Law and Justice Learning Center – Commissioner Voorhees and the Executive Director reported on the first gathering of the Law and Justice Learning Center Advisory Group. The College of Law updated the group on the plans for the Center.

BOC Election – The Executive Director reported that the notice of election for the 6th and 7th District Commissioner to replace President Paul Rippel will be mailed the first Tuesday in

March, petitions are due on April 7 and the election will conclude on May 5. She noted that the ballots will be available electronically for the first time this year.

Disciplinary/Admission information – Disciplinary Order for Vietz was distributed.

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Financial Reports – The Commissioners were provided with the January financial reports. At the end of January 67.55% of revenue was collected and 7.63% of expenses incurred.

2014 Return on Investments – The Commissioners were provided with information from Controller Debbie Dudley on the return on ISB investments for 2014.

MEMBER SERVICES

Member Services Update – Deputy Director Mahmood Sheikh provided a written report on the following member services: Mentor program, IALL, member benefits, LAP, Casemaker, Section leadership and calendars.

Senior Lawyer Transition Task Force – Bar Counsel and the Deputy Director requested approval of the following individuals to serve on the task force: William “Bud” Yost, Dennis Cain, Sunil Ramalingam, Kim Toryanski, Justice Jim Jones, Commissioner Dennis Voorhees, and a TBD later medical professional. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the recommended task force members. The Commissioners discussed the purpose of the task force.

Diversity Section – The Commissioners were provided with a report from Diversity Section on how it plans to spend the surplus funds. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the plan to use the funds on a CLE program in 2015.

Annual Meeting Update – Deputy Director Sheikh reported that the deadline for CLE submissions is February 27. After that date the CLE committee will consider the proposals. The Commissioners agreed that Jay Billis should be asked to serve as the keynote speaker.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director