

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioner
April 10, 2015
Idaho Falls, Idaho

President Paul Rippel called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 8:30 a.m. at the Hampton Inn in Idaho Falls. In attendance at the meeting were Commissioners Tim Gresback, Michelle Points, and Dennis Voorhees, 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 12:35 p.m. The Executive Session adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Minutes – It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of February 20, 2015 Board of Commissioners meeting as submitted.

2015 Awards – The Commissioners discussed possible recipients for the 2015 awards. After discussion the following individuals were selected to receive awards:

Distinguished Lawyers – Newal Squyres, John Rumel, Ken Pedersen

Professionalism - First District, Joel Hazel; Second District, Tony Anegon; Third District, William Wellman; Fourth District, Jim Davis, Hugh Mossman; Fifth District, Mike McCarthy; Sixth District, Reed Larsen; Seventh District, Royce Lee.

Outstanding Young Lawyer – Joseph Pirtle

Section of the Year – Professionalism and Ethics

Distinguished Jurist – Hon. Stephen Trott

Service – Courtney Beebe, Bruce Bistline, Debhra Carnahan, Amber Ellis, Kim Gourley, Lance Salladay, Stephen Stokes, Laird Stone, and Mark Young (nl).

BOC Election Update – The Executive Director reported that there is one candidate for the Commissioner election in the 6th and 7th Districts; Kent Higgins. The ballots will be sent electronically for attorneys with email addresses and hard copy for those without email addresses on April 21. Ballots are due on May 5.

2015 Licensing –The Commissioners were provided with the Supreme Court Order cancelling the licenses of 52 attorneys who did not pay license fees. The Executive Director reported that 4 attorneys have been reinstated since the order was issued. The Commissioners were also provided with the statistics on how attorneys relicensed, whether online, credit card, or mailed in forms. For the 2015 licensing, 43% of attorneys paid their license fees online.

Idaho Code Update – The Executive Director reported on a legislative effort to remove the copyright from Idaho Code. The effort was unsuccessful. The Commissioners discussed whether to pursue this issue further. They agreed to request the research done by the UI law students and to discuss the financial issues with Brian Kane prior to determining how to proceed. The Executive Director reported that Michie Company, which Code Commissioner Dan Bowen asked to contact the bar, has not contacted the bar to discuss the possibility of providing the annotated code to bar members.

Disciplinary/Admission Information – Concordia petition, Aaron Morriss, Mitchell Barker, Charles Crafts, Dale Russell.

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Financial Reports – The Commissioners were provided with the March financial reports. At the end of March 83.6% of revenue was collected and 22.7% of expenses incurred.

MEMBER SERVICES

Annual Meeting Update – Deputy Director Mahmood Sheikh provided an updated schedule for the Annual Meeting, scheduled for July 22-24 in Sun Valley. He reported that he is still working to confirm the keynote speaker.

Casemaker Contract – The Commissioners were provided with a proposal from Casemaker to provide premium products to Idaho bar members at cost if the bar agreed to sign a contract for an additional 3 years. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed (Commissioner Voorhees abstained) to approve the extension of the contract between the Idaho State Bar and Casemaker for an additional three years.

NEW BUSINESS

Strategic Plan - The Commissioners discussed developing a strategic plan that would track expectations, activities, and accomplishments over time. They reviewed the previously developed plan.

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