

GENERAL SESSION MINUTES
Idaho State Bar Board of Commissioners
October 6, 2016
Boise, Idaho

President Dennis Voorhees called the business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Idaho State Bar to order at 11:10 a.m. at the Law Center in Boise, Idaho. In attendance at the meeting were Commissioners Michelle Points, Kent Higgins, David Cooper, and Mike Howard, Bar Counsel Brad Andrews, Deputy Bar Counsel Julia Crossland and Executive Director Diane Minnich, who acted as secretary. Deputy Director Mahmood Sheikh joined the meeting in progress.

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 September 9, 2016 Board of Commissioners meeting as amended.

Access to Justice Commission – President Voorhees noted that Judge Gutierrez is interested in continuing the discussion about an Access to Justice Commission. President Voorhees plans to contact law school deans about their interest in the Commission.

2016 Resolution Process – The Commissioners discussed three potential resolutions: allowing an exemption from MCLE requirements for active military bar members, comprehensive malpractice insurance and changes to IRPC 8.4 as adopted by the ABA. The Commissioners made minor changes to the military MCLE exemption and professional liability resolutions and recommended that changes to IRPC 8.4 be proposed.

Roadshow CLE Planning – Bar Counsel reported that the Road Show CLE will focus on succession planning.

Meeting with District Bar Presidents – At 11:30 a.m. representatives of the District Bar Associations joined the Commissioners by phone: First District - Mike Howard, Second District - Paul Burns, Fourth District - Kristin Bjorkman Dunn, Fifth District - Nancy Austin, Sixth

District - Steve Muhonen and Seventh District - John Avondet. The Commissioners and District Bar Representatives considered the three resolutions. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve submission of the proposed changes to IBCR 402 for consideration as a 2016 resolution. It was moved, seconded and passed, with two votes against and one abstained, to approve the submission of the comprehensive legal malpractice coverage as a 2016 resolution. It was then moved, seconded and passed to submit the proposed changes to Idaho Rule of Professional Conduct 8.4 to the Professionalism and Ethics Section for its review and recommendation.

University of Idaho College of Law Visit – The Commissioners reviewed the proposed schedule for the visit to the UI College of Law. The Executive Director noted that a visit to Concordia University School of Law will be scheduled in January or February.

Idaho Code Commission Appointment – The Executive Director reported that Jeremy Pisca’s term on the Idaho Code Commission expires on December 1. The Commissioners agreed that the availability of the position should be advertised.

2016 July Bar Exam Results – The Commissioners were provided with the letter to the Court and statistics for the July 2016 bar examination.

2016- 17 Meetings and Events - The Commissioners were provided with an updated meetings and events schedule for the coming year.

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT

Financial Reports – The Commissioners were provided with the August and September financial reports. At the end of September, 96.8% of revenue was collected and 76.3% of expenses incurred.

MEMBER SERVICES

Annual Meeting Discussion – The Commissioners were provided with information about the costs of continuing to hold the Annual Meeting in Sun Valley. The group discussed what to do in future years and the cost of Sun Valley compared to other locations. After the discussion, the Commissioners agreed to continue the current rotation for the Annual Meeting, including Sun Valley for now.

REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE/NEWS CLIPPINGS

Informational Reports – The Commissioners were provided with reports, letters and news clippings for the past month in PDF format.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane K. Minnich
Executive Director