



DMCJA Board of Governors Meeting
Sunday, June 5, 2016, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Campbell's Resort
Chelan, WA

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Chair, Judge David Steiner
Judge Scott Ahlf
Judge Joseph Burrowes
Judge Linda Coburn
Judge Karen Donohue
Judge Douglas Fair
Judge Janet Garrow (non-voting)
Judge Michelle Gehlsen
Judge Michael Lambo (non-voting)
Commissioner Rick Leo
Judge G. Scott Marinella
Judge Samuel Meyer
Judge Kevin Ringus (non-voting)
Judge Rebecca Robertson
Judge Douglas Robinson
Judge Charles Short
Judge David Svaren
Judge Judy Jasprica (non-voting)

AOC Staff:

Ms. Vicky Cullinane
Ms. Sharon R. Harvey
Mr. Dirk Marler

Members Absent:

Judge Tracy Staab

CALL TO ORDER

Judge David Steiner, District and Municipal Court Judges' Association (DMCJA) President, noted a quorum was present and called the DMCJA Board of Governors (Board) meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Judge Steiner asked attendees to introduce themselves.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Minutes

The Board moved, seconded, and passed a vote (M/S/P) to approve the Board Minutes for May 14, 2016.

B. Treasurer's Report

M/S/P to approve the Treasurer's Report. Judge Burrowes requested that Board members obtain three copies of their hotel bill. One copy of the bill is to be submitted to the Board member's county. Another copy of the bill is to be submitted to the Court Education Committee (CEC), and a final copy of the bill is to be delivered to Judge Burrowes, DMCJA Treasurer. This copy should include a DMCJA reimbursement form that lists costs for Sunday's breakfast and Saturday's hotel stay.

C. Special Fund Report

M/S/P to approve the Special Fund Report. Judge Ahlf reported that he has received the June 2016 bank Statement. He has also received more special fund payments from judges, and, now approximately eighty-two percent of the DMCJA membership is in good standing. He further informed that forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) is allocated under the *Conference Incidental Fees for Members Spring Conference 2016* line item.

D. Standing Committee Reports

There were no Standing Committee reports.

E. Trial Court Advocacy Board (TCAB) Update

Mr. Ramsey Radwan, AOC Management Services Division (MSD) Director, asked TCAB members to weigh in on Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) items. TCAB members were encouraged that each association was asked to weigh in on the budget. The group discussed its priorities, which include more court funding. Judge Marinella informed that he has been tasked with putting together a history of Senate Bill (SB) 5454, *Revising trial court funding provisions*, that will be used as leverage for funding request presentations.

F. Judicial Information System Committee (JISC) Report

Judge Marinella reported that the courts of limited jurisdiction case management system (CLJ-CMS) Project is on course and moving forward. An independent quality assurance contractor and special assistant attorney general (SAAG) have been hired for the Project. Judge Marinella added that adequate funding for the Project will be the biggest hurdle in the next legislative biennium. The Legislature must approve sixteen million dollars in order to fund the Project. For this reason, Judge Marinella encouraged Board members to speak with their legislators regarding how important this Project is for courts of limited jurisdiction. The current case management system is more than thirty years old. Judge Marinella further informed that the issue regarding electronic filing has been taken off the list of JISC priorities.

G. Judicial Information System (JIS) Report

Ms. Cullinane informed that she had nothing additional to report regarding the JIS.

LIAISON REPORTS

A. Board for Judicial Administration (BJA)

Judge Ringus reported that the BJA met on May 20, 2016. During the meeting, Mr. Ramsey Radwan, MSD Director, provided a judicial revenue update. Judge Garrow presented five strategic issue management initiatives that were developed by the BJA Policy and Planning Committee. Mr. Eric Johnson, Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC), discussed WSAC's legislative agenda and financial needs. A discussion was had about the BJA's level of involvement in the hiring of the Associate Director, Office of Judicial and Legislative Relations position.

B. Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Mr. Marler reported that the Superior Court Case Management System (SC-CMS) Project has been a success thus far. The success of the SC-CMS Project will likely encourage the Legislature to fund the CLJ-CMS Project. Mr. Marler encouraged Board members to speak with legislators about the case management system needs for courts of limited jurisdiction. He added that thirteen million dollars is likely to be requested for the CLJ-CMS Project. Materials, such as talking points, will be provided to DMCJA members interested in speaking with their legislators about funding the CLJ-CMS Project.

ACTION

A. Whether to adopt the DMCJA Rules Committee's Recommendation regarding ACLU's Proposed Amendments to General Rule 35, Jury Selection

M/S/P not to endorse the proposed General Rule (GR) 35, *Jury Selection*, but instead to offer assistance in reforming the rule. The Board further voted to invite both the DMCJA Rules Committee and Mr. Mungia to the September 11, 2016 DMCJA Board meeting. The issue relates to an American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) proposed amendment to GR 35 regarding peremptory challenges. Specifically, the amendment addresses potential bias in peremptory juror exclusions. The DMCJA Rules Committee recommended that the Board not

endorse the ACLU's proposed Rule because the Washington Supreme Court is continuing to closely review this important area of law.

B. DMCJA Board Meeting Schedule: Should the Board meet in the month of July?

M/S/P not to have a Board meeting in the month of July.

C. Washington Pattern Jury Instruction Committee – Should the current DMCJA representative be nominated to the Supreme Court without opening the process to other DMCJA members?

M/S/P to nominate Judge Harper to be a representative on the Washington Pattern Jury Instruction (WPI) Committee for an additional four-year term. The position will be announced to the entire membership in order to provide all DMCJA members an opportunity to serve on the Committee. All applicants, including nominee Judge Ann Harper, will be submitted to the Supreme Court for consideration.

DISCUSSION

A. Washington Pattern Jury Instruction Committee – Should the current DMCJA representative be nominated to the Supreme Court without opening the process to other DMCJA members?

Judge Steiner informed that Judge Anne Harper, King County District Court, has served a four-year term on the WPI Committee that is set to expire in July 2016. The WPI sent a letter to Judge Steiner, DMCJA President, requesting that the DMCJA nominate Judge Harper to serve another four-year term on the Committee. Multiple terms are encouraged because there is a steep learning curve for new members and Judge Harper has expressed her willingness to continue her service on the Committee for an additional term, according to the WPI letter. This Committee meets on Saturdays.

M/S/P to make this an action item.

B. DMCJA Board Meeting Schedule: Should the Board meet in the month of July?

The Board discussed whether to meet on July 8, 2016 since many members will be on vacation during the month of July.

M/S/P to make this an action item.

INFORMATION

Judge Steiner thanked Judges Charles Short and Rebecca Robertson for their service as DMCJA Board Members. He further thanked Judges Michael Lambo and Kevin Ringus for their service on the BJA. Judge Steiner then recognized Judge David Svaren for his long-term service as DMCJA Past President.

OTHER BUSINESS

Judge Steiner informed that the new Board dinner will be held on June 7, 2016, 6:00 p.m., at the hotel restaurant.

ADJOURNED at 11:00 AM.