

Wyoming State Bar Board of Officers & Commissioners Meeting

January 20, 2017
La Quinta Inn & Suites
Gillette, Wyoming

In Attendance: John A. Masterson, President; Robert C. Jarosh, President-Elect; Dawnessa A. Snyder, Vice President; Weston T. Graham, Treasurer; Melinda S. McCorkle, First Judicial District Commissioner; Kelly M. Neville, Second Judicial District Commissioner; Teresa S. Thybo, Third Judicial District Commissioner; Nicholas T. Haderlie, Fourth Judicial District Commissioner; Bobbi D. Overfield, Fifth Judicial District Commissioner (by phone); James L. Edwards, Sixth Judicial District Commissioner; J. Kenneth Barbe, Seventh Judicial District Commissioner; Nathaniel S. Hibben, Eighth Judicial District Commissioner; Erika M. Nash, Ninth Judicial District Commissioner (by phone); Devon P. O'Connell, Immediate Past President (by phone); Jesse K. Fishman, Young Lawyers Section President; Sharon Wilkinson, Executive Director; Mark Gifford, Bar Counsel and Cathy Duncil, Admissions Director

Guests: Wayne Herr – McGee, Hearne & Paiz, LLP
Maribeth Galvan – Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee
Jessica Keith – Chair, Legal Aid of Wyoming Board
Ray Macchia – Legal Aid of Wyoming Executive Director

President John Masterson called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

After reviewing the agenda and the minutes from the November 4, 2016, meeting, Commissioner Neville made a motion to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes. Commissioner Thybo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

President Masterson directed the Board's attention to the minutes from numerous Executive Committee conference calls.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Graham introduced and welcomed Wayne Herr from McGee, Hearne & Paiz, LLP. The annual audit took place the first week of December 2016. Mr. Herr shared that his firm does the Bar's audit under regular standards as well as government auditing standards.

Mr. Herr spoke at length about the Bar's pension liability. He explained that while the Bar must show this liability on the books, it is not a legal liability for the State Bar. The Wyoming State Retirement system is responsible for the pension. He explained that the reason the liability went up is due to the fact that Wyoming State Retirement missed its income projection significantly. He noted that the plan is approximately 79% funded and shared that most government pension plans are nowhere close to that.

Mr. Herr shared that the Bar's equity totals \$1.8 million dollars and he commented that that is quite strong for an organization the size of the Bar. He reported that the revenue stayed quite consistent while the expenses increased due to the \$88,000 pension liability. He indicated that the Bar's share of the state's pension plan is less than one tenth of a percent.

Mr. Herr reported that his firm did identify one internal control issue relating to a bank account for the pro bono reimbursement that had more activity than it had in the past. He recommends a quarterly reconciliation of that account.

President Masterson asked Mr. Herr if there was anything not included in the written report that should be brought to the attention of the Board. Mr. Herr again mentioned the pro bono account and reported that there were no other concerns. President Masterson then asked Mr. Herr if there was any reason he needed to meet with the Board without the staff present. Mr. Herr indicated that was not necessary.

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the audit. Treasurer Graham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Graham thanked Mr. Herr and his firm for the work on the audit. He then thanked Cathy Duncil, Bookkeeper, for a job well done. Treasurer Graham commended Executive Director Wilkinson for running the organization effectively.

Treasurer Graham directed the Board's attention to the budget versus actual report in the Board notebook. He shared that he has been directing the staff to make the Bar's money a bit more liquid. This is in preparation for a possible change in the Bar's investment policy. Treasurer Graham reported that the report indicates that cash is heavy at this time. This is due to the recent completion of the license fee cycle. He shared that we are one-quarter of the way through the fiscal year and there is nothing out of the ordinary.

Commissioner Barbe made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Commissioner McCorkle seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Investment Policy

Treasurer Graham shared that he tasked Mark Gifford, Bar Counsel and also a CPA, with gathering some information to help the Board determine what it can and cannot do with the Bar's money. Mr. Herr, having been involved with the Bar's audit for several years, reminded the Board that the Bar has always followed the State of Wyoming's investment policy. Treasurer Graham directed the Board's attention to the information in the notebook indicating how other integrated bars handle their investments. In his written memo, Mark Gifford recommended that the Board consider hiring a financial advisor. Treasurer Graham reminded the Board that the Bar is a non-profit organization. As a result, when the Board starts to see significant revenue on the books, everybody needs to be cognizant of money in the bank. He clarified that he is not seeking a decision about an investment policy at this point. This information is simply to start the discussion.

Mark Gifford shared some historical information. Prior to McGee, Hearne & Paiz, LLP conducting the audit beginning in 2005, the firm of Porter Muirhead did the audit. In those

audits, there is a footnote that indicates the Bar is restrained by the State of Wyoming's investment policy. Mr. Gifford shared that he does not think the Bar is required to follow the State's investment policy due to the fact that the Bar does not have public funds. He shared that he had a discussion with Judge Richard L. Lavery, Past President (2009), and Judge Lavery recalls discussion and concern about the Bar adopting a more aggressive investment policy and that decision possibly jeopardizing the Bar's status as an integrated bar as well as its tax status.

Treasurer Graham suggested having this discussion at Strategic Planning, which will take place in June. He feels that the Board needs to determine what it would like to spend the Bar's money on.

President Masterson asked if the Bar files an IRS Form 990. Mr. Gifford and Mr. Herr clarified that filing that form is not necessary because the Bar is a quasi-governmental organization.

Mr. Herr shared that there is a wide spectrum of what is available in regard to investment options. Currently, the Bar's investments are very conservative—CD's and keeping checking accounts below FDIC limits. He shared that some of those options include the Wyoming Government Investment Fund (WGIF). It has two funds available for municipalities, cities, and school districts. Another is the WYOSTAR program, which allows government organizations to put excess funds in to earn higher rates, which may be an easier sell to the members. Mr. Herr recommended contacting the State Treasurer's office to see if the Bar qualifies for WYOSTAR.

Mr. Herr also shared that some quasi-government agencies invest in money markets and mutual funds that are secured by the U.S. Treasury.

Mr. Gifford asked if each of those options Mr. Herr discussed follow the State's investment policy. Mr. Herr responded yes. Treasurer Graham suggested tasking the staff with getting a representative from each of these organizations to present to the Board as a whole or perhaps just to him and the staff. He recommended the staff work on this prior to the April meeting.

Admissions Report

Cathy Duncil, Admissions Director, shared that there are 32 applicants signed up to take the bar exam in February. She reported that the following Saturday, the Board of Law Examiners has its grading workshop with the National Conference of Bar Examiners. President Masterson shared that he is no longer the Chair of the Board of Law Examiners. Darin Scheer from Farson took over that position recently.

Mandatory CLE

Executive Director Sharon Wilkinson shared that 89 members were delinquent on their CLE requirements. On January 17, 2017, those members were sent delinquency notices and assessed a \$300 delinquency fee. She reported that if those members are still not compliant by March 1, 2017, she will recommend the suspension of their licenses.

Executive Director Wilkinson reported that in 2016 the Wyoming State Bar hosted 47 free CLE programs which provided a total of 58 general CLE credits and 19.5 ethics credits. She shared that the staff is very proud to offer this benefit to the membership. Commissioner McCorkle asked what the cost of hosting those programs are. Executive Director Wilkinson shared that

the Bar budgeted \$18,000 solely for CLE programs in the 2015/2016 fiscal year. This includes paid speakers, facility costs for live programs, webinar hosting costs and the expense of live streaming. Commissioner McCorkle encouraged the staff to share this information with the membership.

Diversity & Inclusion Committee

President Masterson introduced Maribeth Galvan, a Laramie attorney and the new chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee. Ms. Galvan shared that she had some concerns last year when she was serving on the committee. She wasn't aware of what the expectations were and/or how to turn those into goals. When Ms. Galvan became chair on January 1, 2017, she reached out to most of the current members of the committee. She learned that many of the committee members shared her concerns; however, the information she gathered from the committee was very positive with a high level of commitment to these efforts. After more discussion, Ms. Galvan requested that the Board lift the stay of activity that was put in place in September 2016. She also requested some information that she and her committee need in order to move forward.

President Masterson asked for the Board's feedback on Ms. Galvan's request to lift the stay.

Vice President Snyder made a motion to remove the stay of the committee activity. Commissioner Haderlie seconded the motion. Commissioner Thybo, Board Liaison to the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, shared that in the short time that Ms. Galvan has served as committee chair, she has done a remarkable job to drive the committee in a positive direction. Treasurer Graham thanked Ms. Galvan for coming to address the Board in person. He shared his perspective that the committee was established to help guide the Board and the Bar in how to deal with some of these issues in such a homogenous culture. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Galvan shared that the committee members wish to focus on how to improve recruitment of minorities in the law school and within the Bar and be responsive to minority issues. The committee also wishes to educate the judiciary on sensitivity when dealing with minorities. There has also been discussion about how the Bar could serve underserved populations in Wyoming. She shared that the committee would also like to see diversity at the Board level. One committee member wanted to see more mentorship programs for lawyers and law students. She feels that the Bar must integrate inclusion and diversity issues into the access to justice programs and consider sensitivity training for lawyers, judges and support staff.

Ms. Galvan shared that the committee members are interested in writing some articles for the *Wyoming Lawyer* and also provide some CLE programs. She thinks that is a good place to start and would perhaps result in some feedback from the Bar. In regard to reaching out to other organizations and resources, Ms. Galvan feels that it is important that the committee defines what it wishes to accomplish first. She does not want to see their own mission diluted by outside influences. She shared that she is not opposed to using other groups; however, the committee needs a firmly defined mission so it does not lose sight of established goals.

President Masterson indicated that he and the staff will work with Ms. Galvan to answer some of her questions and provide her the resources she may need.

Due to time constraints, the discussion on diversity and inclusion was put on hold and will be revisited at the April meeting.

Clio Demonstration

Executive Director Wilkinson introduced Andrew Gay from Clio who joined the meeting by telephone. She shared that after the Board approved offering CosmoLex, a cloud-based practice management system, at the November 2016 meeting as a member benefit, she reached out to Clio with a request to do product demonstration at this meeting. She reminded the Board that she is cognizant of the fact that the Board is somewhat hesitant to endorse any one company and/or product. Clio is a competitor of CosmoLex but offering both as a member benefit would allow the members to decide which they prefer.

During the demo, Mr. Gay mentioned that 15+ law firms in Wyoming are currently using Clio. Commissioner Edwards asked Executive Director Wilkinson to identify which firms those are.

Treasurer Graham shared that he is a huge proponent of member benefits. He shared that Clio is the leader in his firm's opinion. His firm is about to sign on with Clio. He discussed some of the differences between CosmoLex and Clio and noted that cloud-based security is where the industry is going. Treasurer Graham also shared that he was impressed that 43 other bar association around the country partner with Clio.

Commissioner Hibben made a motion to move forward and allow Executive Director Wilkinson to negotiate a contract with the Executive Committee's approval and ensure that the 15+ firms that are already using Clio get the 10% discount. Commissioner Haderlie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Legal Aid of Wyoming Board Update

President Masterson introduced Ray Macchia, Executive Director of Legal Aid of Wyoming, and Jessica Keith, the President of the Legal Aid of Wyoming Board. Mr. Macchia provided some background about Legal Aid of Wyoming. He discussed the number of calls they received in 2016 – over 7,000. Of those, approximately 4,300 clients were helped. Mr. Macchia discussed the types of calls they typically see and the staff who serves these clients. He shared that he and his board are very concerned about the future of the organization with the new administration coming into Washington D.C. *The Hill* magazine featured a piece about massive budget cuts and possibly eliminating Legal Services Corporation.

Mr. Macchia discussed the process his organization follows in order to determine which cases are picked up and which are not. He shared that the cases that are not picked up are often referred to Equal Justice Wyoming for a pro bono attorney. Callers are also referred to the Bar for the Modest Means Program.

Executive Director Wilkinson reminded the Board that it appoints the attorney members to the Legal Aid of Wyoming Board. Jessica Keith discussed activities at the Board level.

Commissioner Haderlie asked if Mr. Macchia was going to submit a proposal to Equal Justice Wyoming Foundation to get a portion of the Bank of America settlement funds. Mr. Macchia indicated that they are planning to submit an RFP.

Office of Bar Counsel Report

Mark Gifford, Bar Counsel, reported that there were 13 disciplinary orders issued in 2016. Those numbers have been holding fairly steady over the years. He shared that he thinks the ethics hotline is really paying off and is resulting in fewer disciplinary complaints.

Update on Rule 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct

Mr. Gifford reminded the Board about the update to Rule 1.15 of the Rules of Professional Conduct which requires financial institutions to notify the Office of Bar Counsel if a lawyer's trust account becomes overdrawn. The rule also requires these financial institutions to have a signed agreement with the Bar. He reported that as a result of a lot of work by Shannon Howshar and Brandi Robinson, the Bar has signed agreements for all financial institutions.

Trust Account Handbook

As Mr. Gifford was surveying what other states do with trust account reporting, he noticed that many other states publish a trust account handbook. He sought and received permission from Washington to take its handbook and tailor it to Wyoming. This is now a free, downloadable resource available to the membership.

Fee Dispute Resolutions

Mr. Gifford shared that he and his assistant, Shannon Howshar, are going through the process of implementing the new rules. He reported that the Fee Arbitration Committee is functioning very well. Mr. Gifford shared that he is currently working on a training outline for arbitrators. He also noted that the Bar is in need of more arbitrators, and he is working on those recruitment efforts. He shared that the Bar currently has 35 lawyers and 4 non-lawyers serving as arbitrators.

Unauthorized Practice of Law

Mr. Gifford reported that he is getting close to a resolution on Razor City Realty and hopes to be able to report that it has been resolved by the next meeting.

Clients' Security Fund

Mr. Gifford reported that the Bar continues to pay out three substantial claims that one lawyer caused. He also has a \$2,000 claim that is being investigated by the committee. Vice President Snyder asked if the Board of Officers & Commissioners could vote to pay off pending claims in excess of \$10,000. Mr. Gifford shared that the current rules do not allow for such a thing; however, he has drafted new Client Protection Fund rules and they do provide a mechanism for the committee to come to the Board with such a request.

Ms. Fishman asked if there were any common themes to the ethics hotline calls and wondered if Mr. Gifford had ever considered offering formal opinions about those common issues. Mr. Gifford shared that he has considered that, but while there are common themes, each is so unique. A catch-all frequently asked questions document would not always address the question appropriately. Mr. Gifford shared that although the old disciplinary rules did provide for the issuance of formal ethics opinions, that process was only utilized once in 15 years and was dropped when the rules were rewritten in 2015. The ethics hotline provides informal, real-time guidance on a variety of ethical issues, and in Mr. Gifford's opinion is a more effective way to provide timely ethics help than formal ethics opinions, which require months to develop.

West Edge Collective Update

Executive Director Wilkinson reported that the Bar continues to work regularly with West Edge Collective on the design of a new website. She reported that the staff has seen screenshots of proposed design of certain pages of the website and they are very pleased. She reported that West Edge Collective is on track to launch the new website in April.

Wyoming Lawyer Assistance Program (WyLAP)/ Wyoming Professional Assistance Program (WPAP)

Executive Director Wilkinson directed the Board's attention to WPAP's quarterly report in the notebook. She also shared that she had a few inquiries from members about the WyLAP program. She provided those members with information and Jack Speight, WyLAP Director, has already reached out to one of those members, who is now seeking treatment.

Mr. Gifford reported about a lawyer for whom he has received some complaints. Mr. Gifford has encouraged the lawyer to seek voluntary assistance from WyLAP. This attorney ended up in the hospital recently with some serious health issues and asked Mr. Gifford to please invite Jack Speight to visit the lawyer. Mr. Gifford shared that the division between the disciplinary side and Mr. Speight's side is working effectively.

Commissioner McCorkle asked what the status was on the goal to reach paralegals, spouses, and other non-lawyers to heighten awareness of WyLAP. Executive Director Wilkinson reminded the Board that Governor Mead agreed to produce public service announcements about the program in 2015 and those are airing again in Cheyenne and Casper. Commissioner McCorkle felt strongly about making sure paralegals are aware of the program. As a result, Executive Director Wilkinson will contact Legal Assistants of Wyoming to identify options.

Treasurer Graham also suggested that the Bar contact managing partners of firms and ask if they would be willing to educate their staff about the WyLAP program.

President Masterson wondered if there is a paralegal course in Cheyenne. Commissioner McCorkle indicated that she teaches out at Laramie County Community College and would be happy to discuss this with Jodi Wepner who runs the paralegal program there. President Masterson also recommended contacting Mary Kubichek at Casper College.

Bankruptcy and Creditors Rights Section Bylaws

Executive Director Wilkinson reminded the Board that it approved the formation of the Bankruptcy and Creditors Rights Section at the November meeting. At that time, she recognized some problems with the bylaws the section leadership submitted. She has since worked with the section leadership to make necessary changes to the bylaws. Executive Director Wilkinson asked for the Board's approval of the bylaws.

Commissioner Barbe suggested adjusting the number of Executive Council members. President Masterson asked if this Board had the authority to make that change. He recommended that the Board approve them with this suggestion—add “up to three at large members” in Article III (a) and 4(a).

Treasurer Graham made a motion to approve the bylaws with the added language on the condition that the section approve it. Commissioner Neville seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval to Submit Rules for Client Protection Fund for Member Comments

Mr. Gifford directed the Board's attention to the proposed Rules for Client Protection. These have been vetted with the current Clients' Security Fund Committee. He asked for authority to put the proposed rules out for comment to the membership.

Commissioner McCorkle made a motion to allow Mr. Gifford to distribute the proposed rules for member comment. Commissioner Thybo seconded the motion. Mr. Gifford shared that under these new rules, the committee would have the ability to pay out \$15,000 per year per claim. If the committee wants more, it would have to come to this Board and make that request. Commissioner Haderlie asked if the Bar has a mechanism to fund this. Mr. Gifford shared that the rules give this Board discretion to fund as necessary. The motion carried unanimously.

Wyoming State Bar Sponsored Health Insurance

Commissioner Overfield shared that she had a constituent contact her about reviving the health insurance plan or perhaps come up with a different mechanism to provide health insurance to the membership. Commissioner Nash shared that her firm took a significant financial hit due to the failure of the Wyoming Lawyer Health Benefit Plan. Commissioner Edwards shared that his partner was on the committee that was tasked with overseeing the plan. He indicated that there was much enthusiasm when it started out and then it petered out. Treasurer Graham suggested that Commissioner Overfield refer her constituent to the ABA, as it has a lot of options. Commissioner Haderlie, who is also a member of the Montana bar, reported that the Montana bar terminated its plan last year.

President's Report

Diversity & Inclusion – President Masterson shared that he is very encouraged with Maribeth Galvan's leadership and the way she is taking ahold of this effort. He shared that in the course of working through the diversity and inclusion efforts, he will make sure this Board is informed of the committee's efforts.

Annual Meeting – President Masterson reported that he is focusing this year's Annual Meeting & Judicial Conference on practical skills. He encouraged the Board members to share any ideas for CLE programs.

E-mails – President Masterson reminded the Board to be discreet when e-mailing with other Board members about Bar matters. President-Elect Jarosh inquired as to how President Masterson preferred Board members to communicate any concerns to him about the diversity and inclusion efforts. President Masterson stated that he prefers phone calls about any concerns.

President-Elect's Report

President-Elect Jarosh shared that Equal Justice Wyoming was unable to schedule a retreat for 2016; however, there is one scheduled for 2017. He will be in attendance and he is happy to answer any questions.

President-Elect Jarosh reported that he received a panicked call from an attorney in Chicago regarding the new Rule 8.4(g) to the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct—also known as a “speech code for lawyers.” This Chicago lawyer was under the assumption that this rule was distributed for member comments in Wyoming and there was an overwhelming outcry against the implementation of such a rule. President-Elect Jarosh assumed this attorney wanted some ammunition from other states, as the same thing happened in Illinois, but there was a special interest group that got it before the Illinois Supreme Court. President-Elect Jarosh clarified for the lawyer that no such thing had happened in Wyoming and that there is no consideration of implementing the rule.

Vice President’s Report

Vice President Snyder shared that she attended the grand opening of the Judicial Learning Center last week. She was very impressed with the Center as well as the turnout for the ceremony. She also reported that she was honored to speak on behalf of the Bar at Judge Kricken’s robing ceremony recently.

Executive Director’s Report

Pro Bono Reimbursement Fund

Executive Director Wilkinson reported that the balance in the Bar’s pro bono reimbursement fund is approximately \$2,000. As a result, she submitted another request to the U.S. District Court’s Attorney Admission Fund Committee for an additional \$7,500. She shared that she recently learned that at an Equal Justice Wyoming board meeting earlier in the week, Tim Beppler, who also sits on the Attorney Admission Fund Committee, reported that the Bar had made the request to the federal court but recommended that the Bar submit a grant request to Equal Justice Wyoming instead. Mr. Beppler advised the Attorney Admission Fund Committee of the discussion at the Equal Justice Wyoming board meeting and indicated to Cathy Duncil, member of the Equal Justice Wyoming board, that the Committee would hold off on acting on Executive Director Wilkinson’s request until they hear what may be worked out with Equal Justice Wyoming to help fund this account, perhaps on an ongoing basis.

Vice President Snyder shared her reluctance to request money from Equal Justice Wyoming considering the Bar has money in the bank. She feels there are other organizations much more deserving of those limited funds.

Mark Gifford recommended asking the Attorney Admission Fund Committee if it would match a contribution from the Bar up to \$7,500.

Vice President Snyder made a motion to move \$7,500 to the Pro Bono Reimbursement account and request matching funds from the Attorney Admission Fund Committee. Commissioner Neville seconded the motion. Commissioner Haderlie made a friendly amendment to authorize a match up to \$7,500. The motion carried unanimously.

Paperless Office Project

Executive Director Wilkinson reported that the Bar staff has almost completed its goal of going paperless with the A – Z attorney files. She shared that the last few boxes (V – Z) had been submitted for scanning and those should be complete in the next two to three weeks. Executive Director Wilkinson shared that once all attorney files are scanned, there will no

longer be a need for the numerous paper files they currently have. In addition, there will no longer be a need for a large, sliding filing cabinet system currently installed in the Bar office. Executive Director Wilkinson shared that she plans to brainstorm with the staff to determine how to best utilize that space in the office. She alerted the Board to a possible future budget request based on the decisions that are made.

Young Lawyers Section Report

Jesse Fishman, President of the Young Lawyers Section, reported that the section leadership surveyed the Young Lawyers Section members and learned they want more section-sponsored CLE programs, networking, mentoring, etc. She shared that the most positive thing that came out of the survey is that several people indicated that they want to know more about the section as well as the Officers & Commissioners. She reported that the section leadership plans to do a call to inform the section members.

Ms. Fishman reported that there has been an increase in the communication being shared with the section members. Not only does the section have a Facebook page, but she is also distributed e-mail newsletters to the members.

Ms. Fishman reported that the section sponsored a holiday party in Cheyenne and had 30 people in attendance. She also reported about a mentoring night at the law school, in which the section was involved. She shared that next week, Equal Justice Wyoming will be hosting a free legal clinic and young lawyers will be volunteering.

Ms. Fishman reported that the young lawyers' regional conference is this March in New Mexico. The Wyoming contingency is responsible for a CLE program at the conference. Ms. Fishman again thanked the Board for the funds to attend the conference.

Ms. Fishman reported that the section leadership finally agreed on changes to the YLS Section bylaw yesterday. One of the contested items was the age limit for membership.

Ms. Fishman shared that there is a section-sponsored networking events this February in Jackson. The section will host another one in the summer when all the interns are in town. She reported that they are also coordinating with young lawyers from Denver and will partner on some networking events.

Board/Committee Liaison Reports

Bench Bar Relations Committee—no report

Clients' Security Fund Committee—Mark Gifford already addressed the progress of the committee.

Civil Pattern Jury Instructions Committee—President-Elect Jarosh reported that the next meeting is next month.

Law School Liaison Committee—no report

Civil Division of Permanent Rules Advisory Committee—Commissioner Edwards reported that the new Rules of Civil Procedure will be effective March 1, 2017, and there will be a CLE program on January 30, 2017, to inform the membership of the most significant changes.

Legislative Developments Committee—President Masterson reported that the committee has calls scheduled; however, it has not met yet as the committee is simply keeping an eye on some bills that may have some impact on the legal profession.

Criminal Pattern Jury Instructions Committee—Vice President Snyder shared that she is the new chair of the Criminal Pattern Jury Instructions Committee. She feels like it is a good time to have a fresh look at the jury instructions. Vice President Snyder reported that Judge Patchen is responsible for tracking new legislation. She also shared that she had tasked Executive Director Wilkinson with reaching out to the law school to get a volunteer law student to help proof and check all citations. The law student has already been appointed to the committee. Vice President Snyder also shared that she has reached out to Judge Kricken to see how she runs the Civil Pattern Jury Instructions Committee.

President Masterson adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m. on Friday, January 20, 2017.

Minutes Submitted by:

Sharon Wilkinson
Executive Director