

Oregon State Bar
Meeting of the Board of Governors
September 3, 2004
Special Open Session Minutes

The special meeting of the Oregon State Bar Board of Governors was called to order Friday, September 3, 2004, at 1:05 p.m. by President William Carter and adjourned at 2:00 p.m. Board members present were Jack Enbom, Gerry Gaydos, Albert Menashe, Bette Worcester, Marva Fabien, Dennis Rawlinson, Jon Hill, Frank Hilton, Williams Carter, Ronald Bryant, Lisa LeSage, Mark Comstock, and Lauren Paulson (1:35 to 2:00 PM – not present for the discussion or votes on items 1 and 2). Staff present was Karen Garst, George Riemer, Rod Wegener, and Susan Grabe.

Prior to the business meeting, the Board of Governors had lunch with representatives from the Access to Justice Endowment: Ed Harnden, chair, Mabsie Walters and Matthew Jones, staff, and David Thornborough and Tom Matsuda, directors of legal aid programs. Mr. Harnden thanked the board for its continued support for increasing access to civil legal services and discussed the opportunity for bequests or current gifts to the endowment.

1. 2005 fee resolution

A. Approve the 2005 fee resolution

When there is no increase to the membership fees, the board has authority, by statute, to set the fees and must inform the membership of such action.

Motion: Mr. Enbom moved, Ms. Cook seconded, and the board passed a motion to approve the 2005 fee resolution that sets fees at the same amount as 2004 and the due date for payment as January 31, 2005. The motion passed unanimously.

2. House of Delegates

A. Approve the House of Delegates Annual Meeting Agenda - 2005

The board discussed the draft agenda. Steven Cyr submitted a resolution the day after the deadline of September 1 at 5:00 PM. The board decided to include the resolution in the agenda. However, staff was asked to contact Mr. Cyr regarding his fiscal impact and if Mr. Cyr disagreed with the staff's analysis of the fiscal impact, Mr. Cyr's fiscal analysis should be labeled "Background provided by presenter."

Motion: Mr. Hilton moved, Mr. Rawlinson seconded, and the board passed a motion to approve the 2004 agenda for the House of Delegates including Mr. Cyr's resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Regional HOD meetings – September 20-24

A. Approve the regional HOD meeting schedule

The board reviewed a set of meetings with regional HOD members set for the week of September 20. Mr. Rawlinson asked whether Mr. Carter would be introducing the Model Rules item. Mr. Carter indicated he could give the history of the process and then staff could either walk through the rules or answer questions as they arose.

Mr. Carter then discussed a recent request by Mr. Paulson for the mailing list of the Bar Leader Communicator in order to respond to the board-meeting summary of August 13- 14 in that publication. Mr. Carter asked Mr. Paulson whether he would submit his draft response to Ms. Cook for review prior to mailing. Mr. Paulson stated that he did not like the way in which these issues were brought to the full board and that he had originated the regional newsletter idea to keep his constituents informed and that he did not want to be censored. Several board members advised Mr. Paulson that no censorship was intended, and the process was intended only to assure the factual accuracy of communications with members. The issue of board discussions without staff was raised. The issue also arose regarding staff presence at the regional HOD meetings.

Motion: Ms. Cook moved, Mr. Rawlinson seconded, and the board passed a motion that staff attend (either by phone or in person) each regional HOD meeting. The motion passed (yes, 14; no, Paulson; absent, Edmundson).