



State Bar Association
of North Dakota

SBAND Board of Governors

UND School of Law
Molbert Room 211
Grand Forks ND

April 19, 2008

8:30 AM

Minutes

Members Present: Dave Petersen, President; Lawrence King; Dave Maring; James Hill; Kristi Pettit; Jane Dynes; Fallon Kelly; Robert Keogh; Sandi Tabor; Dean Paul LeBel; Mike Williams; Swain Benson

Members Absent: Dennis Johnson;

Staff Members Present: William A. Neumann; Jeanne Schlittenhard

President Petersen called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2008 [Attachment #1]

Action#1: The minutes were received and approved without objection. [S Tabor / D. Maring]

Action #2: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to present a resolution to the General Assembly authorizing the Board of Governors to expend funds, if determined necessary, to respond to attacks on our judicial system and an initiated measure addressing family law issues and the judicial system. [S. Tabor / D. Maring]

Financial Statements and Vouchers –February 2008 [Attachment # 2]

W. Neumann reviewed the February 2008 Financial Reports.

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to receive the financials. [M. Williams / L. King]

Annual Audit Report

Stacy DuToit from Brady Martz & Associates presented the 2007 audit report. She reported SBAND received a clean, unqualified opinion which is the highest rating for an association. Ms. DuToit answered any questions Board members had.

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to approve the 2007 Annual Audit Report as submitted. [J. Hill / S. Benson]

Planning / Updates

Law Related Education

W. Neumann reported SBAND is planning a Teachers Institute for We The People in August. The People's Law School held in Bismarck and Fargo were very successful.

Lawyer Assistance Program

Nothing specific to report, program is operating successfully.

Trust Account Task Force

Chair, Jane Dynes will present a report to the General Assembly on June 12, 2008.

Mentorship Program with Law Students

M. Williams reported a successful first year with over 80 students involved. Dean LeBel thanked the North Dakota Trial Lawyers and SBAND for the coordinated efforts in making this first year very successful. Two young lawyers, Chris Nyhus and Scott Strand did an outstanding job in working in leadership positions in this program.

SBAND Website Improvement Project

W. Neumann reported since the last Board of Governors meeting, the Information and Technology Task Force, authorized by the Board, met with the SBAND staff and a representative from K2 Interactive who currently serves as the administrator of the SBAND Website. Update of SBAND's data base is also a consideration in the website update. The ITT Task Force recommends the staff investigate several corporate association management programs and compare to the current data base program(s) utilized.

Custody and Visitation Task Force

L. King reported on the Task Force's work. Chair Sherry Mills Moore will be presenting a report to the General Assembly on June 12, 2008.

Report – UND School of Law

Dean Paul LeBel reported the State Board of Higher Education has approved a long-term tuition plan which requires Budget Section approval.

Recommendation / Conclusion: S. Tabor recommended a call to action to past SBAND presidents to work with Executive Director Neumann and Dean LeBel to assist and support Law School funding. Dean LeBel will address this issue with the members present at the Bar Luncheon for the Law School on June 12, 2008, in Grand Forks.

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to form a Task Force to address law school funding issues. [R. Keogh / S. Tabor]

Report on Western States Bar Meeting

President Petersen and D. Maring reported the meeting was very worthwhile attending. Topics discussed included creation of ways senior, retired and/or emeritus lawyers can provide pro bono services for the Bar Association; Lawyer Assistance Programs; law student mentoring; trust accounts; video conferencing.

Action: No action taken.

2008 Annual Meeting Update

W. Neumann and J. Schlittenhard updated the Board of Governors on the planning activities of the 2008 Annual Meeting. The roster of speakers was reviewed and the Board of Governors concluded the topics and speakers will provide interesting and useful educational sessions for those in attendance.

Action: No action taken.

Board appointment – Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents

Bruce Quick is eligible for reappointment to the Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents and is willing to serve an additional term. No other nominations or applications were received.

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to reappointment Bruce Quick to a second term on the Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents. [S. Tabor / J. Hill]

Board appointments – North Dakota Bar Foundation Board of Directors

W. Neumann reported there are five open positions on the North Dakota Bar Foundation Board of Directors. Jack Marcil, Paul Richard, and Robert Thomas are eligible for reappointment and are willing to serve. Gordon Schnell and Mike Halpern are completing terms June 2008 and do not wish to be reappointed. The Board of Governors advertised these openings and two members of the Bar Foundation applied for consideration: James Hill and Sandi Tabor.

Action #1: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to reappoint Jack Marcil, Paul Richard, and Robert Thomas to an additional three year term. [J. Hill / S. Tabor]

Action #2: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to appoint James Hill and Sandi Tabor to the North Dakota Bar Foundation Board of Directors [R. Keogh / J. Dynes]

Board appointment – Joint ADR Committee

W. Neumann updated the Board of Governors on the nomination of Janet Merrill to serve as a non-lawyer member of the Joint ADR Committee.

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to appoint Janet Merrill to the Joint ADR Committee. [S. Tabor / J. Hill]

Jury Questionnaire

W. Neumann updated the Board of Governors that a *NewsFlash* went to members encouraging any comments to the Jury Standards Committee prior to their scheduled meeting to review the jury questionnaire.

Recommendation / Conclusion: It was recommended Executive Director / SBAND President communicate concerns with the Jury Standards Committee. *NewsFlash* should be sent to SBAND members again to encourage comments.

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried that Executive Director Neumann communicate the concerns of the Board of Governors regarding the members' comments regarding problems and inefficiencies with the current juror questionnaire form. [D. Maring / J. Hill]

Ratification of SBAND support (ABA) of Legal Services Funding

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to ratify the prior action of the Board of Governors to support the ABA's support of funding for Legal Services. [J. Hill / S. Tabor]

2008 Awards

Community Service Awards

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to ratify the Community Service Award recipients as chosen by the district representatives on the Board of Governors. [S. Tabor / J. Hill]

Legislative Service Awards

Action: It was duly moved, seconded, and carried to award the 2008 Legislative Service Award to Senator Judy Lee for her support of legislative issues of concern to the State Bar Association of North Dakota, particularly with respect to concerns of children, parenting, and family law. [S. Tabor / L. King]

Starion Financial - W. Neumann reported additional insurance will be provided by Starion Financial for SBAND and NDBF various accounts. This will be discussed further at the June 10, 2008, Board of Governors Meeting.

Action: No action taken.

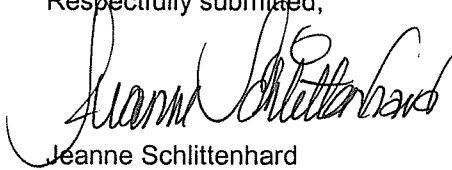
“Stuff from Bill”

Director Neumann reported Gavel advertising dropped in 2007 but projected revenues for 2008 is looking good.

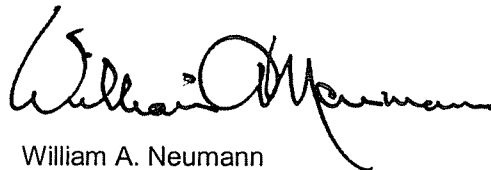
Dean LeBel thanked the members of the Board of Governors for meeting in Grand Forks and having the opportunity to participate in a meeting in the Molbert Room.

There being no further business, President Petersen adjourned the meeting at 11:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne Schlittenhard
Associate Director



William A. Neumann
Executive Director