

## **WYOMING DISTRICT JUDGES' CONFERENCE**

**Cheyenne, September 13, 2001 Meeting**

### **MINUTES**

Present: Brackley, Brooks, Burke, Donnell, Grant, Guthrie, James, Kalokathis, Kautz, Patrick, Perry, Price, Rickman, Rodgers, Stebner, and Sullins

Drug Court: A short report was given on behalf of the Governor's Office regarding the anticipated implementation and funding of drug courts in Wyoming.

Minutes of 4/28/01 Meeting: The minutes of the April 28, 2001 meeting of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference, for the period April 27, 2001 to September 7, 2001 (a copy of which is attached), was approved.

Opening of Legislature: It was reported that the Supreme Court is proposing the appearance of the judicial branch at the opening of the Wyoming Legislature, on February 9 or 10, 2002.

Westlaw Contract: A review of the status of the current Westlaw contract was made. The current contract will expire June 30, 2002. It was noted that we will need to take action on the Westlaw contract at the April 2002 meeting of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference.

Board of Judicial Policy and Administration: Kautz and Grant reported to the Wyoming District Judges' Conference concerning the recent actions of the Board of Judicial Policy and Administration (BJPA). The following items were reported on and discussed:

1. A new budgeting process is being implemented, and October 5, 2001 is the deadline for our proposed budgets to be submitted to the Budget Review Committee.
2. BJPA adopted a policy regarding designated hometowns of circuit and district courts, and the mileage to be allowed within the judicial circuits and districts.
3. The Salary Committee of the BJPA is recommending the increase of judicial salaries to the following levels – Chief Justice of the Supreme Court \$125,000, Other Justices of the Supreme Court \$120,000, District Judges \$108,000, and Circuit Judges \$96,000.
4. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed, it was agreed that the Wyoming District Judges' Conference approves the hiring of a lobbyist to promote the judicial pay raise legislation to the Wyoming Legislature, with

the member District Judges to contribute to the expense of retaining such lobbyist.

5. Rule changes being approved by the BJPA were reviewed, which rule changes include a change of the criminal speedy trial rule to 180 days from date of arraignment, with the trial courts now being able to extend that speedy trial deadline; and a change of the deadline to request a court reporter to report court proceedings being modified from the former ~~30~~ day rule to the newly established deadline of ~~30~~ <sup>3</sup> days. *W.S.* <sup>5</sup>

6. BJPA is establishing a new judge training session to be held October 9 and 10, 2001.

7. A report was given concerning the action taken by the BJPA in connection with a complaint received by the Supreme Court alleging that County Court Judge John V. Crow violated the judicial canons concerning nepotism, and it was reported that the matter was being referred to the Board of Judicial Conduct.

Statutory and Legislative Concerns: Upon motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed, a committee was appointed to review statutory and legislative concerns of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference, with such committee to meet with the Wyoming Legislature's Joint Judiciary Committee concerning the same. The individuals elected to the committee were Kautz, Perry, and Price.

Election of Officers: Pursuant to the Rules Governing the Organization of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference, the following individuals were unanimously elected to the listed offices of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference until the election of their replacements at the September 2002 meeting:

President – Kenneth E. Stebner  
Vice President – Nancy J. Guthrie  
Secretary/Treasurer – W. Thomas Sullins

Next Meeting: Pursuant to the Rules Governing the Organization of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference the next meeting will be held in April 2002, at a location to be selected by the President.



W. Thomas Sullins  
Secretary Elect

WYOMING JUDICIAL COUNCIL

DISTRICT COURT DIVISION

Treasurer's Report

