

WYOMING DISTRICT JUDGES' CONFERENCE

Saratoga, April 27, 2002 Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Burke, Donnell, Grant, Guthrie, Hartman, James, Kalokathis, Kautz, Park, Perry, Rickman, Sanderson, Stebner, and Sullins.

Minutes of 9/13/01 Meeting: The minutes of the September 13, 2001 meeting of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference were approved with the amendment of paragraph 5 of the report concerning the Board of Judicial Policy and Administration to read "and a change of the deadline to request a court reporter to report court proceedings being modified from the former five day rule to the newly established deadline of three days."

Board of Judicial Policy and Administration: Donnell, Grant, and Kautz reported concerning action taken by the Board of Judicial Policy and Administration (BJPA). Reports have been sent to all district judges following the recent meetings of the BJPA. Recent action regarding personnel rules for state court personnel has resulted in district judges being excluded from the personnel rules adopted for Supreme Court and Circuit Court employees. Kautz has been working on proposed rules for District Court employees, and such proposed rules will be circulated when a draft is complete.

Treasurer's Report: Sullins submitted a Treasurer's Report of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference for the period September 8, 2001 to April 26, 2002. Also, Sullins reported on payments received from all members of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference, and several retired judges, as assessments for payment toward the lobbying effort for judicial pay raises at the Wyoming State Legislature.

Rules of Civil Procedure Advisory Committee: Kalokathis gave a brief report on the status of recent efforts of the Rules of Civil Procedure Advisory Committee.

Rules of Criminal Procedure Advisory Committee: Park gave a brief report on recent efforts of the Rules of Criminal Procedure Advisory Committee.

New Business:

1. On motion duly made, seconded, and unanimously passed, it was agreed that Burke would take the place of Donnell on the Board of Judicial Policy and Administration when Donnell's term to expires 7/02.
2. On motion made, seconded, and unanimously passed, it was agreed that because of the immediacy of action requested by the State Auditor's Office, the District Courts would have pre-audit review and processing of vouchers done temporarily by the Supreme Court to comply with the new requirements of the State Auditor's Office, with other options in the handling such pre-audit review and processing of vouchers to be reviewed at the September meeting of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference. A committee of Hartman, Kautz, and Stebner was appointed to review such options.

3. The President appointed Brackley to negotiate with Westlaw and Lexis Nexis regarding a new contract for computer research access for the District Courts.

Legislative Concerns: Discussion was had relative to the need to streamline the District Court budgeting process, and the need to consider approaches to better present the District Court budgets before the Joint Appropriations Committee of the Wyoming Legislature.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Wyoming District Judges' Conference will be held during the Wyoming Bar Convention, in September 2002, in Jackson, Wyoming.



W. Thomas Sullins
Secretary