

**MINUTES**  
**District Court Judges' Conference Meeting**  
**September 13, 2016**  
**Laramie, WY**

The meeting of the District Judges' Conference at the Hilton Garden Inn began at 8:30 o'clock a.m. on September 13, 2016, when Judge Fenn opened the meeting and welcomed the participants and guests. A quorum was present/in attendance (*i.e.*, more than 12 District Court Judges).

Wyoming Department of Corrections Director Bob Lampert and Deputy Director Steve Lindly spoke to the Conference about WY DOC budget cuts, cuts in services/programs, cuts in personnel/positions, and other funding impacts. Deputy Director Lindly also addressed jail sanctions, revocation rates, split sentencing, and recidivism. WY DOC Field Services Administrator Dawn Sides, Field Services Training Manager Julie Reuter, and District Supervisor Karen Holland presented information regarding sentences, Boot Camp, evidence-based sentencing and COMPAS risk assessments included with PSI reports, and Addicted Offender Accountability Act assessments.<sup>1</sup>

Chief Justice Burke began a discussion regarding several initiatives, including courtroom technology, judicial education and orientation, and Bench books. Next, Chief Justice Burke and Justice Davis addressed the Conference as to courtroom technology, the recent survey of 70 courtrooms by a technology contractor, WY-USER, and alternative case management and judicial management programs. Chief Justice Burke, Chief Financial Officer Kristi Racines, and State Court Administrator Lily Sharpe discussed the past legislative session and budgetary matters, district court budget issues, and timelines for submissions of budgets for the upcoming legislative session. Chief Justice Burke also spoke about pay raise issues, increases in salaries in the executive and legislative branches, and IT and Westlaw concerns.<sup>2</sup>

Judge Tyler presented the Minutes from the April 21-22, 2016, meeting, and the Treasurer's Report as of August 24, 2016. Upon motion by Judge Fenn, seconded by Judge Cranfill, and carried unanimously, the Minutes and the Treasurer's Report were accepted.

Upon motion by Judge Waldrip, seconded by Judge Campbell, and carried unanimously, the Conference authorized the Executive Committee to make budget reduction proposals which are binding upon all district court budgets. Judge Bluemel offered to appear before the Joint Appropriations Committee this session.

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<sup>1</sup> This was approved for 1.5 CJE hours.

<sup>2</sup> This was approved for 1.0 CJE hour.

*For the Good of the Order*<sup>3</sup>

Judge Fenn updated the members of a recent meeting with Thomas O. Forslund, Director of the Department of Health, regarding DOH concerns involving Title 7 and Title 25 issues.

Judge Fenn informed the Conference of the availability of information regarding evidence-based bond/bail setting.

Judge Fenn also observed that some judges will be standing for retention in the general election, and he noted that the Conference may need to address requests from public interest organizations seeking positions of each respective judge, given the limitations imposed by the Code of Judicial Conduct in responding.

Upon motion by Judge Fenn, seconded by Judge Deegan, and carried unanimously, the following officers were elected:

Judge Robert E. Skar	President
Judge Marv Tyler	Vice President
Judge Thomas T.C. Campbell	Secretary / Treasurer

Upon motion, second, and unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



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Marv Tyler  
District Judges' Conference former Secretary-Treasurer

<sup>3</sup> This was approved for 0.5 CJE hour.