

Minutes
Conference Call, October 15, 2002, Noon
Board of Judicial Policy and Administration

The Board of Judicial Policy and Administration met by conference call on October 15, 2002. Chief Justice William Hill, Justice Larry Lehman, Justice Bart Voigt, Judge Jim Burke, Judge Ed Grant, Judge Keith Kautz, Judge Mike Huber, and Judge Wade Waldrip attended. Dona Playton (Wyoming Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault), Ken Koski (State Public Defender), Holly Hansen, and Linda Burke also attended.

1. Approval of September 11, 2002 Minutes

Judge Waldrip moved and Judge Huber seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2002, Board meeting in Jackson. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Judicial Compensation Committee Report

Justice Voigt reported that the Board's Judicial Compensation Sub-Committee collected information from states with compensation commissions concerning their composition, process, benefits, drawbacks, staff support, and suggestions for states considering the creation of such a commission. After a discussion of whether the commission should be created legislatively or by the Board, Judge Kautz moved and Justice Lehman seconded a motion to authorize the Board to proceed with its study and recommendations for the creation of a Judicial Compensation Commission. The motion carried unanimously. Justice Hill advised that the Judicial Compensation Sub-Committee would schedule a meeting and report to the Board at its December meeting in Douglas.

3. Revision of Protection Order Packet – Holly Hansen and Dona Playton

Holly Hansen and Dona Playton explained the proposed revisions to the Instructions and Order of Protection that were discussed at the previous Board meeting. After Board members agreed with two changes in language to the Instructions, Judge Grant moved and Judge Huber seconded a motion to approve the Instructions as presented by Holly Hansen and Dona Playton with the two changes. The motion carried unanimously. Dona Playton then suggested and Board members agreed that "Temporary Legal Custody" be changed to "Temporary Custody" in all the documents. Judge Waldrip moved and Justice Voigt seconded a motion to change language in the Order of Protection from "...even though the respondent disputes..." to "...even though the respondent may dispute..." and the motion passed unanimously. After one other deletion, ("Respondent shall deliver the following firearms..." to "Respondent shall deliver firearms..."), Judge Huber moved and Judge Waldrip seconded a motion to approve the Protection Order Packet of forms, including a Motion and Affidavit for Order to Show Cause and an Order to Show Cause. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Court Interpreters – Ken Koski and Holly Hansen

Ken Koski explained that the current interpreter situation posed a two-fold problem: (a) The procedure for appointing and paying interpreters is not consistent around the state; and (b) Conflict issues arise when the Public Defender and the Court use the same interpreter and the attorney-client issue extends to interpreters. Koski asked the Board to take the lead in addressing this issue. The Board discussed various related issues, i.e. whether the proposed policy should only apply to circuit courts, what budgetary issues would arise, what if several interpreters were requested, what was the county's responsibility, quality and certification of interpreters, and the need for further analysis. After agreeing to a few language revisions, Judge Waldrip moved and Justice Lehman seconded a motion to approve an interim policy for application to the circuit courts with the suggested language provisions. The motion was passed with a 7 to 1 vote, with Judge Burke opposing.

5. Other Matters

Justice Hill brought to the attention of the Board that the circuit judges in the First Judicial District selected Judge Nau to serve as their supervising judge and Judge Case was selected in the Eighth Judicial District. Justice Voigt moved and Judge Grant seconded a motion to accept both recommendations. Motion carried unanimously.

Judge Waldrip reported that during his visit to the Chief Clerk Meeting in Lander, some clerks questioned whether the record search fee included copying costs and if policies were published on the Court's website. Holly Hansen indicated that the search fee did not include copying costs.

The Board briefly discussed the status of the new courtroom facilities in Casper and noted that progress might be slow until the new county commissioners took office.

Board Adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Future Board Meeting Schedule:

November 12, 2002	Conference Call, Noon
December 5 and 6, 2002	Meeting in Douglas
January 15, 2003, 7:00 am	Legislative Breakfast, Supreme Court Courtroom
February 11, 2003	Conference Call, Noon
March 19 and 20, 2003	Meeting in Casper
April 8, 2003	Conference Call, Noon
May 13, 2003	Conference Call, Noon
June 19 and 20, 2003	Meeting in Saratoga
August 12, 2003	Conference Call, Noon
September 9, 2003	Conference Call, Noon
October 1 & 2, 2003	Meeting at Vee Bar Ranch