

MINUTES OF THE OREGON STATE BAR DEBTOR-CREDITOR SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

20 June 2014

The meeting was called to order at the 8th Floor Conference Room of the Bankruptcy Court in Portland, Oregon at approximately 3:10 pm by Caroline Cantrell, Chair. The Eugene Bankruptcy Court was also linked by teleconference, and members could attend by phone.

Committee members attending were Caroline Cantrell, Susan Ford, Dave Hercher, Rich Parker, Clarke Balcom, Jason Ayres, Judge Randall Dunn, Leslie Gordon, Justin Leonard, Chris Parnell, Carolyn Wade, and Britta Warren. Karen Lee from the OSB also attended by phone.

1. The minutes from the meeting of 1 March 2014 were approved after a motion to approve by Carolyn Wade and a second by Rich Parker.
2. Committee Reports and Assignments.

Annual Meeting and CLE: Leslie Gordon reported that the CLE program in conjunction with the 2014 Annual Meeting is scheduled for 24-25 October in Eugene, at the University of Oregon Law School. A planning meeting was held by phone on 4 June 2014. The subjects have been fleshed out and faculty are mostly confirmed and being finalized. Topics will include Dealing with the Unusual Client, the Foreclosure Mediation Program, Judges and Clerks Panel, Cross-Border Insolvency, Criminal Law Issues for Debtor-Creditor Lawyers, Employment Law Issues in D/C Cases, and Federal Exemptions and Exemption Planning.

Susan Ford reported we normally come out ahead financially on the Annual Meeting when it is held in Eugene because of the lower costs involved, due to it being held at U of O rather than a hotel (though we must use their catering service). Thus we expect to do better than just break even. One possibility is we could use a "dine around" approach at various area restaurants with each person paying for their own meal. The Best Western is the designated hotel. EC Meeting will be held Friday morning, but the EC social gathering at the Wade home will be Thursday evening. The reception will be Friday evening.

Consumer Bankruptcy: Judge Dunn reported the next meeting will be on 8 July 2014 at the Bankruptcy Court, with individuals also able to participate by phone.

Legislation Committee: Rich Parker reported that there are some potential changes regarding money judgments in foreclosures, which currently vary considerably, depending on the judge in the foreclosure case. There are also some proposals by the Oregon Department of Revenue on garnishments.

Newsletter: Justin Leonard reported that there is a good issue coming up. It will likely be coming out in November. Among the subjects expected to be covered will be an article on definitions of "serve" and a report on the new judge to replace Judge Perris, who is retiring.

Nominations: Susan Ford reported that there will be upcoming nominations, and this is in progress.

NWBI: Chris Parnell is willing to continue to serve in planning and organizing with the NWBI. The judge member rotates, and the EC nominates the new non-judge member. Caroline will send an email to follow up on this.

Pro Bono Committee (Portland): Nothing to report until next meeting.

Pro Bono Committee (Bend): Nothing to report.

Pro Bono Committee (Eugene): Carolyn Wade reported that in Eugene 9 attorneys have served pro bono clients in the recent period.

Saturday Session: Judge Dunn reported that Saturday Session this year was well received, and it was agreed that it is useful to have it every year. There was some discussion of the possibility of a different venue other than the Salem Conference Center.

New Lawyers: Clarke Balcom reported that the New Lawyers committee planned more social get-togethers and "pub talks." Judge Dunn said if they wanted a judge to talk at one of these, he would line one up.

CARE (Portland): Britta Warren reported that, per Gary Scharff, it has been difficult to find interested teachers locally who want these presentations. Each February, Gary gives a presentation to Jesuit HS. It might be useful to have administrative support. Britta suggested we reach out to college students, with a focus on student loans. Clarke Balcom suggested a possible alliance with the non-profit organization, Financial Beginnings, which has a similar program.

CARE (Eugene): Carolyn Wade reported that Cassie Jones wants a laptop computer for use with the program. This was tabled for now. Judge Dunn suggested that, since ABI has adopted the CARE program, materials could be obtained from ABI.

Website Committee: Jason Ayres reported that there are no major changes in the Web site. The WOMBAT information is stale. And the CLE and Annual Meeting page just have 2011 data. Should we just combine these pages and trim the older data?

Local Rules Committee: Dave Hercher reported that the committee has been working on finalizing proposals for this Fall. Meetings are held monthly January to August/September. Members are on the Web site.

Award of Merit: Susan Ford reported that we will be giving an Award of Merit this year. The process has started and is expected to finish by August.

Federal Bar Association: Caroline has had some difficulty getting in to their meetings on their schedule. Susan Ford stated that some section chairs in the past have participated by phone. The FBA administers the Attorney Admission Fund. We occasionally have gotten funds from that source. Carolyn

Wade pointed out that the stated purpose of the fund is educational. It has sometimes been used for historical matters, including oral histories and portraits of retiring judges.

Donation Requests: Jason Ayres, nothing new to report.

3. Treasurer's Report: Rich Parker reported that we are not doing too badly this year; the ending balance is approximately \$21,000. The only really flexible expense items are pro bono and expense reimbursements.

4. Continuing Discussion of the Section's Income/Expenses

Caroline Cantrell stated that we need to cut expenses. The officers have met and discussed possible areas to cut. It has been proposed that in future we will only reimburse EC members for one night of lodging, with meal and mileage, for one meeting per year, which would be the one in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. The meal reimbursement would be for EC members only, not spouses. This was moved by Susan Ford, seconded by Judge Dunn, and passed unanimously. Also it was agreed that membership will be free for the first year for new admittees to the bar. We will continue to comp judges and one of their clerks. Regarding expenses for the Judges' reception for the pro bono volunteers, there had been a proposal to eliminate this and combine it with the annual meeting. Judge Dunn stated he thought it was very important to recognize the volunteers for the work they do, but suggested we set a maximum expense limitation. A limited budget amount of \$900 was agreed on for the pro bono Judges' Reception next March 2015. We will hold the 2015 Annual Meeting in Portland rather than Bend, and we will look into reducing costs by using possible lower-cost venues in the Portland area such as PSU and Lewis & Clark facilities, since this has worked well in Eugene and saved on expense.

5. Future Meeting Dates: The next meeting will be on Friday, 8 August 2014, 3:00 pm at both the Portland and Eugene Bankruptcy Courts.

6. Adjournment: There was a motion and second to adjourn the meeting and by acclamation, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:07 pm.

Submitted by:

Clarke Balcom, Secretary