



TCDLA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 26, 2010, 1:35 pm
Courtyard Marriott Downtown, Austin, Texas

Introduction

Stanley Schneider calls the meeting to order. A quorum is present.

Roll Call:

Officers

P Stan Schneider, President
P Bill Harris, President Elect
P Keith Hampton, 1st VP
P Lydia Clay-Jackson, 2nd VP
P Bobby Mims, Treasurer
P Emmett Harris, Secretary
E Greg Westfall, Voice Editor

Directors

P John Ackerman
E Susan E Anderson
E Kerri K. Anderson-Donica
E Stephen U. Baer
E Robert Barrera
P Sam Bassett
A Jason Butscher
P Jaime E. Carrillo
A Jason Cassel
P Clay Conrad
P Harold Danford
E Jim Darnell
E Emily Detoto
P Danny Easterling

P Steven R. Green
P Michael Gross
P Tip Hargrove
A John R. Heath, Jr
P Sam Lock
P Constance Luedicke
A James Makin
P Jim Marcus
P Reynaldo Merino
P Pat Metze
P David Moore
P Doug Murphy
P John Niland
P Dave O'Neil
P Kelly Pace
P Tom Pappas
P Shawn Paschall
P Bruce Ponder
P William E. Price
A George Scharmen
P Mark Snodgrass
P Fred Stangl
A Gary Udashen
E Tony Vitz

P James Whalen
P Russell Wilson, II
P Warren Wolf
P Reagan Wynn

Associate Directors

E Bruce Ashworth
P Heather Barbieri
P Lawrence Boyd
A Fred Brigman, III
E Erika Copeland
A Nicole Deborde
P Craig Henry
A Russell Hunt, Jr.
P Jani Maselli
E Todd Overstreet
P Stephanie Patten
P Carole Powell
P Ray Rodriguez
P Clay Steadman
P George Taylor
P Coby Waddill

Key: P = Present; E = Absent but Excused; A = Unexcused Absence

Past Presidents in Attendance: David Botsford, Craig Jett, Tim Evans, Bill Wischkaemper, Mike Heiskell, Ron Goranson, Rick Hagen, Randy Wilson, Betty Blackwell.

Guests: Introduced by Stan Schneider. Randy Wilson and Brent Cahill were invited. Pat Metze introduces some of his students in attendance.

Staff: Joseph Martinez, Cynthia Hampton, Philip Wischkaemper, Melissa Schank, Dawn Thornburgh, Craig Hattersley, Denise Steusloff, Miriam Rendon, Diana Vandiver, Alex Chronis.

Minutes from the December 2009 Board meeting in Houston are approved.
Judge Hervey addresses the group regarding grant issues.

Comments from the President, Stanley Schneider

Discussion of Fallen Heroes Floyd Holder of Lubbock and Heidi Rains of Abilene. Also Tim Evans' legal assistant, Mandy Antinov (sp?).

On October 23, by an email vote of 7-1, the Executive Committee approved leasing the building at 6808 Hill Meadow from TCDLEI. The Board then voted overwhelmingly by email to lease the building. Monthly rent will be \$6100/month NNN.

Executive Director's Report: Joseph Martinez

Joseph introduces members of the staff that the board usually doesn't see.

Uncollected debt: Joseph asks for a motion to allow staff to write off a debt of \$1831 (from people who have not paid for seminars, publications, etc.).

- Motion to write off \$1831
- Seconded
- Motion carries

Joseph reports on the \$2000/month reserve account.

Reagan Wynne: update on Rusty Duncan.

PD training: Jack Stoffregen reports.

Grants submitted: Applications to Dallas Bar Foundation (\$5,000) and Texas Bar Foundation (\$71,000) to fund Forensics.

Capital/Habeas Seminar: John Niland reports.

Document Retention Policy: As provided in packet

- Motion to Adopt
- Seconded
- Motion carries.

Audit: Dawn reports. 2008 CDLP is not finished because there are still a few exceptions. Auditors spent 12 days at the office gathering information for the 2009 audit.

Executive Session

Regular Session Resumes

CDLP Report –Mark Snodgrass

DWI PD seminar: held in Dallas and is on schedule for El Paso.

Bill reports that Jeanette Kinard has been appointed CDLP vice-chair for the next year.

Publication report: Cynthia Hampton reports on Lang Baker proposal to create a Confessions Manual for TCDLA. The matter is referred to a committee (Mike Gross and Pat Metze) appointed by Stan to investigate and report at the next meeting.

Online Voice: In absence of Greg Westfall, Melissa Schank reports on project for online Voice.

- Motion to Advance \$5,000 to outsource project of uploading all Voice articles onto the website, with links to articles and an index.
- Motion seconded (Mark)
- Motion carries

I-phone app. In progress. May be compatible with Verizon Droid.

Committee reports: the following committees report

Amicus, by Reagan Wynne (blood-draw issue)

Board Specialization. Craig Jett reports that TBLS has transferred the matter of Appellate Specialization to the Texas Supreme Court, where is it currently pending.

Corrections, by Dave O’Neil

Death Penalty by John Niland

DWI by Larry Boyd and Doug Murphy (report on SOAH hearing held this morning).

Hall of Fame: Stan announces recipients Lucien Campbell and Mike Ramsey.

- Motion to Induct Lucien Campbell and Mike Ramsey
- Second
- Motion Carries

Lawyers Assistance by Kelly Pace

Nominations Committee: Bill Harris reports on the possible contested election and the procedures that will be taken to assure transparency and impartiality.

Public Defender by Jack Stoffregen

Strategic Planning by Tom Pappas

Strike Force by Mike Heiskell (Cameron County issue) Stan appoints a committee that will look into the issue in Cameron County, which involves trial courts stripping attorneys of their court appointed fees. Committee consists of: Emmett Harris (chair), Mike Heiskell, Gary Udashen, Reagan Wynne, and Angela Moore.

State Bar malpractice insurance: Stan reports the Bar voted overwhelmingly against disclosure.

Adjourn: 3:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph A. Martinez
Executive Director