

INDIAN LAW SECTION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 05, 2004 @ 9:00 AM

State Bar of New Mexico, Conference Room
Santa Fe, NM 87501

MINUTES

Call to Order Time: 9:20 A.M.

Roll Call: Present were: Steffani Cochran (by telephone); Aaron Frankland (by telephone); Robert Gruenig; Marte Lightstone; Rosemary Maestas-Swazo; Pam Ray; and Larry Ruzow; Absent were: Germaine Chappelle; Karl Johnson; Joan Kozon; Doug Nash; and Gloria Valencia-Weber.

Also present were Tony Horvat and Keith Thompson from the State Bar of New Mexico.

I. Approval of Agenda as amended to include New Business. A motion was made by Rosemary Maestas-Swazo and seconded by Larry Ruzow. The amended agenda was adopted unanimously.

II. Minutes

Adoption of the minutes was postponed until the October 2004 meeting.

III. New Business

A. Resignation of Germaine Chappelle; Appointment of Robert Gruenig.

Chair Pam Ray announced to the board of directors that Germaine Chappelle has tendered her resignation from the board of directors. The committee adopted her resignation. Chair Ray notified the board that Robert Gruenig would be appointed to fill the vacancy made by the resignation of Germaine Chappelle. The chair will submit a letter to the Young Lawyers division of the state bar to request a nominee to fill the vacancy created by the appointment of Robert Gruenig to fill the vacated position on the board

B. Update on Student Members

Tony Horvat reported on the student members who have joined the section. Five

student members of the State Bar have become members of the Indian Law Section.

The members are:

1. Debra Haaland
2. April Winecke
3. Bradley Scott Schragger
4. Beth Collard
5. Juan Carlos Scarborough

A discussion ensued regarding the outreach that might be possible at the orientation for the school of law. It was decided that information should be made available to students at that time.

C. Insert Committee - Change of Chair

Larry Ruzow was appointed chair of the Insert Committee following the resignation of Germaine Chappelle.

IV. Old Business

A. Nominating Committee Update

Marte Lightstone discussed the activities of the nominating committee in the absence of Karl Johnson, the chair. Pam Ray had contacted Bidtah Becker, who has agreed to be the non-board member on the Nominating Committee for the second year. Aaron will again run for his seat which will be open for a full term beginning in 2005. Robert will run for his seat which will begin a three year term in 2005. Other than that there will be two vacancies. One for the three year term that will be vacant due to Joan Kozon not running for another term and a two year term that will occur when Pam becomes the immediate past chair. The nominating committee choices should be announced in the bar bulletin in late September.

B. CLE Committee Report

Rosemary Maestas-Swazo gave an update of the cooperative effort between the Indian Law Section, the New Mexico Indian Bar Association, the Navajo Nation Bar Association and the School of Law to provide a CLE on October 9, 2004 at the law school. Section members and members of the organizations planning the CLE will get a reduced rate of \$199 per person. Up to 15 UNM law students and faculty will be able

to attend for free. Profit or proceeds will be split with the law school on a 50/50 basis. A discussion of criminal jurisdiction will be presented by Steve Greetham, Nordhaus, Haltom, Taylor, Taradash and Bladh, LLP. An effort is being made to get the U.S. attorney's office to also participate in that discussion. The theme of the CLE is "Shared Issues - Promising Practices". Advertising will begin on September 1, 2004.

In addition Ms. Maestas-Swazo noted that Professor Gloria Valencia-Weber is going to work with her UNM students to update the Tribal Court Handbook.

C. Insert Committee Update

Larry Ruzow discussed the people who have expressed interest in providing articles for the insert in the Bar Bulletin. The Bar Bulletin has a new editor, Keith Thompson. Dan Long and Aaron Frankland are considering writing a piece on Preemption. Kip Bobroff, Law School, thought a student would be able to produce a piece on the interpretation of "Indian Country". Steve Greetham has discussed providing an article on criminal jurisdiction in Indian country. Dan Jarrett has discussed doing an article on the NLRB and unionization in Indian country.

V. Financial Report

Larry Ruzow, Financial Officer, reported that the section as of June 30, 2004, had \$460.55 in funds remaining for the year. A discussion ensued regarding the cost of telephone conferencing. Tony Horvat reported that the new plan being used by the state bar costs 6.5 cents per minute per person calling in. The carrier is Accessline.com.

VI. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be in October and will be again held at the state bar office. The date will be determined at a later time and announced to all board members. The time of the meeting will be 9 am.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

