

Executive Committee
North Dakota Judicial Conference

November 23, 2015

Radisson Hotel

Bismarck, North Dakota

Present: Judge Bruce Romanick, Chair
Justice Daniel Crothers
Judge Bruce Haskell
Judge Steven McCullough
Justice Dale Sandstrom

Staff: Lee Ann Barnhardt
Sally Holewa

The Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference met on November 23, 2015. Chair Romanick called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m.

Judge Haskell moved to approve the minutes from the September 2, 2015 meeting. Seconded by Judge McCullough. Motion carried.

Chair Romanick informed the committee that there is a need to appoint two members to the Judicial Education Commission to replace Judge McCullough and Judge Reich who will both be term-limited off the Commission as of December 31, 2015. **Judge Haskell moved that Judge Bailey and Judge Lee be appointed to 3-year terms on the Judicial Education Commission beginning January 1, 2016. Seconded by Judge McCullough. Motion carried.** Chair Romanick will send letters of appointment to the new members.

Lee Ann Barnhardt, Director of Judicial Education and Communication, said there is a need for the committee to discuss the logistics of holding the June Judicial Conference in relation to the State Bar Association's annual meeting. Ms. Barnhardt said that the options are to hold just the business meeting of the Judicial Conference, to hold the business meeting and a single, short educational session for judges, or to hold the business meeting plus a separate educational track for judges. Ms. Barnhardt and Judge McCullough discussed the impact the delayed planning for the annual meeting has on the ability of the court to plan for the Judicial Conference.

It was agreed by consensus that the preference of the Executive Committee is to combine judge and attorney education tracks as much as possible as long as the education is relevant to both professions. However, the committee recognizes the need for timely and specific information on the sessions being planned by the State Bar Association before a decision can be made as to the length of the Judicial Conference and whether a separate educational track for judges is needed. After further discussion, it was determined that in order to plan sessions and contract for speakers for the Judicial Conference, the court needs to know by January 31, 2016 what the State Bar Association has planned for the annual meeting. Judge McCullough and Justice Crothers

volunteered to discuss this issue with Tony Weiler, Executive Director of the State Bar Association, at the December 4, 2015 meeting of the Judicial Education Commission. It was the consensus of the Executive Committee that if the State Bar Association cannot provide the requested information or if some of the educational sessions proposed by the State Bar Association do not meet the educational needs of the judges, that Ms. Barnhardt should proceed with planning an appropriate educational opportunity to fit within the time available during the annual meeting.

Chair Romanick then asked if there was any further business for the good of the order. There being no further business to come before the committee, **Judge Haskell moved for adjournment. Seconded by Justice Sandstrom. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Holewa
Executive Secretary to the Judicial Conference