

# Association of the Bar of the Eighth Circuit

Board Minutes: September 13, 2010

1. **Called to Order:** D. Bratvold, President.
2. **Roll Call:** K. Robinson, Secretary.  
*Present:* Diane Bratvold; Jeremiah Morgan; Karl Robinson; Barry Pickens; Doug Bahr; John Baker; Larry Friedman; Matt Shepherd; Dana Oxley; Jennifer Gilg; Mark Salter; Ellen Suni.  
*Not Present:* Angela Campbell; Julie Cullen; Mary Vasaly; Michael Gans; Kevin Crass; Brian Walsh.
3. **Minutes of July and August Meetings:** After noting certain typographical errors to correct in July meeting minutes, motion to approve July and August meeting minutes by L. Friedman. Second by J. Morgan. Approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** No written report presented, as Julie Cullen not present.
5. **Restated Bylaws, Including Proposed Amendment to By-Laws to Facilitate Handling Request to Share Member List.** D. Bratvold noted this item needs to be tabled until next Board Meeting to circulate to Board Members. B. Pickens stated he would forward to D. Bratvold previous version of restated by-laws.
6. **Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference Recap.** D. Bratvold led a discussion of a recap of the Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference held August 11-13, 2010 in Minneapolis. D. Bratvold noted that there had been a great turn out among both judges and lawyers. J. Morgan noted our Association's reception on the evening of August 11<sup>th</sup> was well received, with many lawyers noting it was one of the best events of the Conference. M. Salter noted that the informal dinner meeting among Board Members on the evening of August 12<sup>th</sup> went well. L. Friedman commented that the entire Judicial Conference went very well, that our Association's reception was well attended and that he had received many positive comments. D. Bratvold also expressed thanks Millie Adams for all of her assistance at the Conference, and particularly assisting with the Association's reception. D. Bratvold also led a discussion and there was agreement among the Board Members that the Association should reach out to those who attended the Conference and who are not members of the Association.
7. **Membership Renewal.** D. Bratvold noted that D. Bahr and his assistant have done an excellent job in tracking down and obtaining membership renewals from Association members. D. Bahr noted that much of this should be attributed to his assistant who has done an outstanding job. D. Bahr also noted that he was engaged in three main efforts to try to obtain renewals of membership from current members: (1) Emailing

the individual members; (2) Sending follow up emails to those who did not respond; and (3) Sending hard copy requests via U.S. mail to those members who did not respond to the first two emails. D. Bahr also circulated before the meeting a spreadsheet listing current members who had not renewed their membership, including several judges and law clerks. There was a discussion regarding the fact that judges and law clerks do not have to pay a membership fee to join or renew their membership in the Association. There was agreement that D. Bahr would contact the judges noting that their memberships were complimentary, and that the memberships would be renewed unless the judges tell us otherwise. This notice would also explain that the judge's law clerks could join the Association without a membership fee. D. Oxley noted she had an email list of the new clerks which she would provide to D. Bahr so that he could also directly contact the judicial clerks to invite them to join the Association. D. Bahr also requested assistance from Board Members to personally contact attorneys who had failed to renew in an effort to have them renew their membership. Several Board Members indicated their willingness to contact attorneys in their district. D. Bahr indicated that he would he circulate a revised list of those attorneys who have not renewed their membership so that Directors can then contact those attorneys. D. Bratvold requested that people try to contact those attorneys this month.

**8. Website Update.** D. Bratvold reported that the website updates are up and running, including the ability to email many members from the website.

**9. Newsletter.** D. Bratvold requested that those who had volunteered to write articles regarding various events at the Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference submit their articles to her by October 1, 2010. D. Bratvold reported that the newsletter is expected to be released in early October. D. Bratvold had a potential editor lined up and, if that did not work, D. Bratvold would edit the newsletter to be released in October. D. Bratvold also requested that Directors let her know of any topics, cases, or updates they would like to see included in the newsletter.

**10. Upcoming Events – 2012 Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference and Judge Heaney Memorial Court Session.** D. Bratvold reported on two upcoming events in the Eighth Circuit in which the Association will take a part. First, the 2012 Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference will be in Kansas City. D. Bratvold noted that Chief Judge Riley and Millie Adams are very excited to have the Association participate on both the Program Committee and the Social Committee in planning the 2012 Judicial Conference. Second, D. Bratvold led a discussion about the Judge Heaney Memorial Court Session in St. Paul on October 19, 2010. The Association will be hosting a reception the afternoon of October 19 at the St. Paul Federal Courthouse providing cake, coffee and punch. There will be electronic invitations sent to all Minnesota Eighth Circuit Bar Association members. D. Bratvold led a discussion regarding the need to approve a budget for the Association to put on this reception, and suggested

that the Association approve a budget of up to \$1,500. J. Baker volunteered to assist D. Bratvold in putting on this reception. J. Morgan made a motion to approve up to \$1,500 to be spent by the Association for this reception. L. Friedman seconded it. The motion carried.

- 11. Potential Half Day CLE.** D. Bratvold led a discussion regarding a potential half day CLE following the release of the new Eighth Circuit Appellate Practice Manual being published by Minnesota CLE, including potentially having it in St. Louis in April 2011. E. Suni noted that her people could help coordinate a St. Louis CLE event. L. Friedman also volunteered to assist with the St. Louis CLE event. There was also a discussion of potentially having a CLE program in Kansas City. J. Morgan offered to assist if there would be a CLE program in Kansas City.
- 12. Strategic Planning Committee:** D. Bratvold suggested that this item be tabled until the next meeting since the Board Meeting had already lasted nearly an hour. It was agreed to table the discussion of the Strategic Plan until the next Board Meeting in October. It was also noted that subsequent Board Meetings this year would be held on the first Monday of the month beginning at 9:30 a.m.
- 13. Other Business.** Nothing. Next Board Meeting Monday, October 4, 2010, at 9:30 am.

\*\*\* Meeting Adjourned.