

## MINUTES

Eighth Circuit Bar Association

Meeting of Officers and Directors

December 13, 2005

(by conference call)

**Present:** Krista Kester (president); Craig Eichstadt (president-elect); Margaret Callahan (secretary); Barry Pickens (treasurer); Tom Boyd (at-large); Lajuana Counts (at-large); Tom Weaver (at-large); Tom Kieklak (W.D. Ark.); Angela Campbell (S.D. Iowa); Bob Rossiter (D. Neb.); Mark Marshall (D. S. Dak.); Jim Layton (past president).

**Absent:** Tom Sullivan (E.D. Ark.); Diane Kutzko (N.D. Iowa); David Herr (D. Minn.); Larry Friedman (E.D. Mo.); Doug Bahr (D. N. Dak.).

Association President Krista Kester called the meeting to order shortly after 9:30 a.m.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the regular September meeting, as previously circulated.

There was no news to report from Treasurer Barry Pickens or from either of the programs or communications committees. It was noted that an Eighth Circuit panel will sit in Little Rock, Arkansas, in April and that the University of Arkansas-Little Rock will at the same time hold its annual Eighth Circuit Appellate Practice Institute. There should be an opportunity for the Association to plan or assist with a related social event. Krista noted that the Association has not yet sponsored an event in Arkansas and that this would be a good opportunity for the Association to increase its visibility there.

Membership chair Mark Marshall reported that Association membership is now back above 300 – 307, to be exact. He said only 32 attorneys failed to renew for the membership year beginning July 1, 2005. Mark did not have any immediate figure as to whether the Association gained any members as a result of the breakfast sponsored at the Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference this past October. It was noted that the sending of follow-up membership renewal notices by regular mail, in contrast to e-mail, seemed to be effective in gaining renewals.

Krista presented the report of the nominating committee, as previously circulated. She noted that the nominating committee, as in the past, consisted of the Association officers (president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer and past president).

The slate of officers for the calendar year beginning January 1, 2006, was approved as follows:

President	Craig Eichstadt
President-Elect	Thomas Weaver
Secretary	Margaret Callahan
Treasurer	Barry Pickens

Krista noted that while individuals have in the past and frequently will in the future “progress” through the officers positions – i.e., beginning at treasurer and then moving up to secretary, president-elect, and finally president – Barry Pickens and Margaret Callahan at this time preferred to continue another year as treasurer and secretary, respectively.

Krista noted that each director position was being filled this year but that directors were being given terms of varying length so that next year, and in future years, only one-third of the board positions will come open at a time (all future terms will be three years). She indicated that the matching of term length and director was somewhat arbitrary but that the nominating committee tried to give the three-year terms to the newest directors.

The following attorneys were approved as directors, for the terms stated, effective January 1, 2006:

E.D. Arkansas	Jeffrey Ellis	3 years
W.D. Arkansas	Thomas Kieklak	1 year
E.D. Missouri	Lawrence Friedman	2 years
W.D. Missouri	Jeremiah Morgan	3 years
N.D. Iowa	Diane Kutzko	1 year
S.D. Iowa	Angela Campbell	2 years
Nebraska	Robert Rossiter	2 years
South Dakota	Mark Marshall	1 year
North Dakota	Douglas Bahr	1 year
Minnesota	Diane Bratvold	3 years
At-Large	Lajuana Counts	1 year
At-Large	Julie Cullen	2 years
At-Large	Thomas Boyd	3 years

Craig Eichstadt, as incoming president, indicated that initial business for the new year will include changes in committees and committee chairs (to replace committee chairs who no longer will be Board members). He said he would be contacting directors individually to discuss their ideas for the Association. There was some consensus that the second Tuesday of the month, at 9:30 a.m., would be a good time for future telephonic Board meetings. Krista indicated she would continue to make her firm's teleconference system available for Association directors' meetings.

The next Association directors' meeting will be held Tuesday January 10, 2006, at 9:30 a.m. by telephone.

The meeting adjourned just before 9:50 a.m.